

CHURCH NEWS

Monthly Edition

PERSHORE BENEFICE

November 2025

Welcome to our November 2025 Monthly Edition!

The weekly bulletin in our regular service sheet will keep you up to date with what's happening week by week.

REMEMBERING: As we mark Remembrance Sunday, commemorating the contribution of military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and later conflicts, it is also perhaps a time to pause and remember other loved ones we have lost. Our All Souls' Service, which will be held at Pershore Abbey at 1700 on Sunday 2 November, is a thoughtful and reflective service, offering the opportunity to come together and remember those who are no longer with us. Whilst doing so, please take a moment to think about those you know who are grieving, reach out and let them know they are not alone. This simple act of kindness can mean so much. *Please turn to page 4 for details of the services of remembrance taking place in the Pershore Benefice.*



IN THIS EDITION:

REMEMBRANCE - CONFIRMATION SERVICE - CHRISTMAS SERVICES - HOUSE GROUPS

**TO REQUEST A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS BULLETIN
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE ON 01386 552071**

MINISTRY NEWS

ALL SOULS' SERVICE: Join us at 1700 on Sunday 02 November as we remember loved ones at this quiet and reflective service. The service will be livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel ([PershoreAbbeyCommunity](#)) for those unable to attend. You are also very welcome to come into the Abbey at any time to light a candle for a loved one. *Claire*



SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY: On Sunday 16 November 2025, thousands of churches from diverse backgrounds and traditions will join together to shout about safeguarding and help protect vulnerable people. This initiative, spearheaded by Thirtyone:eight, invites communities to come together to reflect on their safeguarding journey, and highlight all the good work that is being done to create safer places. To find out more

visit www.safeguardingsunday.org The 1030 Sung Eucharist service at Pershore Abbey on this day will have a Safeguarding focus.

PASTORAL GROUP: Since the beginning of the year several members of the Pastoral Group have suffered ill-health. To continue offering support to members of our congregations, those unable to attend services and isolated at home, or now residing in care homes, we would welcome exploring joining the group with anyone who feels they have a heart for this pastoral ministry (subject to the usual DBS clearances). If that person is YOU please contact Angela Gerrard on 01386 556545.

NEW YEAR BIBLE STUDY GROUPS: From the week beginning 12 January 2026 and running for 4 weeks, there will be the opportunity to join a house group and continue to look in more depth at St Luke's Gospel. Look out for timings and locations of the house groups in the next monthly bulletin. *Claire*



PERSHORE ABBEY BOOKSTALL

As Christmas approaches you will notice a wide range of new stock in the bookstall shop. The Fair to Trade Kashmiri painted wooden decorations (birds, crosses, hearts) have been very popular and now you will find more with a seasonal theme; trees, bells and stars. There's also going to be a range of glass ornaments for gifting or keeping! Get yours while stocks last. We also have Christian Christmas cards in packs in limited numbers.



We are always looking for additional welcomers. If you would like more information about becoming a welcomer please email pershoreabbeybookstall@gmail.com, call me on 07858 506218 or say hello in person. Commitment can be as little as 2 hours per month to welcome visitors to our beautiful Abbey. I look forward to chatting with you!
Sally Whyte, Bookstall Coordinator

MINISTRY NEWS



CONFIRMATION SERVICE 2026: Confirmation in the Church of England is a really special moment in the life of a follower of Jesus. At a Confirmation Service those who want to be confirmed have taken the decision that the promises that might have been made for them at their baptism when they were a baby or young child, or the faith that they feel they now have as young person or adult, now need to be affirmed publicly for themselves. It is a moment of commitment to follow Jesus, knowing that we are surrounded by the love and prayers of the local Christian community. We get ready for this moment by offering some preparation sessions so those being confirmed can explore more deeply what faith and following Jesus means to them.

We shall be holding a Benefice Confirmation Service at 1030 on Sunday 15 February 2026 at the Abbey. We are delighted that Bishop Michael will be leading this service. If you would like to explore being confirmed as part of your journey of faith please let me know by 30 November. *Claire*

CAFÉ CHURCH: Please note November's Cafe Church will be taking place on the third Sunday of the month instead of the second Sunday of the month. Why not pop along to St Andrew's Centre at 0930 on 16 November. If you have not been before, expect a warm welcome, café-style worship, and refreshments!

PERSHORE BENEFICE REMEMBRANCE SERVICES

ST NICHOLAS', PINVIN 1030 9 NOVEMBER:

Revd Jayne Parker will be leading the service in Pinvin as the village gathers to honour the lives of those who have fallen in conflict.

PERSHORE ABBEY 1040 9 NOVEMBER:

Pershore Abbey's Remembrance Service will not be ticketed. There will therefore be plenty of seats available for visiting organisations, regular congregation members and the general public for this poignant service.

ST MARY'S, WICK 1500 9 NOVEMBER:

Join Wick as they gather around the war memorial in the churchyard for a service of remembrance, led by Canon Claire.

ST JAMES', BIRLINGHAM 1045 11 NOVEMBER:

Birlingham will be commemorating Armistice Day at an outside service, led by Angela Gerrard. Please assemble around the war memorial on the village green for this short service.

REGULAR SERVICES

NEXT SERVICE:

SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER 1700 PERSHORE ABBEY

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER* 1700 ST ANDREW'S CENTRE

* This will be a Light in our Darkness service - a service for people who would like to find some peace and quiet during this busy Christmas time

NEXT SERVICE:

SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER & SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER

0930 ST ANDREW'S CENTRE

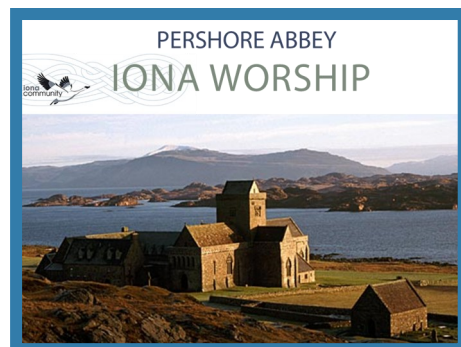
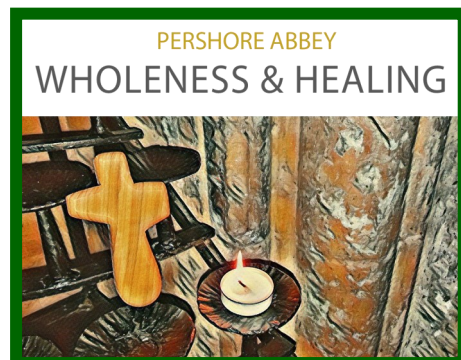
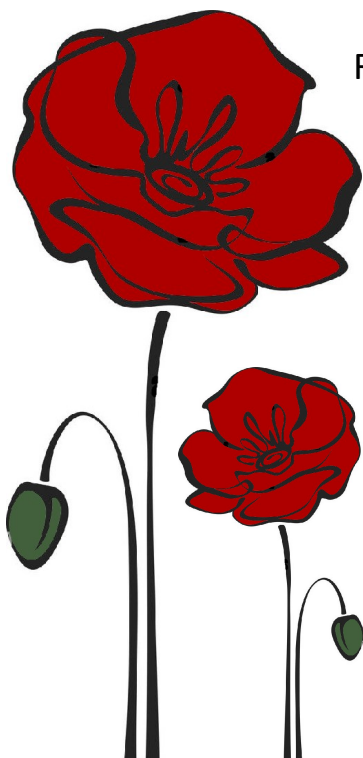
Come and join in with our family friendly and informal café-style worship in St Andrew's with worship, music and refreshments

NEXT SERVICE:

SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER & SUNDAY 25 JANUARY

1700 PERSHORE ABBEY

We hope you will join us either in person or via Zoom. Contact iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the Zoom link



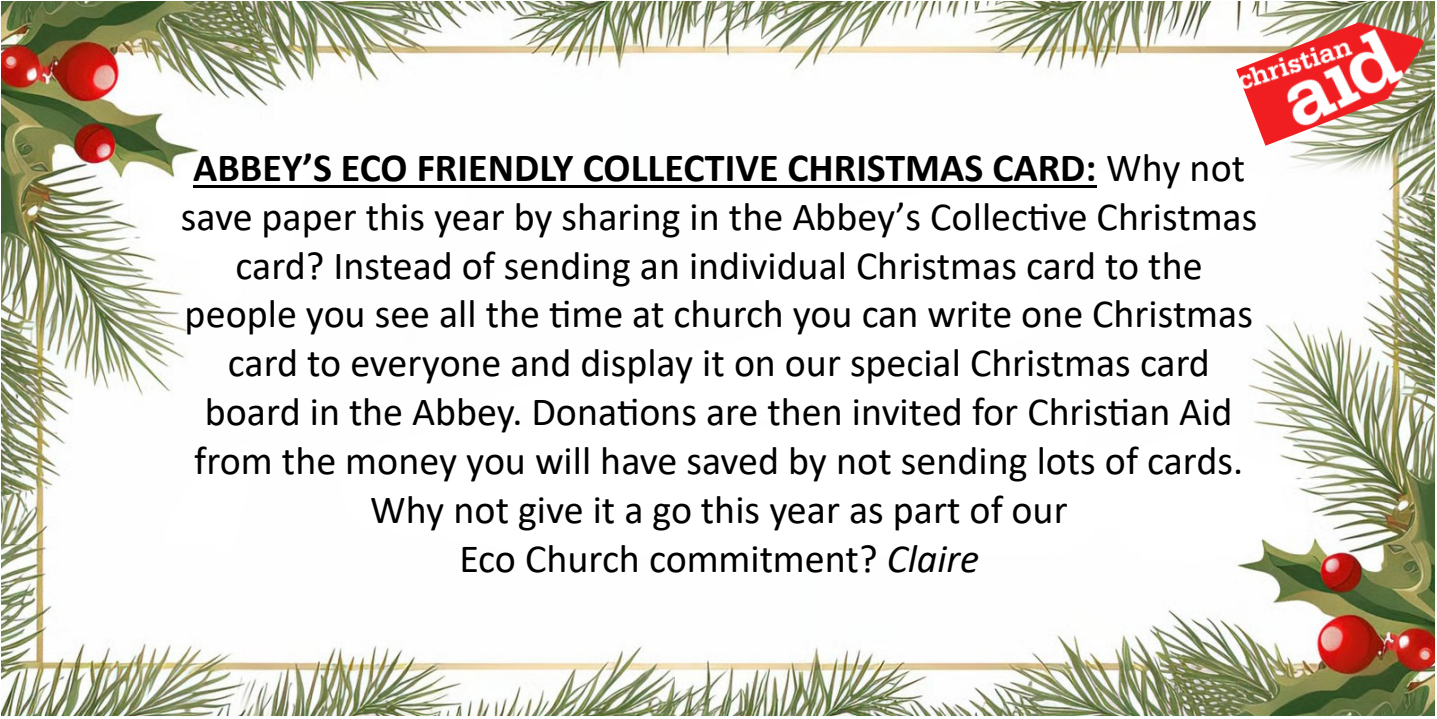
PERSHORE ABBEY ECO CHURCH

NEXT ABBEY LITTER PICK DATE:

Join the Abbey Litter Pickers (ALPs)
WATCH THIS SPACE FOR 2026 DATES
Meet at the West End of the Abbey

NEXT ABBEY ECO CHURCH MEETING:

WEDNESDAY 26 NOVEMBER 1915
ST ANDREW'S CENTRE UPPER ROOM
Please come and join us!



