



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 10 March 2024
MOTHERING SUNDAY

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

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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 2.1-10

A reading from the book of Exodus

A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?'

Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because,' she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

John 19.25-27

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 138

ELLACOMBE

- 1 Our Father God in heaven
on whom our world depends,
to you let praise be given
for families and friends;
for parents, sisters, brothers,
a home where love belongs,
but on this day for mothers
we bring our thankful songs.
- 2 What wealth of God's bestowing
for all the world to share!
what strength of heart outgoing
to children everywhere!
Our deepest joys and sorrows
a mother's path must trace,
and earth's unknown tomorrows
are held in her embrace.
- 3 How well we know the story
that tells of Jesus' birth,
the Lord of heaven's glory
become a child of earth;
a helpless infant sleeping,
yet King of realms above,
to find in Mary's keeping
the warmth of human love.
- 4 Our Father God in heaven,
to you we lift our prayer,
that every child be given
such tenderness and care,
where life is all for others,
where love your love displays:
for God's good gift of mothers
let earth unite in praise!

[Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 137

LOVE DIVINE

1. God of Eve and God of Mary,
God of love and mother-earth,
thank you for the ones who with us
shared their life and gave us birth.
2. As you came to earth in Jesus,
so you come to us today;
you are present in the caring
that prepares us for life's way.
3. Thank you that the Church, our Mother,
gives us bread and fills our cup,
and the comfort of the Spirit
warms our hearts and lifts us up.
4. Thank you for belonging, shelter,
bonds of friendship, ties of blood,
and for those who have no children,
yet are parents under God.
5. God of Eve and God of Mary,
Christ our brother, human Son,
Spirit, caring like a Mother,
take our love and make us one!

[Fred Kaan, 1929- 2009]

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

2. For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light:

4. For each perfect gift of thine,
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

3. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
pleasures pure and undefiled:

5. For thy church which evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love,

[Folliott Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917)]

COMMUNION MOTET

A Gaelic Blessing—Rutter

Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*Deep peace of the running wave to you
Deep peace of the flowing air to you
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you
Deep peace of the shining stars to you
Deep peace of the gentle night to you*

*Moon and stars pour their healing light on you
Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you*

COMMUNION HYMN

A&M 136

BUNESSAN

1. Fathers and mothers,
sisters and brothers,
all those who love us,
for whom we care:
help and befriend them,
keep and defend them,
Jesus our Saviour,
this is our prayer.

Cont'd

2. And for those others,
fathers and mothers,
children who hunger,
they must be fed:
we would be caring,
readily sharing,
one with another
our daily bread.

3. Sisters and brothers,
fathers and mothers,
we who together
offer our praise:
hear our thanksgiving,
God ever living,
may we walk with you
all of our days.

[Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926)]

FINAL HYMN

A&M 656

TRADITIONAL

1. He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole wide world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

2. He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

3. He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

4. He's got the little tiny baby in his hand.
He's got the little tiny baby in his hand.
He's got the little tiny baby in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

5. He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

6. He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole wide world in his hand.

[African-American traditional song,
arr. Paul Leddington Wright, b. 1951]

Pershore Abbey CCLI No. 46441

Voluntary: Prelude and fugue in A major - Bach

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

10 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

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.



NEW ABBEY DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

We are delighted to announce that James MacDowall-Scott has been appointed as our permanent Director of Music. His first service will be on 14 April. James would now like to introduce himself:

I was born into a musical family in 1976 at Coventry - although Scottish, I have a strong affinity with the Cathedral at Coventry, particularly the tapestry. It is awesome to see Christ compared to the lifesize figure of a person at his feet - it truly speaks of the majesty of Jesus and the vastness of his love for all of us. Then of course, there is the organ! When I first heard it played I knew I was destined to be an Organist... some forty years later, here I am, so looking forward to serving you all, worshipping together, growing as a family and building on the excellent foundations laid down by my predecessors.



My Christian journey began well after my musical one, although I knew of God, I didn't truly know he loved me until I was in my thirties. My musical life has been around cathedrals, churches and abbeys - I adore the rich and vibrant tapestry of choral music, hymnody, worship songs and liturgical improvisation. I was lucky enough to study improvisation with David Briggs, organ with Kevin Bowyer and Peter King and harpsichord with Richard Lester. These studies have borne fruit as I have been successful in the diploma examinations of Trinity College London and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Currently, I am a MA Performance student at Bath Spa University specialising in organ and harpsichord, particularly the works of Bach and Scarlatti.

