

PERSHORE BENEFICE

**The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick**

Sunday, 19 November 2023

MISSION SUNDAY/2ND BEFORE ADVENT

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

The 1030 Service from the Abbey will be live-streamed and available to view on our YouTube channel. To find the recording visit www.youtube.com and search for **Pershore Abbey Community** [Pershore Abbey Community on YouTube](#)

If you have any queries or concerns please do speak to a sidesperson or churchwarden.

Please use this sheet in conjunction with the service booklet provided. Please take this sheet home with you and recycle when you have finished with it.

THE COLLECT

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 1.7, 12-18

A reading from the book of Zephaniah

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm.' Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

A reading from the first letter of Thessalonians

Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 25.14-30

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came

forward, saying, “Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.” But his master replied, “You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

**If you would like to receive a gluten-free host during communion
please let a sidesperson know**



Facebook: [#pershoreabbeycom](https://www.facebook.com/pershoreabbeycom) YouTube: [Persnore Abbey Community](https://www.youtube.com/PershoreAbbeyCommunity)

Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 754

HANNOVER

- 1 O worship the King, all glorious above;
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.
- 2 O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
- 3 The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old;
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.
- 4 Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.
- 5 Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.
- 6 O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn thee above,
thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

[Robert Grant (1779-1838)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 490

HIGHWOOD

- 1 Glory to God, the source of all our mission;
Jesus be praised, the Saviour, Lord and Son!
Praise to the Spirit who confirms the vision;
in all the world the will of God be done!

Cont'd

- 2 Proud in our wealth, or destitute and broken,
we cannot live by earthly bread alone;
but by the word that God himself has spoken
we are set free to make our Master known.
- 3 Eastward or westward, northward, southward moving,
finding new fields, new patterns and new role,
Christ's fellow-workers, all his goodness proving,
see how our God is making people whole!
- 4 Linked by the cross at which we are forgiven,
joined by the love that came to find and save,
one in the hope of God's new earth and heaven,
we love and give since he first loved and gave.
- 5 Send us, Lord Christ, to serve at your direction,
dying and living, yours in loss and gain,
true to the gospel of your resurrection,
working and praying till you come to reign.

[Christopher Idle (b.1938)]

THIRD HYMN

A&M 238

DOWN AMPNEY

- 1 Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.
- 2 O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
- 3 Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

- 4 And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Discendi, amor santo

[Bianco Da Siena (d.1434)]

Translated by Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890)

COMMUNION MOTET

Pray that Jerusalem—Stanford

Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

Pray that Jerusalem may have peace and felicity;
let them that love thee and thy peace have still prosperity.
Therefore I wish that peace may still within thy walls remain,
and ever may thy palaces prosperity retain.
Now for my friends' and brethren's sakes,
peace be to thee, I'll say;
and for the house of God our Lord
I'll seek thy good away.

COMMUNION HYMN

A&M 454

CRESSWELL

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord:
better than splendour and wealth.*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with all, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again,
Love, only love, is his way.</p> | <p>3 Love is his name, love is his law.
Hear his command, all who are his:
"Love one another, I have loved you."
Love, only love, is his law.</p> |
| <p>2 Love is his news, love is his name,
we are his own, chosen and called,
sisters and brothers, parents and kin.
Love only love, is his name.</p> | <p>4 Love is his law, love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one.
Love, only love, is his word.</p> |

[Luke Connaughton (1917-1979)]

1. Hope of our calling: hope through courage won
by those who dared to share all Christ had done.
Saints of today, Christ's banner now unfurled,
will bring his gospel to a waiting world.
2. Hope of our calling: hope with strength empowered,
inspired by all that we have seen and heard;
this call is ours, for we are chosen too,
to live for God in all we say and do.
3. Hope of our calling: hope with grace outpoured,
from death's despair the gift of life restored;
our call to serve, to wash each other's feet,
to bring Christ's healing touch to all we meet.
4. Hope of our calling: hope by faith made bold
to sow God's righteousness throughout the world;
bring peace from conflict, fruitfulness from weeds,
the kingdom's harvest from kingdom's seeds.
5. Hope of our calling: Spirit-filled, unbound,
old joys remembered and new purpose found,
our call refreshed by sacrament and word,
we go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Ally Barrett (b.1975)

Voluntary—Prelude and fugue in g minor - Buxtehude

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

19 NOVEMBER 2023

As a Kingdom People we are churches that seek to:

- Worship God
- Welcome All
- Reach out to the world

Vicar: The Revd Canon Claire Lording

Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Assistant Curate: The Revd Jayne Parker

Email: curate@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Abbey Wardens: Mrs Suzanne Clarke (01386 553293) Mrs Sam Andrews (01386 556083)

The Benefice Office of Pershore with Pinvin, Wick & Birlingham

Alveston House, 11, Broad Street, Pershore, WR10 1BB (01386 552071)

Email: office@pershoreabbey.org.uk **Website:** www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

BENEFICE OFFICE OPENING HOURS

TUESDAY - THURSDAY 1100 - 1200 ONLY

(excluding Bank Holidays)

The office staff will also be available to answer enquiries by phone or email on weekday mornings from **0930 –1300**

Please email your enquiry to office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or leave a message on 01386 552071 and they will get back to you as soon as they can.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE MIDST OF CONFLICT TODAY, PRAYING ESPECIALLY FOR ALL PEOPLES OF THE HOLY LAND. WE PRAY FOR LASTING PEACE.

We pray for those whose weddings, blessings and baptisms are taking place and for all those who are making new plans to celebrate these special life events.

We pray for all those welcoming new life into their families.

We pray for those in need.

We pray for those who have died and for their families and friends.

We pray for those whose anniversary of death occurs in the coming week.

**PLEASE SEE OUR NOVEMBER MONTHLY BULLETIN
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND NOTICES**

PERSHORE ABBEY BULLETIN NOTICES

MINISTRY NEWS

As winter approaches we know that it is starting to feel chillier outside. Our churches will hopefully be warm and welcoming but please remember to dress warmly if attending a service. Lots of thin layers are the top recommendation. Keep warm and help all of our churches to use less energy on their heating!

IONA SERVICE - SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER 17:00: As the delegates gather for COP28, the Iona service reflects on how the whole of creation, including ourselves, needs healing and reconciliation with God. This is a small informal service with some music and prayers from the Iona Community, times of quiet and time to share your thoughts if you'd like to. Everyone is very welcome. Please email iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk if you would like a Zoom link for the service. *Helen Oldham*

THANK YOU: My sincere thanks to everyone for your good wishes, cards and even treats for my special birthday. It was certainly the best birthday that I have ever had! *Judy Dale*

WELCOMING AND BOOKSTALL VOLUNTEERS GET TOGETHER: A reminder to all the volunteer welcomers to come along to our get together with Claire and myself on November 21 at 1030 in the Abbey. Refreshments provided! If you're wondering what volunteering in the Abbey involves, you'd be very welcome to come along too. You meet some lovely visitors and get to enjoy the Abbey in a different way. Your commitment could be as little as 2 hours a month! Please get in touch by emailing pershoreabbeybookstall@gmail.com, calling **07858 506218** or say hello in person. I look forward to meeting you all. *Sally Whyte*

FOLLOW THE STAR: The Church of England's 2023 Christmas Campaign booklet, Follow the Star, offers a musical journey to the heart of Christmas. Copies are £1.00. If you would like a copy, please email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or phone 01386 552071. Alternatively, visit: <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/features/follow-the-star>



ABBEY ECO CHURCH: The next Abbey Eco Church meeting is 1915 on 29 November in the Upper Room at St Andrew's Centre. New members always welcome.