ABBAY'S ECO FRIENDLY COLLECTIVE CHRISTMAS CARD: Why not save paper this year by sharing in the Abbey's Collective Christmas card? Instead of sending an individual Christmas card to the people you see all the time at church you can write one Christmas card to everyone and display it on our special Christmas card board in the Abbey. Donations are then invited for Christian Aid from the money you will have saved by not sending lots of cards. Why not give it a go this year as part of our Eco Church commitment? *Claire*

AID TO UKRAINE

Thank you to everyone who supported last month's Aid to Ukraine Appeal. The items collected will be delivered to the Ukrainian Church in Gloucester and transported to Ukraine, bringing hope and joy to children and their families who have lost so much. £317.34 has also been raised by Pershore Rotary through the coffees provided at the Abbey's Sunday services from the end of April to the end of August. Thank you.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
Romans 15:13



Rotary
District 1100



UKRAINE
Rotary
Club Ukraine
Unity Passport



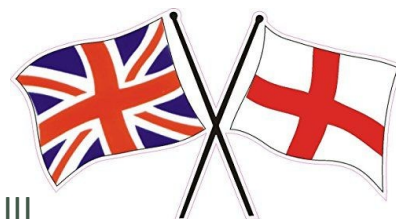


Tales from the Camino is an evening centred around the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage, featuring reflections from Professor David Green CBE DL, Vice Chancellor of the University of Worcester, and special guest Summer Green, the UK's first official Camino ambassador. The event is hoping to be both inspiring and purposeful, raising funds for student scholarships and hardship support. The event will be taking place at 1930 on Thursday 6 November at the University of Worcester Arena, WR2 5JN. To book tickets visit www.worcester.ac.uk/tales-from-the-camino or emailing RSVP@worc.ac.uk. If you have any questions, please contact Justyn Surrall at j.surrall@worc.ac.uk.

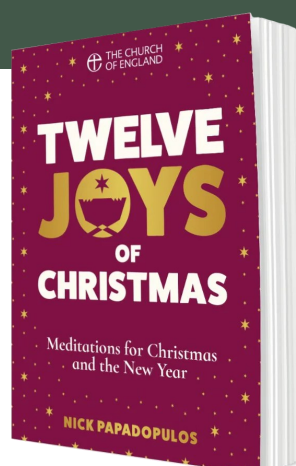
FLYING THE FLAG

Have you ever wondered why the Abbey flags are flying on certain days? For the curious minded, during November, here are the flags that will be flying and why:

Saturday 1 November	St George's Cross - All Saints'
Sunday 2 November	St George's Cross - All Souls'
Sunday 9 November	Union Flag - Remembrance Day
Tuesday 11 November	Union Flag - Armistice Day
Friday 14 November	Union Flag - Birthday of King Charles III
Sunday 30 November	St George's Cross - Saint Andrew/Advent Sunday



TWELVE JOYS OF CHRISTMAS



Join Nick Papadopoulos as he shares his Twelve Joys of Christmas. From Christmas pudding to panto, Boxing Day chutney to a bracing walk. Amongst all this earthly 'stuff' he discovers many pointers to the heavenly joy and mystery which lies at the heart of our celebrations. Beginning on Christmas Day and ending of the Eve of the Epiphany, each day offers a theme, a short reading, a reflection, a prayer and a challenge to grow in joy and in faith. *Hardcopies are available from the Abbey Office, priced £1.00.*

ADVENT

PERSHORE ABBEY CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATION MORNING: Please come along to the Abbey from 1000 on Saturday 29 November and help dress the Abbey Christmas Tree. We look forward to welcoming you. Refreshments will be served.