Both my wife Jane, an experienced singer and director of a bereavement charity, are so looking forward to getting to know you all very soon. We are proud 'parents' to Coco the cat and Merlin the wire fox terrier - he has saved you all from the organ works of Messiaen having eaten a whole volume of it last week! Although living in Cheltenham, we will surely be part of the community and want to invest our lives in the worshipping life and beating heart of the Abbey.

I have held organist positions at All Saints Leamington Spa, Cirencester Parish Church, Bath Abbey and most recently as Director of Music at All Saints Pittville in Cheltenham where I directed the Choir and played the Organ each week. I instituted an annual Cathedral singing visit together with Christ Church Cheltenham and also with them, a liturgical performance of The Crucifixion by John Stainer and Requiem by Gabriel Fauré. I am very keen to do this again in the future, to encourage more singers into the choir and to develop a children's choir too.

I am also looking forward to getting to know the absolutely GLORIOUS instrument in the Abbey. The first time I played it made me really WANT to play. I openly and actively encourage any feedback at all, from you the Abbey family, what pieces you enjoy, want to hear, or never want to hear again!! I promise this will be an open relationship, with open dialogue, deep respect and lots of humour! Please come and talk to me at the console, I'm friendly and very approachable. I look forward to developing friendships as the weeks, months and years go by.

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](https://www.facebook.com/pershoreabbeycom)

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

Pershore Abbey

HEAR MY PRAYER

A Choral Devotion for Holy Week



PALM SUNDAY, 24 MARCH

15:00

Pershore Abbey

Pershore Abbey Choir with The Five Alive Parish Choir will lead a programme of seasonal favourites including music by Mendelssohn and Stainer

Directed by Paul Trepte Organist: John Swindells
The Five Alive Parish Choir Director of Music: Hilary Harris



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www.pershoreabbey.org.uk • office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

01386 552071

Pershore Abbey

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY DAY



AGES
5-10 YRS

Friday 29 March
1000 -1415

St Andrew's Centre

Enjoy Easter themed activities and crafts including:

- Baking
- Creating an Easter garden
- Telling the Easter story
- & much more...

No Cost - Donations Welcome

Booking Essential

Spaces are limited so reserve your place from 11 March

Booking and information: Suzanne Clarke on 01386 553293

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

Facebook: @persshoreabbeycom

YouTube: Pershore Abbey Community

PERSHORE ABBEY BULLETIN NOTICES

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*

ABBAY MORNING PRAISE: Please note that due to when Palm Sunday falls the next service of Morning Praise will be 17 March. 24 March will be a Sung Eucharist.