CATHEDRAL EXHIBITION: To mark 16 Days of Activism 2023, the Cathedral is partnering with the Mothers' Union Diocese of Worcester and Worcester Community Trust to display an exhibition titled '**Souls of Our Shoes**' in the Lady Chapel from the 25 November to 10 December. The exhibition will feature dozens of pairs of shoes with quotes from survivors of gender-based violence printed on the inner soles. It will challenge viewers to stop and consider taking a walk in someone else's shoes, learning how survivors' inner hidden souls are affected by violence.



CHRISTIAN AID'S APPEAL FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE:

Donations for humanitarian relief in Palestine/Israel can be made here:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/middle-east-crisis-appeal>



After many years of faithful ministry in the diocese, Archdeacon Rob has retired. To celebrate his ministry and retirement, there will be a special service in the Cathedral on 19 November at 1600. All are very welcome. We give thanks in our benefice for all that Rob has shared with us over the years, including wise counsel, gentle accompaniment and inspiring singing! We wish him and Mike all the very best in this next chapter in their lives. *Claire*

COMMUNITY NEWS



PERSHORE FOODBANK UPDATE: Heartfelt thanks to all the generous donations that were made to the Foodbank over the Harvest Festival. Our stalwart warehouse volunteers have been working overtime, sorting and stacking and preparing for the Winter. The collections have been magnificent this year; a testament to the strength of community feeling that is still present despite a continuing cost-of-living crisis.

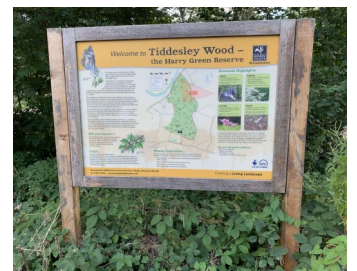
Harvest is barely over and already we are entering the more commercialised period of Christmas: the shops brimming with brightly-coloured Christmas comestibles despite there being many weeks before the holiday. We do, however, have to think ahead at the Foodbank because a lot of work goes into preparing the special Christmas hampers that mean so much to our client families during times of hardship. **Please may we ask you to continue in your generosity with donations of Christmas foodstuffs, particularly savory treats such as tinned turkey, ham & salmon.**

Nicola Ainsworth

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON AND GEORGIAN CHRISTMAS FAYRE: Pershore Abbey Choir will be performing by the Christmas tree on Friday 24 November from 1800. If you are able, why not join them for a festive sing song?

PLANNING APPLICATION FOR 300 HOMES THREATEN TIDDESLEY WOOD SSSI:

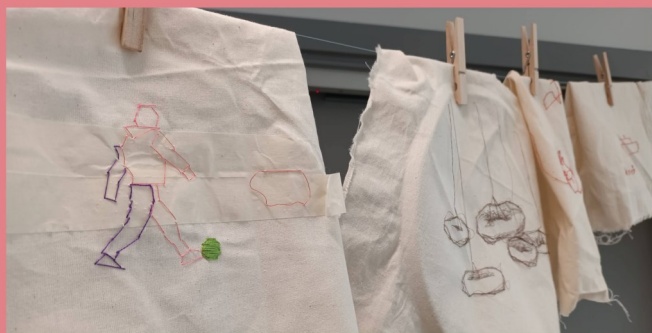
Despite Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, Natural England, the SWDPR planners, our MP, the Town Council and most of the townsfolk rejecting plans for a large housing development to be built along the border of Tiddesley Wood, a planning application has now been submitted to Wychavon District Council by a property Developer. Natural England and WWT ruled that a minimum of half an acre buffer zone is required between the ancient woodland and an housing development otherwise it will be a major negative impact on the SSSI. For this reason it was removed from the SWDPR in September 2022.



Members of the public only have until 30th November 2023 to comment on this current application before it continues through the planning system. Please visit WWT website here to read their statement: <https://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/our-position-proposed-orchard-farm-development> To comment or register objection on this proposal, please visit: <https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/23/02112/OUT> Tiddesley Wood has been in existence for 6000 years and has a long history with our Abbey and Westminster Abbey. It's part of God's creation and is a flagship reserve of national importance. Any help you can give to protecting it is much appreciated.