CHRISTMAS TREE SUNDAY AT PERSHORE ABBEY: So many people enjoy the Christmas trees which decorate the Abbey during December. As you can imagine, the cost of them has increased. To help fund them, 30 November 2025 will be Christmas Tree Sunday. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of our Abbey Christmas trees, there will be a box at the back of the Abbey labelled 'Christmas Trees'. Any donations will be gratefully received. Thank you. *Claire*



ADVENT CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER: As well as being Christmas Tree Sunday, 30 November is also Advent Sunday. Come along to Pershore Abbey at 1500 for this beautiful service. The service will include favourite advent carols and will feature the Abbey Choir singing advent anthems.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE - READERS REQUIRED! I am looking for readers to take part in this service, so if you are interested please speak to me after the service on Sunday or contact me as soon as possible via email on vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk *Claire*

ADVENT COMPLINE BY ZOOM MONDAYS IN ADVENT AT 1900: Join us for this quiet and reflective service as we prepare for our Christmas celebrations. Once again we will be meeting on Zoom from the comfort of our own homes for this 20 minute service, allowing us all to pause and reflect on our Advent journeys. Join us live at 1900 on 1, 8, 15 and 22 December. If you would like to be part of this service, please email me at vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the Zoom link and a copy of the order of service. *Claire*



EDIBLE NATIVITY SUNDAY 07 DECEMBER FROM 1030-1145 AT

ST ANDREW'S CENTRE: Join us as we tell the story of the birth of Jesus in a fun way, making an edible nativity. There may be lots of gingerbread involved! Drop off your child by 1030 at St Andrew's

Centre and collect them from the Abbey at 1145 - or stay with your child if younger. Places are limited to 20, so please book your place by telephoning 01386 552071 or emailing office@pershoreabbey.org.uk Please book by 27 November to secure a place. Suitable for all ages under 18. *Sam Andrews*

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2025

PERSHORE ABBEY & ST ANDREW'S CENTRE

Advent Sunday 30 November

- 0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*
- 1500 Advent Carol Service (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*



Sunday 7 December

- 0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 1030 Edible Nativity - Booking Essential (*St Andrew's Centre*)
Email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or call 01386 552071 by 27 November
- 1030 Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*
- 1500 Evensong (*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 14 December

- 0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 0930 Café Church (*St Andrew's Centre*)
- 1030 Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*
- 1700 Light in Our Darkness - a service for people who would like to find some peace and quiet during this busy Christmas time (*St Andrew's Centre*)



Sunday 21 December

- 0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 1030 Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*
- 1700 Lessons and Carols (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*



Christmas Eve Wednesday 24 December

- 1530 Christingle Service (*Pershore Abbey*)
Dress up in your favourite nativity outfit for our traditional Christingle!
- 2315 Midnight Mass with Choir (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*

Christmas Day Thursday 25 December

- 0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 1030 All Age Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*

Sunday 28 December

- 0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist
(*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*



**Join in with our LIVESTREAM services at the time advertised on the [Pershore Abbey Community YouTube Channel](#) or catch up later*

ACROSS THE BENEFICE

ST NICHOLAS', PINVIN

Advent Sunday 30 November

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*

Sunday 7 December

1030 Patronal Holy Communion Service

Sunday 21 December

1030 Carol Service

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24 December

1700 Christingle and Crib Service

Sunday 28 December

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*



ST MARY'S WICK

Advent Sunday 30 November

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*

Sunday 14 December

1030 Morning Praise

Sunday 21 December

1800 Carols with Friends of St Mary's

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24 December

1600 Christingle Service

Christmas Day Thursday 25 December

0900 Parish Communion

Sunday 28 December

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*



ST JAMES', BIRLINGHAM

Advent Sunday 30 November

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*

Sunday 21 December

1800 Carols and Christingles

Christmas Day Thursday 25 December

1030 Holy Communion

Sunday 28 December

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey with LIVESTREAM*)*

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN PERSHORE FOODBANK

Full marks for all our Harvest Festival donors! This year we had such a large quantity of well-chosen items that we have been able to stock up our coffers for weeks to come. There were over 1,000 kilograms of stock for us from local churches and schools and less than 3% was out of date (don't worry, we found a safe use for that too). Another thing that really helped out warehouse volunteers was the way in which so many donor organisations contacted us in plenty of time to arrange collection.

