



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 11 February 2024
NEXT BEFORE LENT

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

The 1030 Service from the Abbey will be livestreamed 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](#)

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

THE COLLECT

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

2 Kings 2.1-12

A reading from the second book of Kings

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He

responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

SECOND READING **2 Corinthians 4.3-6**

A reading from the Second Letter to the Corinthians.

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

THE GOSPEL **Mark 9.2-9**

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 2

RATISBON

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

3 Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

[[Charles Wesley (1707-1788)]]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 279

ST ALBINUS

1 Jesus, on the mountain peak,
stands alone in glory blazing.
Let us, if we dare to speak,
join the saints and angels praising:
Alleluia!

2 Trembling at his feet we saw
Moses and Elijah speaking.
All the Prophets and the Law
shout through them their joyful greeting:
Alleluia!

3 Swift the cloud of glory came,
God, proclaiming in its thunder,
Jesus as the Son by name!
Nations, cry aloud in wonder:
Alleluia!

4 Jesus is the chosen One,
living hope of every nation,
hear and heed him, everyone;
sing, with earth and all creation,
Alleluia!

[Brian Wren (b.1936)]

THIRD HYMN**A&M 281****CARLISLE**

- 1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
thy glory fills the night;
thy face and garments, like the sun,
shine with unborrowed light.
- 2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
thy beauty to behold,
where Moses and Elijah stand,
thy messengers of old.
- 3 Fulfiller of the past,
promise of things to be,
we hail thy body glorified,
and our redemption see.
- 4 Before we taste of death,
we see thy kingdom come;
we fain would hold the vision bright,
and make this hill our home.
- 5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
yet we may not remain;
but since thou bidst us leave the mount,
come with us to the plain.

[Joseph Armitage Robinson (1858-1933)]

COMMUNION MOTET

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is—Vaughan Williams
Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*O taste and see how gracious the Lord is.
Blest is the man that trusteth in him.*

COMMUNION HYMN**A&M 358****BE STILL**

1. Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here;
come bow before him now
with reverence and fear:
in him no sin is found –
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.
2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned:
how awesome is the sight-
our radiant King of light!
Be still for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.
3. Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place:
he comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace.
no work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in his place.

[David Evans (b.1957)]

- 1 Now let us from this table rise
renewed in body, mind and soul;
with Christ we die and rise again,
his selfless love has made us whole.

- 2 With minds alert, upheld by grace,
to spread the word in speech and deed,
we follow in the steps of Christ,
at one with all in hope and need.

- 3 To fill each human house with love,
it is the sacrament of care;
the work that Christ began to do
we humbly pledge ourselves to share.

- 4 Then grant us grace, Companion-God,
to choose again the pilgrim way
and help us to accept with joy
the challenge of tomorrow's day.

[Fred Khan (1929-2009)]

Voluntary: Allegro – Gade

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

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

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

11 FEBRUARY 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

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, WEDNESDAY & 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.

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.



PERSHORE ABBEY BULLETIN NOTICES

A PRAYER FOR THE KING

Father of mercies,
grant to Charles our King
comfort and sure confidence in you,
and keep him in perpetual peace and safety,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



VISIT OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY: A huge thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make Archbishop Justin's visit to Pershore Abbey such a wonderful and memorable occasion. Both he and Bishop John were delighted with how the pilgrimage of prayer went. I think we all feel truly blessed by all that we saw and heard. *Claire*

PALM CROSSES NEEDED FOR ASH WEDNESDAY: Please leave your old palm crosses in the marked box at the back of Pershore Abbey, no later than 12 February, 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 services at the Abbey at 0830 and 1930, both will be livestreamed. To view, visit www.youtube.com and search for **Pershore Abbey Community** There will be the usual midweek Communion service at 1000 in the Abbey. This service not include the Imposition of Ashes.

ABBEY FLOWER GUILD AGM MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY AT 1030: The AGM will be held in St. Andrew's. Enquiries and apologies to the Secretary, Mary Cope, on 01386 554773.

ABBEY SUNDAY MORNING COFFEES - HELP NEEDED: I am very grateful for the continued support of the volunteers in the Sunday Coffees team but we really do need more help. We are in need of helpers to operate the dishwasher in St Andrew's (tuition provided!), plus others to serve teas & coffees. The duty would be on one Sunday morning as part of a 4 to 6 weeks rota? Please contact Sara Speed (01386) 710776, or talk to any member of the team, for further information.

