



**PERSHORE BENEFICE**

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

**Sunday, 21 January 2024**

**EPIPHANY 3**

## **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](http://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**

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **FIRST READING**

**Genesis 14.17-20**

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

After Abram's return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said, 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!' And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING**

**Revelation 19.6-10**

A reading from the Revelation to St John the Divine.

I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, 'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure' – for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of

the saints. And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

For the word of the Lord.                      **Thanks be to God.**

**THE GOSPEL**

**John 2.1-11**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

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

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

*If you need any help in accessing any of the online features mentioned in the service sheet or bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact the office or Canon Claire Lording for support.*



## HYMN SHEET

### FIRST HYMN

**A&M 102**

***UNSER HERRSCHER (NEANDER)***

1 Jesus, come! for we invite you,  
Guest and Master, Friend and Lord;  
now, as once at Cana's wedding,  
speak, and let us hear your word:  
lead us through our need or doubting,  
hope be born and joy restored.

3 Jesus, come in new creation,  
heaven brought near in power divine;  
give your unexpected glory  
changing water into wine:  
rouse the faith of your disciples —  
come, our first and greatest Sign!

2 Jesus, come! transform our pleasures,  
guide us into paths unknown;  
bring your gifts, command your servants,  
let us trust in you alone:  
though your hand may work in secret,  
all shall see what you have done.

4 Jesus, come! surprise our dullness,  
make us willing to receive  
more than we can yet imagine,  
all the best you have to give:  
let us find your hidden riches,  
taste your love, believe, and live!

[Christopher Idle (b.1938)]

### GRADUAL HYMN

**A&M 97**

***GODMANCHESTER***

1. Christ is our light! The bright and morning star  
Covering with radiance all from near and far.  
Christ be our light, shine on, shine on we pray  
Into our hearts, into our world today.
2. Christ is our love! Baptized that we may know  
The love of God among us, swooping low.  
Christ be our love, bring us to turn our face  
And see you in the light of heaven's embrace.
3. Christ is our joy! Transforming wedding guest!  
Through water turned to wine the feast was blessed.  
Christ be our joy: your glory let us see,  
As your disciples did in Galilee.

[Leith Fisher (1941-2009)]

1. Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;  
 brothers and sisters, with one voice  
 tell all the world know He is your choice.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

2. O magnify the Lord, and raise  
 anthems of joy and holy praise  
 for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

5. Christ through all ages is the same:  
 place the same hope in His great name,  
 With the same faith His word proclaim.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

3. They with a faith for ever new  
 followed the King, and round him drew  
 thousands of faithful hearts and true.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

6. Let love's unconquerable might  
 your scattered companies unite  
 in service to the Lord of light.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

4. O Christian women, Christian men,  
 all the world over, seek again  
 the way disciples followed then.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

7. So shall God's will on earth be done,  
 new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,  
 and the whole church at last be one.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

[George Kennedy Allen Bell (1883-1958)]

**COMMUNION MOTET****Listen sweet dove—Ives**

*Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir*

*Listen sweet Dove unto my song,  
 And spread thy golden wings in me;  
 Hatching my tender heart so long,  
 Till it get wing, and flie away with thee.*

*Such glorious gifts thou didst bestow,  
 That th' earth did like a heav'n appeare;  
 The starres were coming down to know  
 If they might mend their wages, and serve here.*

*The sunne, which once did shine alone,  
 Hung down his head, and wisht for night,  
 When he beheld twelve sunnes for one  
 Going about the world, and giving light.*

*Lord, though we change, thou art the same;  
 The same sweet God of love and light:  
 Restore this day, for thy great name,  
 Unto his ancient and miraculous right.*

- 1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
our full homage to demand.
- 2 King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture —  
in the body and the blood —  
he will give to all the faithful  
his own self for heavenly food.
- 3 At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
cherubim with sleepless eye  
veil their faces to the Presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, Lord most high.

