



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 03 March 2024
LENT 3

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 God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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

Exodus 20.1-17

A reading from the book of Exodus

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's

house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1.18-25

A reading from the First Letter of the Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.' Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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

THE GOSPEL

John 2.13-22

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 123

BANGOR

1 From ashes to the living font
your Church must journey, Lord,
baptized in grace, in grace renewed
by your most holy word.

2 Through fasting, prayer and charity
your voice speaks deep within,
returning us to ways of truth
and turning us from sin.

3 From desert to the mountaintop
in Christ our way we see,
so, tempered by temptation's might,
we might transfigured be.

4 For thirsting hearts let water flow,
our fainting souls revive;
and at the well your waters give
our everlasting life.

5 From ashes to the living font
your Church must journey still;
through cross and tomb to Easter joy,
in Spirit-fire fulfilled.

[Alan J. Hommerding (b. 1956)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 592

1 As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.*

2 I want you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
and the apple of my eye.

3. You're my Friend and you're my Brother,
even though you are a king.
I love you more than any other,
so much more than anything.

[Martin J Nystrom (b.1956)]

THIRD HYMN

A&M 156

BOW BRICKHILL

1 We sing the praise of him who died,
of him who died upon the cross;
the sinner's hope let men deride,
for this we count the world but loss.

2 Inscribed upon the cross we see
in shining letters, 'God is love';
he bears our sins upon the tree;
he brings us mercy from above.

4 It makes the coward spirit brave,
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;
it takes its terror from the grave,
and gilds the bed of death with light:

3 The cross! It takes our guilt away:
it holds the fainting spirit up;
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,
and sweetens every bitter cup.

5 The balm of life, the cure of woe,
the measure and the pledge of love,
the sinner's refuge here below,
the angels' theme in heaven above.

[Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)]

COMMUNION MOTET

God so loved the world—Stainer

Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*God so loved the world.
God so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoso believeth, believeth in Him
should not perish, should not perish
but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world
to condemn the world.
But that the world through Him might be saved.*

COMMUNION HYMN

A&M 143

DIM OND JESU

1 Here is love, vast as the ocean,
loving kindness as the flood,
when the Prince of life, our ransom,
shed for us his precious blood.
Who his love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing his praise?
He can never be forgotten
throughout heaven's eternal days.

Cont'd

2 On the mount of crucifixion
fountains opened deep and wide;
through the floodgates of God's mercy
flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
poured incessant from above,
and heaven's peace and perfect justice
kissed a guilty world in love.

[*Dyma gariad fel y moroedd*

William Rees (1802-1883)

Translated by William Edwards (1848-1929)]

FINAL HYMN

A&M 742

LYNGHAM (DESERT)

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

2 Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.

3 He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
he sets the prisoner free:
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.

4 He speaks; and, listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

5 Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Saviour come;
and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim
and spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of thy name.

[Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Thomas Jarman (1782-1862)]

Voluntary: Sketch in F minor—Schumann

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

03 MARCH 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

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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

ABBEY OFFICE CLOSURE: Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Abbey Office was not open to the public on Wednesday. We are still experiencing technical issues beyond our control and we hope this will be resolved in the coming days.

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? For more information, please contact Sara Speed on 01386 710776.

SHROVE TUESDAY - A THANK YOU FROM THE PASA TEAM: Thank you to all those who helped with either the making or serving of both the Shrove Tuesday Pancakes at Holy Redeemer Church & the Lent soups at the Baptist Church. Both the pancakes & the choice of soups went down very well indeed & were much appreciated by those who attended. From the PASA team.

ABBEY PUDDING CLUB THANK YOU: A very "big" thank you to all who helped in any way to making a very successful Pudding Evening. There were some delicious and generously donated puddings and the whole evening was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. The final amount raised including the supper and raffle was an amazing £409.45! Therefore it was decided by the PASA committee to give £200 to the Pershore Wellbeing Hub and £209.45 to the St. Andrew's Trust as both of these charities are most deserving of funds. Thank you to Julie Newman for her brilliant idea of a Pudding Evening. *The PASA team.*

DAY OF REFLECTION 18 MARCH AT HOLLAND HOUSE - LIST IS NOW CLOSED: There will be a day of reflection for Lent at Holland House led by Christine Dodd on Monday 18 March. Due to high demand, we have now closed the list as all the places have been allocated. *Janet Stansbie*

BRASS CLEANING: You may have noticed how beautiful the brass crosses and lectern look in the Abbey. Unfortunately our small group of brass cleaners has diminished for various reasons and we are looking for a few more volunteers. I know how busy everyone is but the brass is cleaned every month but only on a rota with two people every quarter. If you feel you can help, please contact me on 01386 553354 and I suggest we meet with all the helpers in March for a cup of tea! Thank you. *Wendy Perks*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOLY WEEK SERVICES: Sign up sheets will be at the back of the Abbey for those who would like to have their feet washed on Maundy Thursday and those who would like to read at the service of Tenebrae. There will also be a rota for those who would like to keep the watch until midnight. Those who would like to be involved in the dramatised reading of the Passion on Good Friday can also sign up. Thank you in advance to all who will volunteer. *Claire*

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

ABBAY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

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*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 04 March

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

11:00 Funeral of the late Derek Humberstone
(*Vale*)

14:00 U3A History Group (*St Andrew's Main*)

18:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

19:00 Lent Compline (*Zoom*)

19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 05 March

09:00 God and the Big Bang Schools' Event
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

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

Wednesday 06 March

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

11:30 Lunch Club (*St Andrew's Main*)

13:45 Organ Workshop with Holy Redeemer
School (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

Thursday 07 March

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

11:00 Eucharist (*Ganderton Court*)

12:00 Lenten Lunches (*Baptist Church*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Lent Course (*Baptist Church*)

14:15 Intercessory Prayer (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:15 Abbey Mission Group Meeting
(*St Andrew's Upper*)

15:45 V&W (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

Friday 08 March

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*)

Saturday 09 March

12:45 Concert use (*St Andrew's Main*)

14:30 Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra
Concert (*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 10 March—Mothering Sunday

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

10:30 All Age Eucharist with *LIVESTREAM*
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

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Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk