



**PERSHORE BENEFICE**  
**The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with**  
**St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick**  
**Sunday, 5 May 2024**  
**EASTER 6 / ROGATION 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](http://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 our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

### **FIRST READING**

**Acts 10.44-48**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days .

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING**

**1 John 5.1-6**

A reading from the first Letter of John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

**THE GOSPEL**                   **John 15.9-17**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

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

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

<p><b>If you would like to receive a gluten-free host during communion please let a sidesperson know</b></p>
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## HYMN SHEET

### FIRST HYMN

**A&M 532**

**LASST UNS ERFREUEN**

1 All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
thou silver moon with softer gleam:

*O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice;  
ye lights of evening, find a voice:

4 Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfoldest blessings on our way,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,  
let them his glory also show:

3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for thy Lord to hear,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou fire, so masterful and bright,  
that givest us both warmth and light:

5 Let all things their creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness;  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:

[William Henry Draper (1855-1933)]

### GRADUAL 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.

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.

[William Rees (1802-1883)  
Translated by William Edwards (1848-1929)]

1 Come, ye thankful people, come,  
 raise the song of harvest-home:  
 all be safely gathered in,  
 ere the winter storms begin;  
 God, our Maker, doth provide  
 for our wants to be supplied;  
 come to God's own temple, come;  
 raise the song of harvest-home!

2 All the world is God's own field,  
 fruit unto his praise to yield;  
 wheat and tares together sown,  
 unto joy or sorrow grown;  
 first the blade and then the ear,  
 then the full corn shall appear:  
 grant, O harvest Lord, that we  
 wholesome grain and pure may be.

3 For the Lord our God shall come,  
 and shall take his harvest home;  
 from his field shall purge away  
 all that doth offend, that day;  
 give his angels charge at last  
 in the fire the tares to cast,  
 but the fruitful ears to store  
 in his garner evermore.

4 Then, thou Church Triumphant, come,  
 raise the song of harvest-home;  
 all be safely gathered in,  
 free from sorrow, free from sin,  
 there for ever purified  
 in God's garner to abide:  
 come, ten thousand angels, come,  
 raise the glorious harvest-home!

[Henry Alford (1810-1871)

Music: George Job Elvey (1816-1893) ,Descant by John Barnard (b.1948)]

**COMMUNION MOTET****O for a closer walk with God**

*Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir*

*O for a closer walk with God  
 A calm and heavenly frame  
 A light to shine upon the road  
 Leading to the Lamb  
 Where is the blessedness I knew  
 When once I saw the Lord  
 Where is the soul refreshing view  
 Living in His Word  
 O fire of God come burn in me  
 Renew a holy passion  
 Til Christ my deepest longing be  
 My never-failing fountain  
 My never-failing fountain  
 A light to be my guide  
 The Father's presence at my side  
 In Your will my rest I find  
 O for a closer walk with God - leading to the Lamb  
 So shall my walk be close with God  
 With all the hopes made new  
 So purer light shall mark the road  
 Leading to the Lamb*

**COMMUNION HYMN**

**A&M 144**

1. How deep the Father's love for us,  
how vast beyond all measure,  
that he should give his only Son  
to make a wretch his treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss;  
the Father turns his face away,  
as wounds which mar the chosen One  
bring many souls to glory.

2. Behold the man upon a cross,  
my sin upon his shoulders;  
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held him there,  
until it was accomplished;  
his dying breath has brought me life-  
I know that 'it is finished.'

3. I will not boast in anything,  
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
his death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from his reward?  
I cannot give an answer;  
but this I know with all my heart  
his wounds have paid my ransom.

[Stuart Townend (b.1963)]

**FINAL HYMN**

**A&M 394**

***WOODLANDS***

- 1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.
- 2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.
- 3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.
- 4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!  
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore!

[Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926)]

*Voluntary: Toccata in G—Theodore Dubois*  
*The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary*

## **PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY**

### **05 MAY 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](mailto:vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk)**

**Assistant Curate: The Revd Jayne Parker**

**Email: [curate@pershoreabbey.org.uk](mailto: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)

### **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](mailto:office@pershoreabbey.org.uk) or leave a message on  
01386 552071 and they will get back to you as soon as they can.**

**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 BENEFICE BULLETIN NOTICES

**BISHOP JOHN TO RETIRE:** Bishop John has announced he will retire in October. Bishop John was enthroned as the 113th Bishop of Worcester on 1 March 2008, coming from the Diocese of Ely where he was Bishop of Huntingdon. He has been the Chief Pastor for parishes across Worcestershire and Dudley as well as serving in the House of Lords since 2012 and as Lord High Almoner to HM The Queen and then HM The King from 2013. On Sunday 29 September, there will be a farewell service in the Cathedral at 1600, to which all are welcome. We wish him and H-J all the very best!



