



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 19 October 2025
TRINITY 18

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

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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

Genesis 32.22-31

A reading from the Book of Genesis

Jacob got up, took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 3.14-4.5

A reading from the Second Letter to Timothy.

Continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

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

THE GOSPEL

Luke 18.1-8

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent." For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming."' And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever. **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 765

LOBE DEN HERREN (PRAXIS PIETATIS)

- 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)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 826

DARWALL'S 148TH

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Ye holy angels bright,
who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light
fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme
too high doth seem
for mortal tongue. | 2. Ye blessèd souls at rest,
who ran this earthly race,
and now, from sin released,
behold the Saviour's face,
his praises sound,
as in his sight
with sweet delight
ye do abound. |
| 3. Ye saints, who toil below,
adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go
some joyful anthem sing;
take what he gives
and praise him still,
through good and ill,
who ever lives. | 4. My soul, bear thou thy part,
triumph in God above,
and with a well-tuned heart
sing thou the songs of love;
let all thy days
till life shall end,
whate'er he send,
be filled with praise. |

[Richard Baxter (1615-1691)]

and John Hampden Gurney (1802-1862)]

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

[Daniel L. Schutte (b.1947)]

COMMUNION MOTET**The secret of Christ—Shepherd**

Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

I have long time holden my peace; I have been still, and refrained myself: now will I cry like a travailing woman; I will destroy and devour at once. I will make waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their herbs; and I will make the rivers islands, and I will dry up the pools. And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them. And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

1. Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here;
come bow before him now
with reverence and fear:
in him no sin is found –
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.

2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned:
how awesome is the sight-
our radiant King of light!
Be still for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

3. Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place:
he comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace.
no work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in his place.

[David Evans (b.1957)]

FINAL HYMN**A&M 818****TO GOD BE THE GLORY**

- 1 To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory! Great things he has done!*
- 2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God!
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.
- 3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

[Fanny Crosby (Frances Jane Van Alstyne) (1820-1915)]

Organ Voluntary: Etude Symphonique—Bossi
The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE

19 OCTOBER 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

Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Assistant Curate: The Revd Jayne Parker

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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.

THE LATE EDDIE HOWELL: We were all saddened to learn of the death of Eddie. He was
a faithful member of the Abbey congregation, along with his late wife, Sylvia, for many
years. He was passionate about music so particularly supported James and the choir
whenever he could. Eddie's funeral will be **1200 on 3 November** at the Abbey, to which
everyone is warmly invited. At Eddie's request mourners are invited not to wear black.
May Eddie rest in peace. *Claire.*

BENEFICE BULLETIN NOTICES



NEW ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY: On Friday 3 October, The Church of England announced The Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally DBE as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury. *Please see our October Monthly Bulletin to find out more about Bishop Sarah.*

A prayer for the Archbishop of Canterbury

*Almighty and everlasting God, the only worker of great marvels,
send down upon your servant Sarah, called to be Archbishop of Canterbury
and all who are committed to her care, the spirit of your saving grace,
and that they may truly please you, pour upon them the continual dew of your
blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our advocate and mediator,
Jesus Christ. Amen.*

WALKING CHURCH SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER: Join us at the West end of the Abbey at 1400, to enjoy a gentle stroll around the local park. Everyone is welcome, including our four legged friends. Refreshments will be provided in St Andrew's afterwards.

WELCOME SERVICE FOR BISHOP HUGH NELSON - 17 JANUARY 2026: The service of welcome and installation for Hugh Nelson as our next Bishop of Worcester will be on Saturday 17 January at 1400 in Worcester Cathedral.

LIGHTING UP THE ABBEY: We will be lighting up the Abbey pink on Wednesday 22 October in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. We have been invited to support the campaign by Worcestershire Breast Unit Haven Charity – the only local breast cancer charity fundraising and supporting solely Worcestershire patients.

ORGAN RECITAL SUNDAY 26 OCTOBER 1400: 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.

'HOMELESSNESS' IONA SERVICE SUNDAY 26 OCTOBER 1700: Diane Bennett from Caring Hands in the Vale is coming to Pershore Abbey to update us on the project to support homeless and needy people in the Evesham area. For further information contact Helen on iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk

AUTUMN HAS ARRIVED: As the days are beginning to get cooler, please remember to wrap up warm when coming to our church services.



www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

PLEASE SEE OUR OCTOBER MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR FURTHER NOTICES

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

Canon Claire will be on Annual Leave on 13-19 October

Sunday 19 October - Trinity 18

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 Sunday Praise (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)

14:30 Pianoscapes (*St Andrew's Main*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 20 October

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

11:00 Funeral for the late Donald Salisbury
(*St James', Birlingham*)

13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St Andrew's Main*)

16:00 Café Church Meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

19:00 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)

Tuesday 21 October

10:30 Magdeburg Partnership Group
(*St Andrew's Upper*)

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

13:30 Foodbank Team Meeting (*St Andrew's Main*)

14:00 Autumn House Group (*19 Acorn Grove*)

19:00 Private Use (*St Andrew's Upper*)

Wednesday 22 October

Abbey lit up Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness week.

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

11:00 Private Meeting (*Pershore Abbey*)

11:30 Private Meeting (*St Andrew's Upper*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:00 Bring you own Craft & Chat (*St Andrew's Main*)

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

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

18:00 Wedding Rehearsal Ben Neale and
Grace Lee (*Pershore Abbey*)

18:30 ALM Course (*St Andrew's Main*)

Thursday 23 October

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

Friday 24 October

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

12:00 Wedding Service Ben Neale and
Grace Lee (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

Saturday 25 October

11:00 Visiting Bell Ringers (*Pershore Abbey*)

13:30 Visiting Bell Ringers (*St Andrew's*)

17:30 Concert Use (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:30 Philomusica of Gloucestershire &
Worcestershire Choral Concert
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 26 October - Trinity 19

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

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

10:30 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)

14:00 Organ Recital (*Pershore Abbey*)

15:00 Autumn Walk Around Birlingham
(*St James', Birmingham*)

17:00 Iona Worship (*Pershore Abbey*)