



Welcome to the Benefice Eucharist at St James', Birlingham

Sunday 31 May 2026 - Trinity Sunday

This is your Service Sheet, Bulletin and Diary. Please use this sheet in conjunction with the service booklet provided. Large print copies are available from the welcomers.

The only service at the Abbey today is the 0800 service and it will be livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel: [Pershore Abbey Community](#)

If you have any queries or concerns please do speak to a sidesperson or churchwarden.

— Service Sheet —



First Hymn

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy, there is none beside thee
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
all thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Ancient & Modern 276
Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826)
Music: John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)



The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; 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

Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-31

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? Who has directed the spirit of the Lord, or as his counsellor has instructed him? Whom did he consult for his enlightenment, and who taught him the path of justice? Who taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as dust on the scales; see, he takes up the isles like fine dust. Lebanon would not provide fuel enough, nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering. All the nations are as nothing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God'? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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



Second Reading

2 Corinthians 13.11-13

A reading from the Second Letter to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters, put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a

holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. Amen.

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



Gradual Hymn

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

Ancient & Modern 702
Words: James Edmeston (1791-1867)



The Gospel

John Matthew 28.16-20

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son

and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

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



Prayers

We pray for those who live in the midst of conflict today, praying for peace for all peoples and places. We also pray for the following members of our church family:

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.



Third Hymn

During which the collection will be taken.

We have the facility to take contactless card payments at the back of St James' Church.

Affirm anew the three-fold name
of Father, Spirit, Son,
our God whose saving acts proclaim
a world's salvation won.

In him alone we live and move
and breath and being find,
the wayward children of his love
who cares for humankind.

Declare in all the earth his grace,
to every heart his call,
the living Lord of time and place
whose love embraces all.

So shall his endless praise be sung,
his teaching truly heard,
and every culture, every tongue,
receive his timeless word.

Confirm our faith in this our day
amid earth's shifting sand,
with Christ as Life and Truth and Way,
a Rock on which to stand;
the one eternal Son and Lord
by God the Father given,
the true and life-imparting Word,
the Way that leads to heaven.

Renew once more the ancient fire,
let love our hearts inflame;
renew, restore, unite, inspire
the Church that bears your name;
one name exalted over all,
one Father, Spirit, Son,
O grant us grace to heed your call
and in that name be one.

Ancient & Modern 268
Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)



Communion Motet

God so loved the world - Bob Chilcott - Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*God so loved the world, God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten son,
that whoso believeth,
believeth in him should not perish,
should not perish
but have everlasting life.
For God sent not his Son
into the world to condemn the world,
God sent not his Son
into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world through him might be saved.
God so loved the world, God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten son,
that whoso believeth,
believeth in him should not perish,
should not perish
but have everlasting life.
God so loved the world, God so loved the world.*



Communion

If you would like to receive a gluten-free host during communion please let a sidesperson know. If you would like to receive a blessing instead of communion, please bring your service sheet with you when you come up to the front. Following Church of England guidance, we do not allow the dipping of the host or wafer in the chalice.



Communion Hymn

Lord God who made and moulded us from dust,
you know our weakness and our need of you;
O rain your grace on us and help us trust
The source of life within us, pure and true.

Most humble Saviour, kneeling at our feet
you long with love to wash our sins away;
your free forgiveness is so fresh and sweet,
give us that living water every day!

Come Holy Spirit, hover on the face
of darkness, emptiness and chaos still;
your shining light can enter every place,
your love each corner of creation fill.

Praise God as Father, praise him as the Son,
and praise as Spirit, threefold unity;
O may our worship like a river run
into the ocean of eternity.

Ancient & Modern: 633
Tune: Farley Castle
Words: Sue Sabbagh



Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



Final Hymn

Go forth and tell! O Church of God, awake!
God's saving news to all the nations take:
proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour, Lord and King,
that all the world his glorious praise may sing.

Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all,
he will in grace respond to all who call:
how shall they call if they have never heard
the gracious invitation of his word?

Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide:
share God's good gifts — let no one be denied;
live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose,
your ransomed powers for his sole glory use.

Go forth and tell! O Church of God, arise!
Go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies;
go till all nations his great name adore
and serve him, Lord and King for evermore.

Ancient & Modern 477
Words: James Seddon (1915-1983)



Organ Voluntary

Fugue in Eb 'St Anne' - JS Bach

The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary.

— Bulletin —

House Bible Study Groups: From the start of June 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. Sign up sheets at the back of the Abbey or contact me at vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk *Claire*

Pershore Abbey's walking float in the Pershore Carnival 2026: This year's carnival is taking place on Saturday 20 June. Please note the following information:- meet at Pershore Football Club, King George's Way, WR101QU by 9.45am (judging begins at 10am onwards), procession departs at 11am - down High Street, into Broad Street, Church Walk, enter the park by the Abbey car park. Presentations will be made at the main stage at 1pm. All participants should follow any instructions given by either the Police or Carnival Marshals and you are responsible at all times for your own Health and Safety and all belongings. *Please note have fun!!* If you have any queries do not hesitate to contact either Beth or Eloise - (07824446143).

Help needed for Pershore Carnival, Saturday 20 June: The Abbey will be providing refreshments in St Andrew's from 1030 until 1400. Help is needed please for the following shifts: 1030-1200, 1200-1330, and 1330-1500 (the last shift is to help clear up after closing). Please speak to Sara Speed after the service or on 01386 710776. Cakes are also required as they are always very popular. Hilary Fowler is taking names either in person after the service or on 01386 552243. Cakes will be needed by Friday 19 June. Lastly, garden furniture is needed please. Jane Knox will arrange, where necessary, collection and return. Please phone Jane on 01386 556981. Thank you. *Pershore Abbey and St Andrew's (PASA) Team*

Sunday 7 June 1400-1500: Please come and join us for the start of our Summer Organ Recitals. We are delighted to welcome Piers Maxim from The Malvern Priory. Admission is free with a retiring collection. *James*

Bus sign up sheet for Terry Palmer's Ordination: There will be a sign up sheet at the back of St James' on Sunday 31 May, and then at the back of the Abbey from Monday 1 June, for those wishing to travel by bus from Pershore to Worcester Cathedral for Terry Palmer's Ordination on Sunday 28 June. For those signing up to join us, please call into the Abbey Office with your payment of £10 per person. *Peter Stansbie*

Hymns, Pimms and Poems: St James', Birlingham, extends an invitation to all to attend their annual Hymns and Pimms service on Sunday 7 June at 1500. This year several poems are being included in the service, including 'Blame the Vicar' read by Canon Claire, hence the new service title Hymns, Pimms and Poems. We are also fortunate to have James MacDowall-Scott, Director of Music at the Abbey, as our organist. Do come along and enjoy the fellowship on this June afternoon. *Adrienne Woodward*

Please see our Monthly Bulletin for further notices and information.

St James' Church, Birlingham

HYMNS, PIMMS & POEMS



SUNDAY 7 JUNE
3.00PM
ST JAMES' CHURCH

Come along to our special informal service,
led by Canon Claire Lording and with guest organist
James MacDowall-Scott - Pershore Abbey's Director of Music

Glasses of Pimms will be served and replenished during the service.
Other non-alcoholic drinks will be available.

ALL WELCOME

St Mary's, Wick

SERVICE OF EVENING PRAISE



TUESDAY 16 JUNE
1900

WICK CONFETTI FIELDS

By kind permission of Charles Hudson

A relaxed service suitable for families and followed by refreshments.

Entrance via Yock Lane only. Please follow Confetti Fields Service signs.

A large marquee and some seating will be available.

Please bring chairs if possible.

01386 5520710

nicholasgranger.stmarys@gmail.com



Pershore Abbey

ORGAN RECITALS

Sunday 7 June

1400-1500

Featuring Piers Maxim from Malvern Priory

Saturday 11 July

1900-2100

Featuring James MacDowall-Scott

Sunday 12 July

1400-1500

*Featuring Marion Wilmann, Mezzo Soprano
and James MacDowall-Scott*

Sunday 26 July

1400-1500

Featuring Michael Jones

Admission: Free with retiring collection

— Diary —

Sunday 31 May - Trinity Sunday

- 08:00 Eucharist with LIVESTREAM (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 10:30 Benefice Sung Eucharist (*St James', Birlingham*)
- 14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)

Monday 01 June

- 14:30 Pershore U3A History Group (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 18:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)
- 19:00 Pershore Community Choir (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 19:30 Bell Ringing (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 19:30 Pinvin PCC (*Pinvin*)

Tuesday 02 June

- 10:15 Foodbank Staff Arrive (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 11:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 15:30 Piano Lesson (*Pershore Abbey*)

Wednesday 03 June

- 10:00 Midweek Holy Communion (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 11:30 Lunch Club (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

Thursday 04 June

- All Day - Archdeacon's Visitation (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 09:45 iSing Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 10:00 Organ Lesson (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 11:00 Eucharist (*Ganderton Court*)
- 11:30 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 15:00 V&W (*St Andrew's Upper*)
- 18:45 Breathworks (*St Andrew's Upper*)

Friday 05 June

- 09:00 Archdeacon's Visitation (*Pershore Abbey*)
- 09:30 Babies and Toddlers (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 13:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 18:00 Choir Practice (*St Andrew's Main*)
- 19:30 Bells - Surprise Major Practice (*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 06 June

10:00 'Come and Sing' Matthew Coleridge's The Breath of Life (*Pershore Abbey*)

17:00 Concert Use (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Matthew Coleridge: The Breath of Life Concert (*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 07 June - Trinity 1

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)

14:00 Organ Recital with Piers Maxim (*Pershore Abbey*)

14:30 Private Party (*St Andrews Main*)

15:00 Hymns, Pimms and Poems (*St James', Birlingham*)

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

17:00 Evensong (*Pershore Abbey*)

Pershore Abbey Daily Services

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

All are welcome to share in these services.

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

— Keeping In Touch —

Vicar

The Revd Canon Claire Lording - vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Associate Priest

The Revd Jayne Parker - associate@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Abbey Wardens

Mrs Sam Andrews - 07443904635

Mr Martin Fowler - 01386 552243

Pershore Abbey and Benefice Office

11, Broad Street, Pershore, WR10 1BB

01386 552071

office@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Open to the public 1100-1200 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday



If you need any help in accessing any of the online features mentioned in this publication, please do not hesitate to contact the office for support.

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www.pershoreabbey.org.uk