Eco Church Stitch Workshop

Thursday 16 & 23 November, 1 - 3pm
Free, drop-in



Join Meadow Arts and artist Lorna Rose for two creative stitch workshops. In these sessions, we will explore themes of climate change and flooding inspired by the artwork *Deluge* by artist Hilary Jack, and help to create a collaborative artwork to install at Pershore Abbey.

Fun and informative stitching sessions with the talented artist Lorna Rose, conversation and cake! Share your ideas with other members of the Abbey congregation and turn them into art.

www.meadowarts.org/whats-on



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

PERSHORE BENEFICE

EDIBLE NATIVITY



SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER

ST ANDREW'S CENTRE 1030 - 1145

Join us as we tell the story of the birth of Jesus in a fun way,
making an edible nativity!

There may be gingerbread involved—YUM!

Places are strictly limited to 20.

Email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or leave a message on
01386 552071 to secure your place by **28 November**.

Drop off at 1030 at St Andrew's and collect at 1145 from
Pershore Abbey. Parents or carers **must** stay with younger
children for the session.

SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES 18 AND UNDER

PERSHORE ABBEY
**CHRISTMAS TREE
DECORATION
MORNING**

Saturday 02 December
10:00
Pershore Abbey

Come along and help dress
the Abbey Christmas Tree

All ages welcome!

Refreshments will be served

We look forward to
welcoming you

Pershore Abbey

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER
15:00
Pershore Abbey

*Follow The Star
Join the Song*

A wonderful chance to sing your favourite Advent Carols
and to hear the Abbey Choir sing some beautiful anthems
Organist: Matthew Martin / Director of Music: Paul Trepte
*This service will be livestreamed on our YouTube Channel
Pershore Abbey Community*

@pershoreabbeycom @AbbeyPershore @pershoreabbeycommunity
www.pershoreabbey.org.uk • office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

Canon Claire's usual day off is Friday. Claire will not be available for commitments on this day.

Sunday 19 November - Misson Sunday

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:30 Café Church (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:30 Sung Eucharist with Traidcraft Stall and
with *LIVESTREAM* (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Sunday Praise (*St Nicholas, Pinvin*)

14:30 Pianoscapes (*St Andrew's Main*)

14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)

16:00 Archdeacon Rob's Farewell Service (*Worcester Cathedral*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 20 November

09:00 P&R Alarms (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:30 Yoga Class (*St Andrew's Upper*)

10:00 PASA Meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)

13:00 Art & Craft for Wellbeing
(*St Andrew's Main*)

13:00 Service of Thanksgiving for the late
Richard Collyer (*St Nicholas, Pinvin*)

19:00 Bell ringing practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
(*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Pershore Community Choir
(*St Andrew's Main*)

19:30 Bellringers AGM (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 21 November

11:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:30 Abbey Bookstall Volunteers' Meeting
(*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 PUC Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

19:00 PCC Meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:15 Private Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

Wednesday 22 November

10:30 Benefice Treasurers Meeting
(*St Andrew's Upper*)

13:00 Bring Your Own Craft & Chat
(*St Andrew's Main*)

15:45 V&W (*Vicar's Vestry*)

19:00 Vale Harmony (*St Andrew's Main*)

Thursday 23 November

09:45 i-Sing Choir Rehearsals (*St Andrew's Main*)

13:00 Eco Church Stitch Workshop
(*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Memorial Service for the late
Wendy Coleman (*St Mary's, Wick*)

18:15 Sea Glass Christmas Craft Evening
(*St Andrew's Main*)

Friday 24 November

Lightening conductor Tests (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:30 Babies and Toddlers (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:30 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

13:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)

16:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:30 Bells Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 25 November

10:00 Craft Fair (*St Andrew's Main*)

Sunday 26 November—Christ The King

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Morning Praise with *LIVESTREAM*
(*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)

11:00 Private Hire (*St Andrew's Main*)

17:00 Iona Service (*Pershore Abbey*)