



MORNING PRAISE

PERSHORE ABBEY

Sunday, 25 FEBRUARY 2024

Lent 2

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](#)

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.

Welcome and Introduction

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Hymn 135

Take up thy cross

(BRESLAU)

- 1 Take up thy cross, the Saviour said,
if thou wouldst my disciple be;
deny thyself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me.
- 2 Take up thy cross: let not its weight
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,
and brace thy heart, and nerve thine

3 Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let thy foolish pride rebel:
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,
to save thy soul from death and hell.

5 Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only they who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

4 Take up thy cross then in his strength,
and calmly every danger brave;
'twill guide thee to a better home,
and lead to victory o'er the grave.

6 To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,
all praise for evermore ascend:
O grant us in our home to see
the heavenly life that knows no end.

[Charles William Everest (1814-1877)]

Please sit or kneel for the Prayers of Penitence

God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation. God our Father, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly and acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

May almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for the day

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Reading: Romans 4.13—end

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') - in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 510

Will you come and Follow me

(KELVINGROVE)

1. Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>2. Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?</p> | <p>4. Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?</p> |
| <p>3. Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?</p> | <p>5. Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.</p> |

John L Bell (b1949)
and Graham Maule (b 1958)

The Gospel – Mark 8.31-end

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

Please stand for our Declaration of Faith

We say together:

**We believe in God the Father,
who created everything in heaven and on earth.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith and fills us with His love**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.
We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Peace

God is love and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them .

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Please sit or kneel as we offer God our Prayers and Thanks

*At the end of each prayer when you hear 'God of love' please respond '**hear our prayer**'*

We end by saying together The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn during which the collection will be taken:

Hymn 612 Christ Triumphant, ever reigning *(GUITING POWER)*

1 Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

2 Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:

4 Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:

3 Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:

5 So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

[Michael Seward (b 1932)]

Thanksgiving and Blessing

In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, evermore. Amen.

Go in the joy and peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Please take this leaflet home with you.

Organ Voluntary: Sketch in D flat - Schumann

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

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Facebook: [#persoreabbeycom](https://www.facebook.com/persoreabbeycom) YouTube: [Persore Abbey Community](https://www.youtube.com/PersoreAbbeyCommunity)

Website: www.persoreabbey.org.uk

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

25 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)

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.

PERSHORE ABBEY BULLETIN NOTICES

IONA SERVICE AND TALK ON THE THEME OF PALESTINE/ISRAEL: On Sunday 25 February at 1700 in the Abbey there will be a short reflective service with cello music, images and readings in preparation for the talk about the situation in the West Bank, Gaza and Israel. After the service, refreshments will be available in St Andrew's followed by a talk with slides by Ian Cave at 1800. Ian volunteered in the West Bank in 2023 as an Ecumenical Accompanier with EAPPI (for further information please see <https://www.eappi.org/en/>). Free event but donations to the ongoing work of EAPPI would be appreciated. If you would like zoom link or can help in any way on the night with the service or talk, please email Helen on iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk

POSIE MAKING FOR PERSHORE ABBEY MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE: Posies for the Mothering Sunday service will be put together on **Friday 08 March** at Suzanne Clarke's home from 1300 onwards. Suzanne would be most grateful for any donations of daffodils and foliage or any monetary donations to buy flowers. Please contact Suzanne on 01386 553293 if you can help in any way. *Thank you, Suzanne*

MOTHERING SUNDAY 10 MARCH 1030 ALL AGE EUCHARIST AT PERSHORE ABBEY: Everyone is welcome to join our All Age Eucharist service when we give thanks for mothers past and present. We also celebrate the family of the Church.

PERSHORE CUPPA AND CHAT: Would like to meet other people over refreshments, some friendly chat or perhaps a game or two? If so, please head to St Andrew's Centre on Wednesday 28 February, 1030-1230, for the first of three free Pershore Cuppa and Chat sessions. For more information telephone Amanda on 07966883780.

ABBAY 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 four to six week rota? For more information, please contact Sara Speed on 01386 710776.

TOWN COUNCIL CIVIC SERVICE 03 MARCH 1500 AT PERSHORE ABBEY: The Town Council Civic Service is an opportunity for the town to gather to give thanks and pray for the work of the Mayor and Town Council. Please come and support Pershore Mayor, Cllr Richard Grantham, and all those who serve our town as Town Councillors. There will be no Evensong on this Sunday.

