



**PERSHORE BENEFICE**  
**The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with**  
**St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick**  
**Sunday, 01 June 2025**  
**SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION**

## **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](https://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**

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **FIRST READING**

#### **Acts 16.16-34**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.' She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, 'These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.' The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, 'Do not harm yourself, for we

are all here.’ The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ They answered, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’ They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

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

## **SECOND READING**

**Revelations 22.12-14,16,17,20,21**

A reading from the Revelation to St John the Divine.

I, John, heard a voice saying to me: ‘See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.’ The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come.’ And let everyone who hears say, ‘Come.’ And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. The one who testifies to these things says, ‘Surely I am coming soon.’ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

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

## **THE GOSPEL**

**John 17.20-26**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed: ‘Holy Father, I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

‘Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.’

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

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## HYMN SHEET

### FIRST HYMN

**A&M 486**

***VULPIUS (GELOBT SEI GOTT)***

1 Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;  
brothers and sisters, with one voice  
tell all the world he is your choice.  
Alleluia.

2 O magnify the Lord, and raise  
anthems of joy and holy praise  
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.  
Alleluia.

5 Christ through all ages is the same:  
place the same hope in his great name,  
with the same faith his word proclaim.  
Alleluia.

3 They with a faith for ever new  
followed the King, and round him drew  
thousands of faithful hearts and true.  
Alleluia.

6 Let love's unconquerable might  
your scattered companies unite  
in service to the Lord of light.  
Alleluia.

4 O Christian women, Christian men,  
all the world over, seek again  
the Way disciples followed then.  
Alleluia.

7 So shall God's will on earth be done,  
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,  
and the whole church at last be one.  
Alleluia.

[George Kennedy Allen Bell (1883-1958)]

### GRADUAL HYMN

**A&M 691**

***TRURO***

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
does his successive journeys run;  
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 People and realms of every tongue  
dwell on his love with sweetest song,  
and infant voices shall proclaim  
their early blessings on his name.

4 To him shall endless prayer be made,  
and praises throng to crown his head;  
his name like incense shall arise  
with every morning sacrifice.

3 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:  
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains;  
the weary find eternal rest,  
and all the sons of want are blest.

5 Let every creature rise and bring  
peculiar honours to our King;  
angels descend with songs again,  
and earth repeat the loud Amen.

[Isaac Watts (1674-1748)]

1 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,  
first-begotten from the dead,  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Jesu, true and living bread.

2 Here our humblest homage pay we,  
here in loving reverence bow;  
here for faith's discernment pray we,  
lest we fail to know thee now.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
thou art here, we ask not how.

3 Though the lowliest form doth veil thee  
as of old in Bethlehem,  
here as there thine angels hail thee,  
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
we in worship join with them.

4 Paschal lamb, thine offering, finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fulness undiminished  
shall for evermore remain,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
cleansing souls from every stain.

5 Life-imparting heavenly manna,  
stricken rock with streaming side,  
heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the lamb who died,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
risen, ascended, glorified!

[George Hugh Bourne, 1840-1925]

**COMMUNION MOTET****King of glory, King of peace—JS Bach**

*Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir*

*King of glory, King of peace  
I will love Thee;  
And that love may never cease  
I will move Thee  
Thou hast granted my request  
Thou hast heard me;  
Thou didst note my working breast  
Thou hast spared me*

*Wherefore with my utmost art  
I will sing Thee  
And the cream of all my heart  
I will bring Thee  
Though my sins against me cried  
Thou didst clear me;  
And alone, when they replied  
Thou didst hear me*

*Sev'n whole days, not one in sev'n  
I will praise Thee;  
In my heart, though not in heav'n  
I can raise Thee  
Small it is, in this poor sort  
To enroll Thee:  
E'en eternity's too short  
To extol Thee*

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

## **A&M 732**

My Jesus, my Saviour,  
Lord, there is none like You.  
All of my days, I want to praise  
the wonders of your mighty love.  
My comfort, my shelter,  
tower of refuge and strength,  
let every breath, all that I am,  
never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord all the earth, let us sing,  
power and majesty, praise to the King.  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
at the sound of your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of your hands.  
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the  
promise I have in you.

[Darlene Zschech(b.1965)]

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## **FINAL HYMN**

## **A&M 753**

## ***LAUDATE DOMINUM (PARRY)***

- 1 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;  
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;  
ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,  
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.
- 2 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,  
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;  
praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,  
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.
- 3 O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;  
each jubilant chord re-echo around;  
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,  
and, sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.
- 4 O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song  
to him be outpoured all ages along:  
for love in creation, for heaven restored,  
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!  
(Amen, amen.)

[Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)]

***Organ Voluntary: Nun Danket alle Gott—Sigfrid Karg-Elert***  
*The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary*

# PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

## 01 JUNE 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](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 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.

**JUDY ETHERIDGE:** We were all deeply saddened to hear the news that Judy had died peacefully on 22 May. She was a faithful and loved member of the Abbey family who, over many years, contributed to Abbey life in so many different ways. We pray that she may rest in peace after a life full of so much love and care of others. Everyone is welcome to attend her funeral at 1500 on 5 June at the Abbey. Please continue to pray for Dick and all the family. *Claire*

*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*

**ST ANDREW'S PASTORAL SCHEME:** Please see the notice at the back of the Abbey and on our [website](#) regarding proposals for the Abbey to be responsible for St Andrew's Centre.

**ST ANDREW'S PARKING:** St Andrew's is a very busy place these days and the car park is small. We allocate 2 places for hirers and our staff and Vicar also park there. This means that those who are involved at the Abbey, rather than St Andrew's, shouldn't use it. If you have mobility issues, please talk to one of our friendly Churchwardens who can give advice. It would be lovely if we could have more parking space but sadly this is not possible. So please help us to honour our commitment to our hirers. Thank you.

**MORNING PRAISE INSTRUMENTAL GROUP:** Our Director of Music, James MacDowall-Scott, will be starting an instrumental group for Morning Praise. If you are interested in joining this group and can play an instrument, please get in touch with James on 07968 307916 or via email [jjcms1976@gmail.com](mailto:jjcms1976@gmail.com)



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
DIOCESE OF  
WORCESTER

*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*

PLEASE SEE OUR JUNE BULLETIN FOR MORE NOTICES



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

## ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

### **Sunday 01 June - Sunday after Ascension**

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

08:30 Salzwedel Farewell Breakfast (*St Andrew's Main*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

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

17:00 Evensong (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

### **PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES**

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

### **Monday 02 June**

09:30 Ecology Survey (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

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

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

### **Tuesday 03 June**

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

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

11:00 Funeral of the late Joan Lloyd (*Pershore Abbey*)

16:30 Funeral Support Project Meeting

(*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

19:30 Pinvin PCC (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)

### **Wednesday 04 June**

08:30 Electrical Maintenance (*St Andrew's*)

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

10:30 Diocesan Communications Meeting  
(*Pershore Abbey*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Funeral of the late Elizabeth Hargreaves  
(*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

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

### **Thursday 05 June**

09:30 V&W (*Vicar's Vestry*)

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

11:00 Eucharist (*Ganderton Court*)

15:00 Funeral of the late Judy Etheridge  
(*Pershore Abbey*)

16:00 Funeral Reception (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

### **Friday 06 June**

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

10:00 Reading in of the late John Kottler  
(*Pershore Abbey*)

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

13:00 Funeral of the late John Kottler  
(*Pershore Abbey*)

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

19:30 Bells - Surprise Major Practice (*St Andrew's*)

### **Saturday 07 June**

10:00 Abbey Eco Church Weedy Pick *Pershore Abbey*)

11:30 Burial of ashes of the late Rodney Type  
(*St Mary's, Wick*)

12:30 Burial of ashes of the late Joy Dodgson  
(*St Mary's, Wick*)

19:00 Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer (*Zoom*)

### **Sunday 08 June - Pentecost**

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

10:30 Pet Service (*St Mary's, Wick*)

10:30 Outdoor Eco Service

(*Court House Woodland Garden, Birlingham*)

13:00 Private Party (*St Andrew's Main*)

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