THE ABBEY ORGAN: The congregation will notice that the organ console has moved to the opposite side of the Abbey in a swap with the grand piano. This is an experiment designed to discover if the organ can be heard more clearly *by the organist* in this alternative position. First tests seem to indicate that this will prove to be worthwhile, but please watch this space and we shall see..! *Paul Trepte—Interim Director of Music.*

REFLECTIVE IONA SERVICE, SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY: Join us for a reflective service focussed on Palestine and Israel at 1700 in Pershore Abbey, followed by a talk in St Andrew's Centre. After the last few months of suffering in Palestine and Israel, a short Iona service in the Abbey will offer times of quiet reflection, thought provoking readings and music. We will then go over to St Andrew's Centre for a presentation with slides by Ian Cave, who volunteered as an Ecumenical Accompanier in the West Bank, last year. Free event but donations towards the work of EAPPI would be appreciated by visiting: <https://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/eappi>



CAFÉ CHURCH, SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY: Come and join in with our family friendly and informal café-style worship, with music and refreshments. Café Church takes place every second Sunday in the month at St Andrew's Centre and starts at 0930. For more information, contact Sam Andrews on 01386 556083.

ABBEY PUDDING EVENING: "DIET JANUARY" thankfully had just ended for our February Pudding Evening. It allowed everyone to sample and enjoy SEVERAL of the delicious puddings (14 in all) without a guilty conscience!!! A light hearted Pudding Quiz added to the evening's fun and tested our dessert knowledge.. (Richard has measles.. Spotted Dick!!!!). Thank you to those of you who generously offered to make a pudding, much appreciated, and what a WONDERFUL selection we had. *Julie Newman, PASA Team.*

LENT SOUP MAKERS AND HELPERS WANTED: Help is wanted please for the Abbey's session providing the Lent Lunch on Thursday 22 February in the Baptist Church 1130-1330 (Soup served from 1200). If you can help in any way please ring Jane Knox on 01386 556981. Large pans of soup are required please with a full list of all ingredients. *Thank you, PASA Team.*



BULLETIN MAILING LIST: If you would like to receive the bulletin straight to your inbox on a Friday please let the office know.



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

Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

**PLEASE SEE OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR ALL LENT INFORMATION
& OTHER NOTICES**



The Abbey - Pershore Baptist Church - Holy Redeemer Catholic Church - Community Church

LENTEN APPEAL LAUNCH

SHROVE TUESDAY

13 FEBRUARY

WULSTAN HALL

in aid of



The Friends of the Holy Land is a non-political, humanitarian agency which supports the School of Joy in Bethlehem.

Founded in 1988 the school works with children who have special needs and who have been banned from attending local schools due to their behavioural issues.

Without the school most of these children would be roaming the streets or forced to stay at home. About 70 children attend the school which offers them the chance to fulfil their potential in a non-discriminatory environment.

Pancakes at **1230** followed by presentation

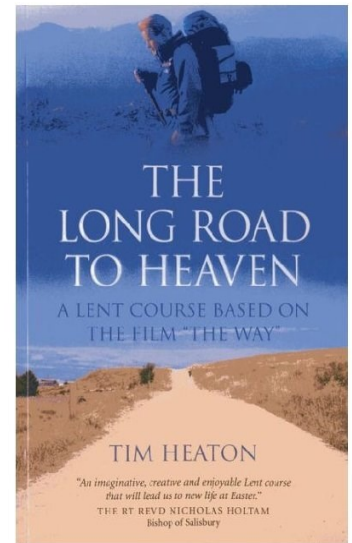


LENT 2024

The Abbey - Pershore Baptist Church - Holy Redeemer Catholic Church - Community Church

THE LONG ROAD TO HEAVEN LENT GROUPS FROM THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY

The Long Road to Heaven is a five-part study course based on the film *The Way*. Starring Martin Sheen as a bereaved father, this soulful and uplifting film observes a group of pilgrims walking the Way of St James to Santiago de Compostela. As it follows their journey of inner transformation, the course examines biblical accounts and images of salvation - past, present and future - and addresses the questions: What are we saved from? What are we saved for? Who can be saved? What do we have to do to be saved? How are we saved?