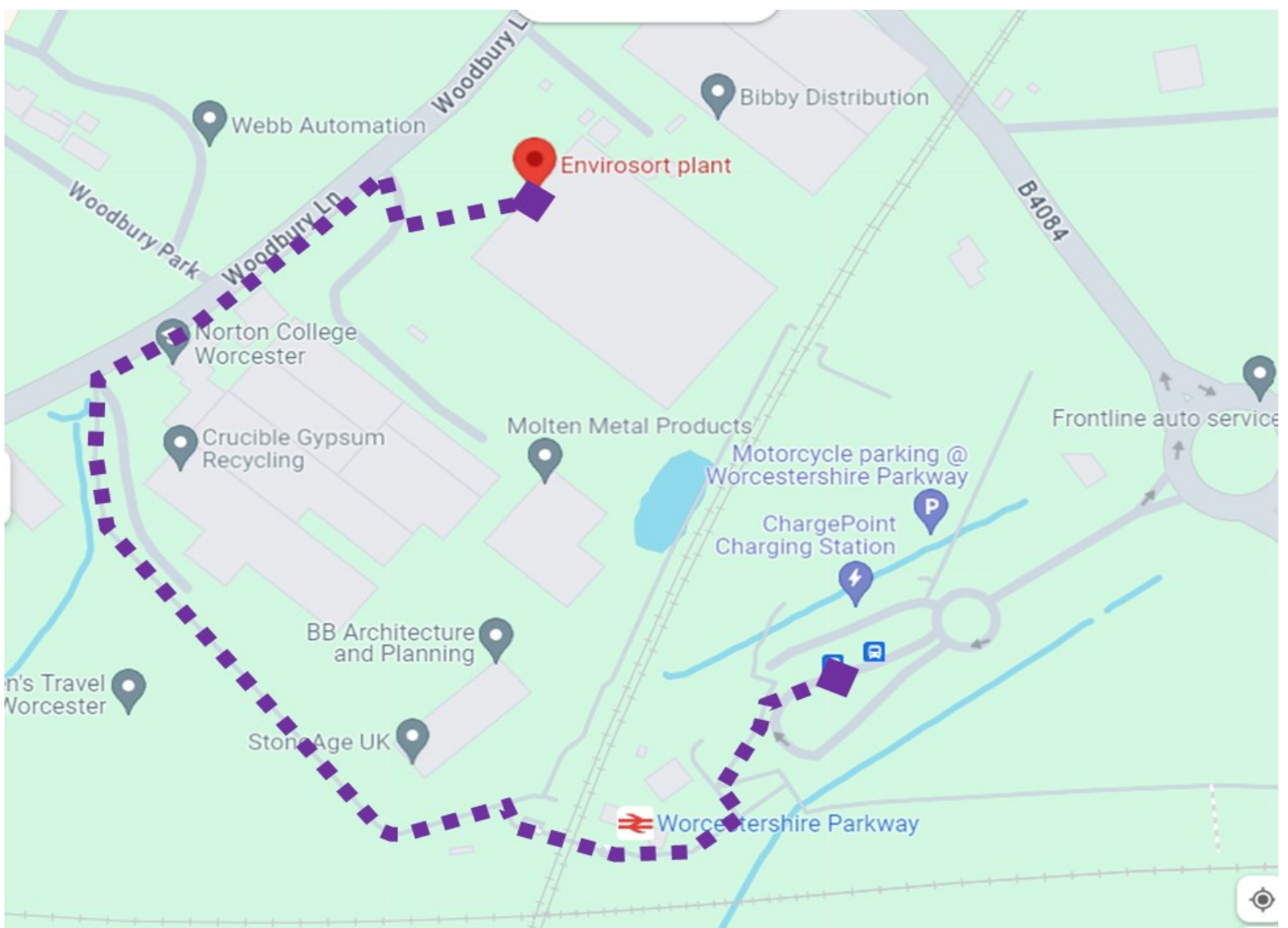
ABBAY EXPLORING AND GROWING OUR FAITH QUESTIONNAIRES: We would like to thank all of those who completed our recent questionnaire. 35 forms were returned, a really excellent result. With two exceptions, everybody thought that they would be interested in ways outside services to grow and explore faith. We are now looking at how we can take forward the ideas and suggestions you have made. We have been able to take some action already on specific issues. We will keep you informed of progress on this important area of our mission.

HOUSE OF BONES 09 MARCH 1930 AT WORCESTER

CATHEDRAL: 'House of Bones' under Bishop John's home featured in a documentary premiering at the cathedral. An award-winning film based on a book written by Bishop John's late wife Denise will get a special screening at Worcester Cathedral to commemorate the 10th anniversary of her death. Tickets to the event, which takes place on Saturday 9 March at 7.30pm at Worcester Cathedral, have been limited to 300 and cost £16 - all money raised will go to the Cathedral, which has responsibility for looking after the Charnel House.