Demand for our services doesn't slow down and, with your support, we continue to provide emergency help to some of the most vulnerable people in our community. So, I'm afraid we are going straight into another set of requests. The Christmas season may seem a long way off but we like to begin preparing our hampers in November. The shops are full of Christmas treats already so chocolates, sweets, biscuits and savouries will be very welcome. Please hold off on the mince pies for the time being as they have such a short shelf life and please, no crackers. Thank you again for being such a wonderful and supportive community.

Nicola Ainsworth



**THE PERSHORE FOODBANK IS OPEN IN THE ST ANDREW'S CENTRE ON
TUESDAYS 1100 - 1300 AND FRIDAYS 1300 - 1500**

For further info please see our website www.pershore.foodbank.org.uk
or contact us on 01386 555347

The Foodbank aim to have a Citizens Advice representative available at Friday sessions

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY - RAISING AWARENESS



On Thursday 20 November, Pershore Abbey will be lit purple in support of this year's campaign to raise awareness of Pancreatic Cancer. Early signs and symptoms of pancreatic cancer include; indigestion, tummy pain, back pain, changes to your faeces, losing weight without meaning to, and jaundice. Please contact your doctor if you experience any of these symptoms.

Photo: Taken by Trudy Burge when the Abbey was lit pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

PERSHORE BENEFICE SUNDAY SERVICES NOVEMBER 2025

Here are the details of our planned **Sunday** worship services within the Pershore Benefice, but please do check our social media pages and website in case of changes. We look forward to welcoming you in person, but don't forget that the 1030 Sunday Service from Pershore Abbey is livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube Channel: **Pershore Abbey Community**

PERSHORE ABBEY

SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER

All Saints' Day

0800 BCP Eucharist

1030 Sung Eucharist *with Livestream*

1700 All Souls' Service *with Livestream*

SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER

Remembrance Sunday / 3rd Before Advent

0800 Eucharist

1040 Remembrance Service *with Livestream*

1700 Wholeness & Healing

SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER

2nd Before Advent / Safeguarding Sunday

0800 Eucharist

0930 Café Church (*St Andrew's*)

1030 Sung Eucharist *with Livestream*

SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER

Christ the King

0800 Eucharist

1030 Morning Praise *with Livestream*

1700 Iona Worship

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER

Advent Sunday

0800 Eucharist (BCP)

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist *with Livestream*

1500 Advent Carol Service *with Livestream*

ST MARY'S, WICK

SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER

1500 Remembrance Service

SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER

1030 Parish Communion

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist
at Pershore Abbey

ST NICHOLAS', PINVIN

SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER

1030 Holy Communion

SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER

1030 Remembrance Service

SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER

1030 Sunday Praise

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist
at Pershore Abbey

ST JAMES', BIRLINGHAM

TUESDAY 11 NOVEMBER

1045 Armistice Service

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER

1030 Benefice Sung Eucharist
at Pershore Abbey

PLEASE SEE PAGE 4 FOR OTHER REGULAR SERVICES
AND PAGES 8 & 9 FOR DETAILS ABOUT OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES

DATES FOR THE DIARY



SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER, 1330: Abbey Walking Church. Meet at the west end of the Abbey for a gentle walk, stopping every now and then to think about God and explore what faith might mean. Refreshments afterwards. All welcome.

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER, 1030-1200: Abbey Coffee Morning being run (or should that be being rung!) by the Bellringers. Call in for a coffee and a chat.

SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER, 1430: Pianoscapes at St Andrew's Centre. Chris Long will be returning for an hour of improvisations and compositions. Tickets £10. Refreshments available.



PERSHORE ABBEY CONCERTS

**WORCESTER PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA CONCERT**
SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER 1430

ISING CHOIR CONCERT
SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER 1930

**LA MATTINA, MOURNING TO MORNING
CONCERT**
SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER 1500

WINTER LIGHT CONCERT
THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER 1900

PERSHORE CHORAL CONCERT
SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER 1930



www.pershoreabbey.co.uk