The course will run for 5 sessions during Lent and will take place at **Pershore Baptist Church**, after Lenten Lunches on the following days from 1400-1530.

- Thursday 22 February
- Thursday 29 February
- Thursday 7 March
- Thursday 14 March
- Thursday 21 March

St Andrew's sessions will take place on **Thursday evenings** on the following days from **1900-2030**:

- Thursday 22 February
- Thursday 29 February
- Thursday 7 March
- Thursday 14 March
- Thursday 21 March

Sign up sheets will be available at CTiP churches soon. There will be a voluntary **£6** contribution for course material.



DAY OF REFLECTION

There will be a day of reflection for Lent at Holland House led by Christine Dodd on Monday 18 March, 1000-1600. 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. The cost is £20. Drinks will be provided, please bring packed lunch.

PRAY ONE FOR ME: ASH WEDNESDAY

14 FEBRUARY 1100-1200 MEET IN PERSHORE ABBEY APSE



The Abbey - Pershore Baptist Church - Holy Redeemer Catholic Church - Community Church

LENTEN LUNCHES

JOIN US FOR HEARTY SOUP AND A ROLL

ALL WELCOME



PERSHORE BAPTIST CHURCH

1200 - 1330

(Last orders 13:00)

THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY - THURSDAY 29 FEBRUARY
THURSDAY 7 MARCH - THURSDAY 14 MARCH

Followed by the Lent Group 1400-1530
on the above dates and Thursday 21 March

Pershore Benefice

LENT & HOLY WEEK COMPLINE BY ZOOM



Mondays in Lent from 19 February
Monday 25, Tuesday 26 &
Wednesday 27 March in Holy Week

1900

Online via Zoom

An opportunity to share in the quiet and peace of Compline
during Lent, with a reflection

This half-hour night service will take place via Zoom

Please contact vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the

Upcoming concerts at St Andrew's Centre and Pershore Abbey:

'An important contribution to the musical life of the area' [Robert Fripp]

pianoscapes

eclectic music for adventurous listeners...



Pianist **CHRIS LONG** presents
an hour of improvisations and compositions -
no.64 in this monthly series

Sunday 25th February 2024 @ 2.30pm

St Andrew's Centre, Pershore

Arrive from 2.00 for excellent homemade cake!

Tickets £10 – email chrislong2008@live.co.uk

www.chrislongmusic.co.uk



Worcestershire Federation of WIs
presents:

Music Maestro!

Fordante: Return to the movies



**Saturday 2 March 2024,
2.00 - 4.00pm**

Fordante will perform another light and entertaining concert with a wonderful mix of popular classics, a handful of their own songs and featuring a host of beautiful music from the big screen set in the glorious surroundings of **Pershore Abbey**.
What's not to like!

Tickets £12 WI Members, £15 Non-members*
*Booking fee applies

Book through [Eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk)* by 1 February 2024 - search 'Fordante' or
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--worcester/fordante/>



ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

Sunday 11 February - Next before Lent

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

10:30 Morning Praise (*St Mary's, Wick*)

13:00 Breathwork Class (*St Andrew's Main*)

17:00 Wholeness and Healing Service (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 12 February

10:00 U3A Ukulele Group (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

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

19:00 Art and Craft for Wellbeing
(*St Andrew's Upper*)

Tuesday 13 February - Shrove Tuesday

09:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

12:30 CTiP Pancakes and Lenten Appeal
Launch (*Wulstan Hall*)

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

14:30 Abbey Women's Fellowship Meeting
(*St Andrew's Main*)

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

Wednesday 14 February - Ash Wednesday

08:30 Morning Prayer and Eucharist with
Imposition of Ashes (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

11:00 CTiP Pray One for Me (*Pershore Abbey*)

13:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Bring Your Own Craft and Chat
(*St Andrew's Main*)

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

19:30 Sung Eucharist with Imposition of
Ashes (*Pershore Abbey*)

Thursday 15 February

19:00 Benefice Churchwardens' Meeting
(*Zoom*)

Friday 16 February

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

12:00 Burial of Ashes (*St Nicholas, Pinvin*)

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

15:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 17 February

10:30 PASA Coffee Morning
(*St Andrew's Main*)

18:00 Private Party (*St Andrew's Main*)

Sunday 18 February - Lent 1

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

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

12:00 Private Party (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

15:00 Private Party (*St Andrew's Main*)