



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 20 April 2025
EASTER DAY

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

The 1030 Service from the Abbey will be livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel. Visit www.youtube.com and search for [Pershore Abbey Community](#)
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

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 10.34-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

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

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15.19-26

A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come

through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

John 20.1-18

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 205

EASTER HYMN

- 1 Jesus Christ is risen today, *Alleluia*,
our triumphant holy day, *Alleluia*,
who did once, upon the cross, *Alleluia*,
suffer to redeem our loss. *Alleluia*.
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing *Alleluia*,
unto Christ, our heavenly King, *Alleluia*,
who endured the cross and grave, *Alleluia*,
sinners to redeem and save. *Alleluia*.
- 3 But the pains that he endured *Alleluia*,
our salvation have procured; *Alleluia*,
now above the sky he's King, *Alleluia*,
where the angels ever sing *Alleluia*.

[Lyra Davidica, 1708 and others]

GRADUAL HYMN

CAHON 676

- 1 This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made.
- 2 This is the day, this is the day
When he rose again, when he rose again;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day when he rose again;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
when he rose again.
- 3 This is the day, this is the day
When the Spirit came, when the Spirit came;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day when the Spirit came;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
When the Spirit came.

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THIRD HYMN

A&M 215

1. See, what a morning, gloriously bright,
with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;
folded the grave clothes, tomb filled with light,
as the angels announce Christ is risen!
See God's salvation plan, wrought in love,
borne in pain paid in sacrifice,
fulfilled in Christ, the Man, for he lives:
Christ is risen from the dead.
2. See Mary weeping, 'Where is he laid?'
as in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;
hears a voice speaking, calling her name;
it's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!
The voice that spans the years,
speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,
will sound till he appears,
for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead!
3. One with the Father, Ancient of Days,
through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty;
honour and blessing, glory and praise
to the King crowned with power and authority!
And we are raised with him,
death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered;
and we shall reign with him,
for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

[Stuart Townend (b.1963) and
Keith Getty (b. 1974)]

COMMUNION MOTET

Let all the World, Ralph Vaughan Williams
Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!
The heavens are not too high,
His praise may thither fly;
The earth is not too low,
His praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!*

*Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!
The Church with psalms must shout,
No door can keep them out;
But above all the heart
Must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!*

1. Now the green blade rises, from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.
2. In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain,
thinking that he never would awake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.
3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for the three days in the grave had lain;
back from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.
4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
then your touch can call us back to life again,
field of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springs up green.

[John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958)]

FINAL HYMN**A&M 218****MACCABAEUS**

1. Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where the body lay.
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*
2. Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hast lost its sting:
3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:

[*A Toi la gloire, O Ressuscite*, Edmund Budry (1854-1932)
Translated by Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939)]

Organ Voluntary: Toccata—Charles-Marie Widor
The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary

Pershore Abbey CCLI No. 46441

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

20 APRIL 2025

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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The Benefice Office of Pershore with Pinvin, Wick & Birlingham
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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.

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.



Wishing the Pershore Benefice a Peaceful and Happy Easter.

May this Easter Sunday fill your home and life with new hope, happiness, prosperity, and abundance, all received through God's divine grace.

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

FEBRUARY - UPDATE FROM CLAIRE: Thank you all for your continued prayers and good wishes. I have now started my post-surgery chemotherapy and am grateful that side effects seem to be minimal at the moment. I have had confirmation that my treatment should be finished by the end of June. Please continue to pray for me, for all being treated for cancer and all health professionals. *Claire*

PREPARATION OF THE ABBEY'S NEW ELECTORAL ROLL: If you want to be on the Roll you must sign up before **21 April**, even if you have been on the Roll before. Forms will be available on the Abbey website and in the Abbey. You can also contact Bill Newman who is the Abbey's Electoral Roll officer on 01386 640497.

TIME OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE - IONA SERVICE 1700 SUNDAY 27 APRIL: Provides space for reflection on what peace means, music and times of quiet prayer for areas of conflict around the world. Everyone is very welcome to join in the Abbey or by Zoom. If you'd like a link, please email Helen on iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk Please do bring along a prayer or poem for peace, a news story, or your favourite quote about what peace is. *Helen Oldham*

ORGAN RECITAL - 1400 SUNDAY 27 APRIL: Join Director of Music, James MacDowall-Scott for an enjoyable recital as he plays the organ at Pershore Abbey. Admission free with a retiring collection.

ABBAY APCM REPORT: The Abbey APCM report is now available on our website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk If you would like a hardcopy, please order one via the Abbey Office.

BISHOP MARTIN'S EASTER MESSAGE: A few years ago, I went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land. It was my first time in Galilee and Jerusalem, and I shall never forget it. Visiting holy sites, seeing the mountains that Jesus knew. Praying with Palestinian Christians and staying with Christians from around the world. And on the Sunday, very early in the morning, I went to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Priests were chanting in Aramaic, the ancient language of Jesus. I was longing to go into the sepulchre itself, a tiny chapel built over the site where Jesus had been buried after his death on the cross. Even at that time I had to queue, and it was touch and go whether I would get in at all with services about to start.



But then it was my turn, and I stooped to go inside, through the tiny entrance door. Just as the Mary Magdalene and the others had done that first Easter Day. I had a few seconds only, to take in the stone slab, and the icons and flickering candles inside. And then I heard the words sound clearly in my mind, 'He is not here. He is Risen!'

Risen to reign as Lord and King. Risen to go before those first disciples to Galilee. Risen to go before us into every situation. Happy Easter! Jesus Christ is Risen today. Alleluia!

PLEASE SEE OUR APRIL BULLETIN FOR EASTER SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

Easter Day 20 April

06:00 Dawn Service and First Eucharist of
Easter (*Pershore Abbey*)

07:00 Easter Day Breakfast (*St Andrew's Main*)

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:00 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

10:30 Holy Communion (*St James', Birlingham*)

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

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 21 April

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

19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 22 April

Pershore Abbey lit up green for World Earth Day

09:30 Arrival of Foodbank Staff (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

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

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

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

Wednesday 23 April

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

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

14:15 U3A Bridge Group (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

Thursday 24 April

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Friday 25 April

10:00 Ukrainian Women's Empowerment
Network (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:30 Bells – Roy William's Last Friday Peal
(*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 26 April

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Sunday 27 April - Easter 2

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

14:00 Pianoscapes (*St Andrew's Main*)

14:00 Organ Recital (*Pershore Abbey*)

17:00 Iona Worship (*Pershore Abbey*)



www.pershoreabbey.org.uk