ABBEY ECO CHURCH VISIT TO ENVIROSORT: A visit is organised Monday 18 March 1400 at EnviroSort, Woodbury Lane Norton WR5 2DF, (Severn Waste Services) 15 Spaces. There is a safe platform to see the recycling process and time to ask questions. Wheel chair access. Book your space at Ecochurch@pershoreabbey.org.uk or in person with David Oldham. Find out how recycling happens and if you can recycle more than you thought. Travel: a) Meet up to catch X50 bus at 1325 from Pershore Broad Street, which includes a walk from Worcestershire Parkway across bridge with steps over railway, see below, or b) 10 mins by car with free car parking. Choose the visitor's not staff entrance.





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

Pershore Benefice Easter 2024

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday 24 March

0800 Eucharist (Pershore Abbey)

1000 Palm Sunday Procession on Abbey Park to Abbey. Meet at St Andrew's Road/Abbey Road crossroads. Come and join us singing and drumming to the Abbey.

1030 Sung Eucharist (Pershore Abbey) with **LIVESTREAM**

1030 Parish Communion (St Mary's, Wick)

1500 Hear my Prayer A Choral Devotion for Holy Week. The Abbey Choir and The Five Alive Parish Choir will lead a programme of seasonal favourites including music by Mendelssohn and Stainer. (Pershore Abbey)

1700 Iona Worship (Pershore Abbey)

Monday in Holy Week 25 March

1900 Compline (Zoom) Please contact Claire vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the invitation

Tuesday In Holy Week 26 March

1900 Compline (Zoom) Please contact Claire vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the invitation

Wednesday in Holy Week 27 March

1900 Compline (Zoom) Please contact Claire vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the invitation

Maundy Thursday 28 March

2000 Eucharist of the Last Supper, Stripping of the Altars

and the Office of Tenebrae (Pershore Abbey) with **LIVESTREAM TO BE CONFIRMED**

This service will be approximately one and three-quarter hours and will be followed by the Watch until Midnight. You are welcome to leave after the Office of Tenebrae.

Good Friday 29 March

1000-1415 Children's Activities (5-10 years) (St Andrew's Centre)

No fee - donations welcome. Booking essential via Suzanne Clarke 01386 553293.

1000-1200 Good Friday Witness Drop in anytime at the corner of the High Street and Broad Street, to mark Good Friday by leaving a prayer in a sand tray.

1400 Service of the Last Hour (Pershore Abbey) with **LIVESTREAM**

1445 Bredon Hill Service at the Folly please contact the Bredon Group for details of this service on acbhteam@gmail.com

Holy Saturday 30 March

1700 Evening Prayer with Short Easter Vigil (Pershore Abbey)

This service will last approximately one hour.

PLEASE NOTE: Our Daily Offices will also continue to be observed as usual

JOIN US IN CHURCH OR ONLINE THIS EASTER

Facebook: @pershoreabbeycom YouTube: Pershore Abbey Community

Pershore Benefice

EASTER DAY March 31 2024



0600 Dawn Service and First Eucharist of Easter (Pershore Abbey)

followed by breakfast of boiled eggs and rolls at St Andrew's Centre. (Please bring an egg cup with you!)

0800 Eucharist (Pershore Abbey)

0900 Parish Communion (St Mary's, Wick)

1030 Sung Eucharist (Pershore Abbey) with **LIVESTREAM**

1030 Holy Communion (St James', Birlingham)

1030 Holy Communion (St Nicholas', Pinvin)

ALL WELCOME

JOIN US IN CHURCH OR ONLINE THIS EASTER

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ABBAY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

Sunday 25 February - Lent 2

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

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

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

17:00 Iona Worship (*Pershore Abbey*)

18:00 Iona Presentation and Teas (*St Andrew's Main*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 26 February

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

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

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

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

14:00 Scrabble Session (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

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

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

19:00 Lent Compline (*Zoom*)

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

Tuesday 27 February

09:00 Storm Window Installation
(*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

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

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

Wednesday 28 February

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

10:30 Pershore Cuppa and Chat Coffee
Morning (*St Andrew's Main*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

14:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

Thursday 29 February

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

12:00 Lenten Lunches (*Baptist Church*)

14:30 iSingPOP Concert for St Barnabas School
(*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Lent Course (*Baptist Church*)

18:00 iSingPOP Concert for St Barnabas School
(*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 Lent Course (*St Andrew's Main*)

Friday 01 March—St David's Day

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*)

19:00 Pershore Civic Society AGM
(*St Andrew's Main*)

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

Saturday 02 March

09:30 Wedding Preparation (*St Andrew's Main*)

14:00 Worcestershire Federation of WI's
Concert (*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 03 March—Lent 3

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

10:30 Holy Communion (*St Nicholas, Pinvin*)

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

14:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

15:00 Town Council Civic Service
(*Pershore Abbey*)