**ABBEY APCM AND ST ANDREW'S AGM - TUESDAY 7 MAY 1900:** The Abbey APCM and St Andrew's AGM will take place at St Andrew's Centre. Elections of the Churchwardens and additional PCC members will take place at this meeting. Anyone wishing to be nominated for any of these roles should contact Sara Speed (PCC Secretary) on 01386 710776 for further information. The APCM booklet is available on our website and here: <https://www.pershoreabbey.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/APCM-Booklet-2023.pdf> To receive a copy by email, please contact [office@pershoreabbey.org.uk](mailto:office@pershoreabbey.org.uk) Hardcopies can be obtained via Sara Speed and a printed copy of the APCM booklet and full set of accounts is available to view on the Abbey noticeboard.



**ASCENSION DAY SERVICE THURSDAY 9 MAY:** We begin our Thy Kingdom Come journey with a special Eucharist at 1900 at Pershore Abbey, marking the moment Jesus ascended into heaven before his disciples at the village of Bethany near Jerusalem. All welcome.

**NOVENA OF PRAYER 10 MAY-18 MAY:** During this special nine day period of prayer we shall be holding Zoom services at 1900 so we can join with others in the Benefice, and across the world, praying for the Holy Spirit to come. Please see the monthly bulletin for more information.

**THE REVD JAYNE PARKER'S ORDINATION:** We are all looking forward to celebrating with Jayne as she is ordained priest by Bishop John at the Cathedral on 29 June at 1400. To show our support it would be wonderful if as many people as possible could attend Jayne's Ordination. A bus has been booked and will be leaving from the Abbey at 1230. After the service it will leave the Cathedral at 1630. The cost will be £8. To book your place please use the sign up sheets at the back of all the churches or let the Office know.



**HELP FOR CARNIVAL REFRESHMENTS PLEASE:** On Monday 27 May refreshments are being served 1030-1430 in St. Andrew's. To all you wonderful helpers and cake makers please contact Sara Speed on 01386 710776 to volunteer to help on the day and Hilary Fowler on 01386 552243 for offers of cakes - or monetary offerings are very acceptable. Sign-up sheets will be in the Abbey after the Sunday morning service. *Thank you from the PASA Team.*

**PLEASE SEE OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR MORE NOTICES**

## ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

### **Sunday 05 May—Easter 6 / Rogation Sunday**

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

10:30 Rogation Service at Orchard Farm (*Pinvin*)

13:15 Breathworks Class (*St Andrew's Main*)

16:00 Evensong Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

17:00 Evensong (*Pershore Abbey*)

### **PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES**

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

### **Monday 06 May—Bank Holiday**

All Day—Benefice Office Closed

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

18:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

### **Tuesday 07 May**

09:20 Foodbank Steering Group (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

19:00 Abbey APCM and St Andrew's Trust AGM  
(*St Andrew's Main*)

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

### **Wednesday 08 May**

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

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

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

19:30 Abbey Mission Group (*St Andrew's Upper*)

### **Thursday 09 May - Ascension Day**

09:30 Pastoral Group Meeting (*Private Address*)

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

11:00 Eucharist (*Roland Rutter Court*)

11:00 SAEC Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Funeral Service for the late Ray Day  
(*St Mary's, Wick*)

19:00 Ascension Day Sung Eucharist  
(*Pershore Abbey*)

### **Friday 10 May**

09:00 Piano Tuning (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

### **Saturday 11 May**

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

14:00 Concert Use (*St Andrew's Main*)

15:30 Burial of Ashes for the late  
Peter Arrowsmith (*St Nicholas, Pinvin*)

19:00 Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

19:30 Pershore Choral Concert (*Pershore Abbey*)

### **Sunday 12 May—Easter 7**

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

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

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

13:30 Private Hire (*St Andrew's Main*)

15:00 Walking Pet Service (*St James', Birlingham*)

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

19:00 Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

Facebook: [#pershoreabbeycom](#) YouTube: [Pershore Abbey Community](#)

Website: [www.pershoreabbey.org.uk](http://www.pershoreabbey.org.uk)