



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 29 June 2025
ST PETER AND ST PAUL

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

This week's 1030 service is a special Benefice Sung Eucharist and will take place at St Nicholas', Pinvin. The service will not be livestreamed. Instead, the 0800 Eucharist will be livestreamed and will be available to view on our YouTube channel. To find the recording 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 God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you in their death as in their life: grant that your Church, inspired by their teaching and example, and made one by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, 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.**

READING

Acts 12.1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has

sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

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

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 16.13-19

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**If you would like to receive a gluten-free host during communion
please let a sidesperson know**

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.



HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 506

AURELIA

1 The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy Bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

2 Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses
with every grace endued.

3 Though with a scornful wonder
men see her sore opprest,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distrest;
yet saints their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, 'How long?'
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

4 'Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

[Samuel John Stone (1832-1900)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 471

OFFERTORIUM

1 We pray thee, heavenly Father,
to hear us in thy love,
and pour upon thy children
the unction from above;
that so in love abiding,
from all defilement free,
we may in pureness offer
our Eucharist to thee.

2 Be thou our guide and helper,
O Jesus Christ, we pray;
so may we well approach thee,
if thou wilt be the Way:
thou, very Truth, hast promised
to help us in our strife,
food of the weary pilgrim,
eternal source of Life.

Cont'd

3 And thou, creator Spirit,
look on us, we are thine;
renew in us thy graces,
upon our darkness shine;
that, with thy benediction
upon our souls outpoured,
we may receive in gladness
the body of the Lord.

4 O Trinity of Persons,
O Unity most high,
on thee alone relying
thy servants would draw nigh:
unworthy in our weakness,
on thee our hope is stayed,
and blessed by thy forgiveness
we will not be afraid.

[Vincent Stuckey Stratton Coles (1845-1929)]

THIRD HYMN

A&M 613

RICHMOND

1 City of God, how broad and far
outspread thy walls sublime!
The true thy chartered freemen are
of every age and clime:

2 One holy church, one army strong,
one steadfast, high intent;
one working band, one harvest-song,
one King omnipotent.

4 How gleam thy watch-fires through the night
with never-fainting ray!
How rise thy towers, serene and bright,
to meet the dawning day!

3 How purely hath thy speech come down
from man's primaeval youth!
How grandly hath thine empire grown
of freedom, love, and truth!

5 In vain the surge's angry shock,
in vain the drifting sands:
unharm'd upon the eternal Rock
the eternal city stands.

[Samuel Johnson (1822-1882)]

COMMUNION MOTET

Give Us the wings of faith—Earnest Bullock
Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*Give us the wings of faith to rise
Within the veil, and see
The saints above, how great their joys,
How bright their glories be.*

*We ask them whence their victory came:
They, with united breath,
Ascribe the conquest to the Lamb,
Their triumph to his death.*

*They marked the footsteps that he trod,
His zeal inspired their breast,
And, following their incarnate God,
They reached the promised rest.*

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

2 King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture —
in the body and the blood —
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.

3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

4 At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord most high.

[versified by Gerald Moultrie (1829-1885)
Based on translation of J.M Neale and R.F Littledale]

FINAL HYMN**A&M 604****SERVANT SONG**

1 Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

2 We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

4 I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

5 When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

6 Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

[Richard A. M. Gillard (b.1953)]

Organ Voluntary: If ye Love me by Thomas Tallis
The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

29 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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Abbey Wardens: Mrs Sam Andrews 07443904635 Mr Martin Fowler (01386) 552243

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.

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN NOTICES

JUNE - UPDATE FROM CLAIRE: I recently saw my oncologist who shared the news that unfortunately I have been diagnosed with secondary breast cancer in some of my bones. This type of cancer is treatable but not curable. I will be starting a new regime of chemotherapy. I will also be having some other treatments which are all designed to contain this cancer. I am very much hoping that I will be able to carry on working but I do realise that I will have to listen to my body. I realise that this will come as a shock to you all but I remain positive and am incredibly grateful for the care I continue to receive from all those looking after me. Thank you so much for all your continuing prayers, love and support, which mean the world to me. Please continue to pray for me, for all being treated for cancer and all health professionals. *Claire*

BENEFICE SUNG EUCHARIST AT PINVIN SUNDAY 29

JUNE 1030: All are invited to attend this special service at St Nicholas', Pinvin. As this is a Benefice Service, we shall only be having one reading and the Gospel. Refreshments will be available after the service, allowing you time to explore the church. The only service this Sunday at the Abbey will be the 0800 Eucharist, which will be livestreamed.



WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO JOIN OUR ABBEY TEAM? For many, enjoying a cup of tea after the 1030 service is an important part of church life, but we could really do with some help. Would you be willing to be on our rota, just once every 4-6 weeks? Whether to load the dishwasher (4-minute cycle), transport mugs from the Abbey to St Andrew's, or to serve the hot drinks, your help would be appreciated. Please call me on 01386 710776 or email me at thespeeds94@gmail.com. *Sara Speed*

ABBAY WILDFLOWER AREA: There is an increasing amount of Wall Barley in the wildflower area. Come and join us on Sunday 6 July 1400-1600 to help pull up this invader and collect some wildflower seed for the next sowing in October. Bring gloves and ideally a low stool to sit on while pulling the grass out. *Kevin O'Neill*

ABBAY ECO CHURCH LITTER PICK AND FILM EVENT: All are welcome to join the next Litter Pick which will take place on Saturday 5 July. The Abbey Litter Pickers will meet at the West End of the Abbey at 1000 for an hour of litter picking. All equipment is provided and refreshments will be provided afterwards at St Andrew's Centre at 1100 when a short film about the Borneo Rainforest will be shown.



PLEASE SEE OUR JUNE 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 29 June - Trinity 2

08:00 Eucharist with *LIVESTREAM (Pershore Abbey)*

09:15 Choir Practice (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)

10:30 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)

14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 30 June

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

10:00 House Bible Study Group
(*58 Three Springs Road*)

11:30 Private Use (*St Andrew's Main and Upper*)

15:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

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

19:00 House Bible Study Group
(*Wick Club, Wick*)

19:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)

Tuesday 01 July

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

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

11:00 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

Wednesday 02 July

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

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

11:00 Meeting (*Pershore Abbey*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

18:30 House Bible Study Group (*41 Westcott Way*)

Thursday 03 July

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

10:30 DAWN Support Work Meeting
(*St Andrew's Upper*)

10:30 House Bible Study Group (*55 Bridge Street*)

11:00 Eucharist (*Ganderton Court*)

15:00 Dementia Working Group (*Vicar's Vestry*)

Friday 04 July

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

09:45 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 - Surprise Major Practice (*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 05 July

10:00 Pershore Midsummer Brass
(*Pershore Abbey*)

10:00 Abbey Eco Church Litter Pick
(*Pershore Abbey*)

11:00 Abbey Eco Church Film Event
(*St Andrew's Main*)

13:00 Concert Use (*St Andrew's Main*)

Sunday 06 July - Stewardship Sunday

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

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*)