[Cherubic hymn from the liturgy of St James  
*Versified by Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885)*]

**FINAL HYMN****A&M 769****GOPSAL**

- 1 Rejoice! The Lord is King,  
your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore:

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

- 2 Jesus the Saviour reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above:
- 3 His kingdom cannot fail;  
he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given:
- 4 He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet:
- 5 Rejoice in glorious hope;  
Jesus the judge shall come,  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home:

*We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound: rejoice!*

[Charles Wesley(1707-1788)]

**Voluntary: *Postlude in D minor—Stanford***

*The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary*

# PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

## 21 JANUARY 2024

**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**

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**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

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### **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

### **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.

# PERSHORE ABBEY BULLETIN NOTICES

## MINISTRY NEWS



**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2024:** Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024 runs from 18-25 January with a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service with Churches Together in Pershore taking place at Pershore Abbey on Sunday 21 January at 1500.

**IONA SERVICE - SUNDAY 28 JANUARY, 1700:** Following the Week of Christian Unity, the Iona service will be an Agape, based on the inclusive fellowship meal of the early church. With some Iona Community songs and prayers, there will be an invitation to share in little homemade honey oatcakes and water. Everyone is very welcome to this informal service no matter what their denomination or background. If you are unable to attend in person, the service will also be on Zoom. Please email Helen on [iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk](mailto:iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk) for a link.

**PALM CROSSES NEEDED FOR ASH WEDNESDAY:** Please leave your old palm crosses in the marked box which will be placed at the back of Pershore Abbey from 14 January, as we need to recreate the ash in the traditional way for this year's Ash Wednesday service on **14 February** at Pershore Abbey.



**ASH WEDNESDAY - 14 FEBRUARY:** Everyone is invited to come forward and have a cross made out of ash marked on their forehead as a sign of our penitence and God's forgiveness. There will be two services at the Abbey, one at 0830 and another at 1930, which will be Livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel. To view, visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for **Pershore Abbey Community**

**EVENSONG - SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY, 1700:** We are delighted that members of the choir of St Martin's, London Road will be joining the Abbey choir to sing choral evensong on Sunday 4th February at 1700. The organist for the service will be John Swindells who is Director of Music at St Martin's. The music for the service (canticles and anthem) will be by John Ireland.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024:** All are welcome to attend this year's World Day of Prayer service at 1400 on Friday 1 March at Pershore Baptist Church. If any volunteers would be willing to take part, please contact the Abbey Office on 01386 552071.

**DAY OF REFLECTION:** There will be a day of reflection for Lent at Holland House led by Christine Dodd on Monday 18 March. Please let Janet Stansbie know either in person or via the Abbey Office by the end of February if you wish to book a place. Cost is expected to be around £20 and timings to be confirmed.



## ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

### **Sunday 21 January - Epiphany 3**

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

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

15:00 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service  
(*Pershore Abbey*)

### **PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES**

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

### **Monday 22 January**

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

10:00 U3A Ukelele (*St Andrew's Main*)

10:30 Bells Quarter Peal (*St Andrew's*)

13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing  
(*St Andrew's Main*)

18:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)

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

18:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)

### **Tuesday 23 January**

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

14:30 Mothers' Union (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

19:30 Pinvin PCC (*St Nicholas*)

### **Wednesday 24 January**

10:00 Midweek Holy Communion  
(*Pershore Abbey*)

11:00 Benefice Treasurers' Meeting (*Zoom*)

13:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Bring your own Craft & Chat  
(*St Andrew's Main*)

15:00 Funeral of the late Doreen Dubery  
(*Vale*)

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

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

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

### **Thursday 25 January**

09:45 iSing Choir Rehearsals (*St Andrew's Main*)

09:30 Abbey Pastoral Group

### **Friday 26 January**

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

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

15:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

### **Saturday 27 January**

14:00 Bells Quarter Peal (*Pershore Abbey*)

15:30 Bells (*St Andrew's*)

### **Sunday 28 January - Candlemas**

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

14:00 Pianoscapes (*St Andrew's Main*)

17:00 Iona Service (*Pershore Abbey*)



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