



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 04 May 2025
EASTER 3

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY



We shall be remembering the VE Day 80th Anniversary at our 1030 service in Pershore Abbey this Sunday. 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

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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

Acts 9.1-6

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'

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

SECOND READING

Revelation 5.11-14

A reading from the Revelation to St John the Divine.

I, John, looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!' Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, 'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever!' And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' And the elders fell down and worshipped.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

John 21.1-19

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God. After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 217

VICTORY

- 1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung:
Alleluia.
- 2 Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
let shouts of praise and joy outburst:
Alleluia.
- 3 On the third morn he rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain:
Alleluia.
- 4 Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live, and sing to thee
Alleluia.

*[Finita iam sunt praelia
Translated by Francis Pott (1832-1909)]*

GRADUAL HYMN

A & M 209

SAVANNAH

- 1 Love's redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won:
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,
lo, he sets in blood no more.
- 2 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened paradise.
- 3 Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?
- 4 Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise;
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.
- 5 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the Resurrection Thou!

[Charles Wesley (1707-1788)]

- 1 Lord of the Church, we pray for our renewing:
Christ over all, our undivided aim.
Fire of the Spirit, burn for our enduing,
wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!
We turn to Christ amid our fear and failing,
the will that lacks the courage to be free,
the weary labours, all but unavailing,
to bring us nearer what a church should be.
- 2 Lord of the Church, we seek a Father's blessing,
a true repentance and a faith restored,
a swift obedience and a new possessing,
filled with the Holy Spirit of the Lord!
We turn to Christ from all our restless striving,
unnumbered voices with a single prayer:
the living water for our souls' reviving,
in Christ to live, and love and serve and care.
- 3 Lord of the Church, we long for our uniting,
true to one calling, by one vision stirred;
one cross proclaiming and one creed reciting,
one in the truth of Jesus and his word.
So lead us on; till toil and trouble ended,
one Church triumphant one new song shall sing,
to praise his glory, risen and ascended,
Christ over all, the everlasting King!

[Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)]

COMMUNION MOTET**Behold the Tabernacle of God—Harris**

Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and the Spirit, the Spirit of God dwelleth within you: for the temple of God is holy.

Which temple ye are: for the love of whom ye do this day celebrate the joys of the temple with a season of festivity.

Alleluia.

COMMUNION HYMN**A&M 598*****BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD***

1 Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea,
a great High Priest, whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
my name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heaven he stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

2 When Satan tempts me to despair,
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look, and see him there
who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died,
my sinful soul is counted free;
for God, the Just, is satisfied
to look on him and pardon me,
to look on him and pardon me.

3 Behold him there! the risen Lamb!
my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM,
the King of glory and of grace!
One with my Lord, I cannot die;
my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.

[Charitie Lees De Chenez (1841-1923)]

FINAL HYMN**A&M 765*****LOBE DEN HERREN***

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:
all ye who hear,
now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shieldeth thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth:
hast thou not seen
how thy heart's wishes have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
if to the end he befriend thee.

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for aye we adore him!

[Joachim Neander (1650-1680)]

Translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)]

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

04 MAY 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
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 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 AND UKRAINE. 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.



*Heavenly Father, we thank you for those you call to faithfully lead and shepherd your church. As we seek a new Bishop of Worcester, help us to be attentive to the Holy Spirit's guidance, give us heavenly wisdom, and bless our diocese that we might enter a new season of growth and fruitfulness as Kingdom People.
For your glory and in the name of Christ. Amen*

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*

ORGAN RECITAL - 1400 SUNDAY 11 MAY: Do come along and join Paul Trepte for an enjoyable recital as he plays the organ at Pershore Abbey. Admission free with a retiring collection.

ABBEY 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.

PERSHORE PEREGRINE NEWS: At the time of print, three of the peregrine chicks have hatched! This is exciting news! You can watch the Pershore Peregrines live at home, or at the Abbey where we have a screen situated to the right as you enter through the main doors. Watch the peregrines live: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk



PERSHORE CELEBRATES

Pershore Branch Royal British Legion in association with Pershore Town Council

VE DAY

8th May 1945

80

th Anniversary

EVENTS

Chapman Court A shared moment of celebration	8th May 11am
Town Hall Refreshments	8th May 11:15-1pm
Beacon Lighting Abbey Park	8th May from 8pm
40s Themed Evening Pershore Football Club,	9th May from 7pm <small>Tickets available @Town Hall or e-mail Pershore.treasurer@rbl.community</small>

Watch Press and Social Media for further details

ABBEY LINK MAGAZINE

Abbey Link Magazine urgently needs deliverers for the following areas:

Pardoe Drive 37 copies
 Johnston Close 15 copies
 Corbett Close 13 copies
 (All off Westcott Way,
 Persimmon Phase 1)

Deliveries only take place 4 times a year.

If anyone feels they can lend a hand please contact the Abbey Office on
 01386 552071 or
 Roger Piper on 01386 553110.



PLEASE SEE OUR MAY BULLETIN FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

Sunday 04 May - Easter 3

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

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 05 May - BANK HOLIDAY

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

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

19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

18:00 Bell Ringing for VE Day 80

(*Pershore Abbey*)

19:30 Friends of St Mary's, Wick AGM

(*St Mary's, Wick*)

Tuesday 06 May

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

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

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

Friday 09 May

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

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

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

Wednesday 07 May

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

11:00 Abbey Pastoral Group

11:00 Pershore Plus Volunteer Centre Lunch
Club (*St Andrew's Main*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Abbey Mission Group Meeting
(*St Andrew's Upper*)

15:30 V&W (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

Saturday 10 May

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

14:30 Wedding Blessing (*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 11 May - Vocations Sunday

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

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

14:00 Organ Recital with Paul Trepte
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

Thursday 08 May

Abbey lit red, white and blue VE Day 80

09:45 i-Sing Choir Rehearsal (*St Andrew's Main*)

11:00 Eucharist (*Roland Rutter Court*)

11:15 Laying of Wreath for VE Day 80
(*Pershore Abbey*)

13:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