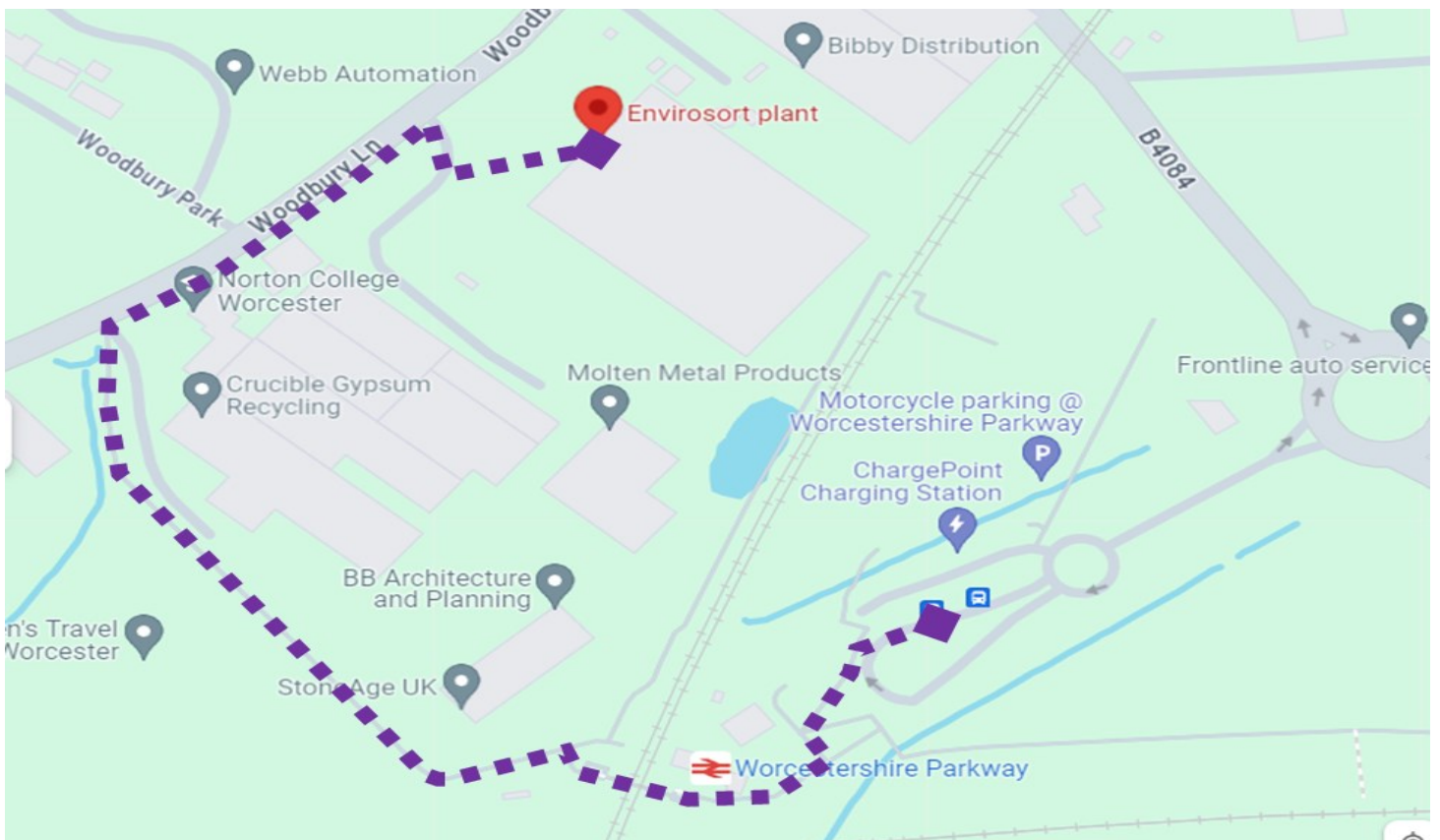
PERSHORE ABBEY BULLETIN NOTICES

ABBEY OFFICE TECHNICAL ISSUES: The office has been without internet for the past 3 weeks, resulting in reduced opening hours and staff working from home. We look forward to being reconnected in the next 2 weeks, when normal opening hours will resume. We apologise for any inconvenience caused in the meantime.

ABBEY ECO CHURCH CORRECTIONS: Incorrect dates for the next Eco Church Litter Pick and Meeting were published in the March Monthly Bulletin. The correct details are:

- Eco Church Meeting - Tuesday 12 March, 1915 at St Andrew's Centre, Main Room
- Eco Church Litter Pick - Saturday 20 April, 1000 at West End of the Abbey

ENVIROSORT RECYCLING SITE VISIT: A visit is organised Monday 18 March 1400 to EnviroSort, Woodbury Lane Norton WR5 2DF, (Severn Waste Services) 15 Spaces. There are spaces left for nearly half that number. There is wheel chair access. Email ecochurch@pershoreabbey.org.uk or see David Oldham to put your name down. Its a 10 min drive from Pershore or catch X50 bus 1325 from Pershore Broad Street bus stop by the Pet Shop, get off the first stop after Worcester Parkway station. The bus stop is just after Woodbury Lane on your left. Walk down Woodbury Lane and crossover on the second turning on the left and you are at EnviroSort. Choose the visitor's entrance. There is free parking. The X50 back to Pershore is 1522 and 1630, but lifts may be available.



PLEASE SEE OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR OTHER NOTICES & INFORMATION

ABBAY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

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*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 11 March

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

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

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

14:00 Proteus Ensemble Recording Day 1
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

19:00 Lent Compline (*Zoom*)

Tuesday 12 March

10:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

12:00 Funeral service for the Late
Dorothy Grant (*St James', Birlingham*)

14:00 Mothers' Union - Wave of Prayer
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

16:00 Proteus Ensemble Recording Day 2
(*Pershore Abbey*)

19:15 Abbey Eco Church (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

Wednesday 13 March

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

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

12:00 Monks' Day (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

16:00 Proteus Ensemble Recording Day 3
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

Thursday 14 March

09:30 SAEC Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

11:00 Eucharist (*Roland Rutter Court*)

12:00 Lenten Lunches (*Baptist Church*)

14:00 Lent Course (*Baptist Church*)

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

Friday 15 March

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 16 March

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

19:00 Rock Choir Concert (*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 17 March - Lent 5

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

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

14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*St Mary's, Wick*)

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

Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk