



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 6 December, 2020
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

A recording of this service will be available to view from Sunday at 1500 on our Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Please use this service sheet as an aid for worship at home.

ADVENT WREATH SONG

We have this Advent Wreath to remind us of the Coming of Jesus, the Light of the World.

**The holly and the ivy
are dancing in a ring,
round the berry bright candles,
and the white and shining King.**

We light this candle to help us think of God's greatest promise, first told by the prophets.

**O, two is for the prophets
and for the light they bring.
They are candles in the darkness,
all alight for Christ the King.**

THE COLLECT

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

SECOND READING

2 Peter 3:8-15a

A reading from the Second Letter of Peter

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

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

THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"', John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop

down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

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

A REFLECTION BY PETER STANSBIE (Abbey Reader)

I remember my English Teacher at school telling us "It's the first words of the story that draws you in". For Mark's Gospel this is true. 'The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God' he starts. Not even a full sentence but the powerful beginning of a whole gospel. And how it grabs hold of us as readers.

Then his first story is not about this Son of God but about John the Baptist. He starts from past prophecies that someone will come to prepare the way for the Messiah. Then he focuses on this rather strange 'wilderness man', John. He wore odd clothes and ate strange foods. But he was a well-known and powerful figure in his own right.

He would baptise people in the Jordan River so that they could be forgiven their sins. But he was clear that he was only there to make way for someone much more powerful than him. Someone who would not baptise people with water but with the Holy Spirit of God.

Because we know the story well, we can only imagine how powerful this would be to people hearing the story for the first time. He was telling them to get ready for the coming of the great saviour. 'OK, John was happy to baptise you in the Jordan, but just you wait till you are baptised in the Holy Spirit'. So really, get ready, prepare yourself.

So, as we continue our advent journey it is still a powerful message. Get ready for the coming of the Christ-child. Prepare yourself for someone who can change your life and every life. A Messiah who will change the world and let people know the power of God and how it can transform every one of us.

So Mark's beginning is a super start to an amazing journey, one we can all share. Let's use this Advent to get ready and prepare ourselves once again.

COMMUNION

During Communion the choir will sing the following hymns

HYMN

A&M 75

(Personent Hodie)

Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new;
bear his people's burden,
freely love and pardon.

(Cont.)

Refrain:

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes,
when he comes,
who will make him welcome?

God in time, God in man,
this is God's timeless plan:
he will come, as a man,
born himself of woman,
God divinely human.

Mary, hail! Though afraid,
she believed, she obeyed.
In her womb, God is laid:
till the time expected,
nurtured and protected,

Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry! *[Final refrain]*

Final Refrain:

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes!
Jesus comes!
We will make him welcome!

[Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000]

HYMN

A&M 51

(St Stephen (Newington))

The Lord will come and not be slow,
his footsteps cannot err;
before him righteousness shall go,
his royal harbinger.

Truth from the earth, like to a flower,
shall bud and blossom then;
and justice, from her heavenly bower,
look down on mortal men.

(Cont.)

Rise, God, judge thou the earth in might,
this wicked earth redress;
for thou art he who shalt by right
the nations all possess.

The nations all whom thou hast made
shall come, and all shall frame
to bow them low before thee, Lord,
and glorify thy name.

For great thou art, and wonders great
by thy strong hand are done:
thou in thy everlasting seat
remainest God alone.

[John Milton, the Elder, c. 1563-1647]

HYMN

A&M 37

(Highwood)

Hark what a sound, and too divine for hearing,
stirs on the earth and trembles in the air!
Is it the thunder of the Lord's appearing?
Is it the music of his people's prayer?

Surely he cometh, and a thousand voices
shout to the saints, and to the deaf are dumb;
surely he cometh, and the earth rejoices,
glad in his coming who hath sworn: I come!

This hath he done, and shall we not adore him?
This shall he do, and can we still despair?
Come, let us quickly fling ourselves before him,
cast at his feet the burden of our care.

Through life and death, through sorrow and through sinning,
he shall suffice me, for he hath sufficed:
Christ is the end, for Christ was the beginning,
Christ the beginning, for the end is Christ.

[Frederick William Henry Myers, 1843-1901]

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY 6 DECEMBER 2020

As a Kingdom People we are churches that seek to:

- Worship God
- Welcome All
- Reach out to the world

Priest-in-Charge: The Revd Claire Lording

Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Assistant Curate: The Revd Steve Dunton

Email: curate@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Abbey Wardens: Mr Bill Newman (01386 640497) Mrs Suzanne Clarke (01386 553293)

The Benefice Office of Pershore with Pinvin, Wick & Birlingham

Alveston House, 11, Broad Street, Pershore, WR10 1BB (01386 552071)

Email: office@pershoreabbey.org.uk **Website:** www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

The office remains closed, but we are still working and available by phone and email

IMPORTANT UPDATE

**THE CHURCHES OF THE PERSHORE BENEFICE ARE
OPEN FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP**

Please see [page 14](#) for full details of our Benefice services

Our churches continue to be open for **PERSONAL PRAYER**

See [page 15](#) for full details

PLEASE PRAY FOR

WE PRAY TOGETHER FOR ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CURRENT CRISIS

We pray for those whose weddings, blessings and baptisms have been affected by the crisis, 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.

Please visit our [Life Events](#) page at www.pershoreabbey.org.uk for more information on weddings and funerals during the crisis.

You can also find additional resources and information to help those suffering from bereavement and loss

Comfort and Joy



Please join us in the PERSHORE BENEFICE for CHRISTMAS 2020

Sunday 13th December

- 1030 Said Eucharist with choir (*Pershore Abbey*)
1030 Morning Praise (*St Mary's, Wick*)
1800 **PRE-BOOKED TICKETS ONLY:** Christmas Celebration (*St James', Birlingham*)*

Sunday 20th December

- 1030 Said Eucharist with choir (*Pershore Abbey*)
1030 Sunday Praise (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)
1700 **ONLINE ONLY:** Service of Nine Lessons and Carols 2019
A special showing of the service recorded at Pershore Abbey in 2019
(*View online at Pershore Abbey Community on YouTube and Facebook*)
1800 Walking Carols (*St Mary's, Wick*)

Christmas Eve Thursday 24th December

- 1530 **ONLINE ONLY:** Christingle and Crib Service
A specially created Christingle and Crib Service pre-recorded at Pershore Abbey for Christmas 2020
(*View online at Pershore Abbey Community on YouTube and Facebook*)
1700 **PRE-BOOKED TICKETS ONLY:** Christmas Eve Said Service (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)*
2100 **PRE-BOOKED TICKETS ONLY:** Said Eucharist with choir (*Pershore Abbey*)*
2315 **PRE-BOOKED TICKETS ONLY:** Midnight Mass with choir (*Pershore Abbey*)*

Christmas Day Friday 25th December

- 0800 Said Eucharist with choir (*Pershore Abbey*)
0900 Said Eucharist (*St Mary's, Wick*)
1030 Said Eucharist (*St James', Birlingham*)
1030 **PRE-BOOKED TICKETS ONLY:** All Age Eucharist with choir (*Pershore Abbey*)*

Sunday 27th December

- 1030 Sunday Praise (*Pershore Abbey*)

**For Pershore Abbey ticketed services please contact vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk
or call 01386 552071*

For all other ticketed services please speak to your village churchwarden



**A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU THIS CHRISTMAS
BOTH IN CHURCH AND ONLINE**



CHRISTMAS 2020 IN THE PERSHORE BENEFICE

BOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT PERSHORE ABBEY:

Due to Covid 19 restrictions we will not be able to accommodate the number of people that we usually do at our Christmas services.

So that we can safely seat the limited numbers that we are permitted to have we shall be operating a booking system for the following services:

- **Christmas Eve 2100 Said Eucharist with choir**
- **Christmas Eve 2315 Midnight Mass with choir**
- **Christmas Day 1030 All Age Eucharist with choir**



If you would like to book your seat for any of these services please email me at vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk or leave a message **01386 552071**.

We will get back to you to confirm your booking and to allocate you a seat number(s).

Unfortunately you will not be able to attend these services without that confirmation and seat number.

Our services will be a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, but they will be different from previous years. They will be slightly shorter and sadly only the choir will be able to sing. But they will still be full of joy!

The 0800 Eucharist will not require pre-booking. Please just turn up for this service.

If you need any more information please get in touch. Thank you. *Claire*

CHRISTMAS 2020 - COMFORT AND JOY: Comfort and Joy is the Church of England's Christmas campaign for 2020. It holds together the hope that Christmas will bring joy and celebration after a uniquely difficult year with an acknowledgement that – for those who have lost loved ones or livelihoods, or who are potentially still not able to be together with loved ones – it is the church's role to provide consolation, rather than assume everyone will be ready to join in jubilation.



This campaign takes inspirations from the words of St Paul in Romans 12.15, to '**Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep**'. and aims to celebrate, where we can, together in one place, but also embrace a wider community that wants to join in the celebration but may not be physically able or ready to do so.

We hope that this year's theme of Comfort and Joy will help us to reconnect with the rich and joyous traditions of the past and to offer God's consoling love in the present.

The C of E will be producing weekly reflections published on social media and available by email and app for each Sunday of Advent: **Comfort and Joy: Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas** mirrors the structure of a traditional carol service, exploring both biblical texts and the words of much-loved Christmas carols.

In collaboration with a range of Christian charities and organisations, there will also be online services throughout Advent and Christmas.

To find out more about how to access these C of E Comfort and Joy services and reflections, visit www.churchofengland.org, or to find out more about this year's campaign visit the Worcester Diocese Website: [Comfort and Joy Campaign](#)

COMFORT AND JOY IN THE PERSHORE BENEFICE: Details of our own Pershore Benefice Christmas services embracing the Comfort and Joy are available on **page 9**.

If you would like a printed copy of this year's reflection booklet, **Comfort and Joy: Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas**, we still have a number of copies available to purchase for £1. Please email the office at office@pershoreabbey.org.uk if you would like a copy or speak to Claire after one of our services.



ADVENT COMPLINE ON ZOOM!: Please join us for this quiet and reflective service as we prepare for our Christmas celebrations. Instead of meeting in the Apse of the Abbey we will be meeting on Zoom, from the comfort of our own homes. The service will be around 20 minutes long and will enable us all to pause and reflect on our Advent journeys. Join us live at 1900 on 7th December, 14th December and 21st December. If you would like to be part of this new way of worshipping, please get in touch with me for the Zoom invitation and a copy of the order of service by the Monday morning of the Zoom service you would like to attend. *Claire*

CHRISTMAS CARD MESSAGE FOR CHRISTIAN AID:

TAKE BACK CONTROL with love that unites and builds hope. Despite restrictions and isolation, reach out to both friends in the Abbey and communities abroad who are having to cope with the fear and impact of Covid in their vulnerable existence in poverty.



Send your Christmas greeting (to be displayed in the Abbey - we'll pin up a card to go with it) together with donation for Christian Aid Christmas Appeal.

GET INVOLVED by sending a cheque (made out to "Christian Aid") or cash, with your message. If you can Gift Aid the donation include your address, amount and name.

Either deliver to the Benefice Office, Broad Street or put in an envelope in the offering plate when there is a Sunday service, marking your envelopes '**Christian Aid**'

Thank you. Please spread the word and help us fill the display board and transform lives

Sarah Thomson

PERSHORE ABBEY CHRISTMAS TREE 2020: We are so sorry this year we will not be able to hold the popular come-and-dress the Abbey Tree and Coffee morning, because of the Covid restrictions. There will be a tree this year but much smaller, so that it can be done safely within the guidelines.



If any one would like to make a donation to cover the cost of the tree, we would be very grateful. Donations please in an envelope marked 'Abbey Tree' can be handed to either Churchwardens, Suzanne or Bill, Claire, or can simply be popped through the Office door. We will be back next year bigger and better so watch this space!! We hope our tree will be a beacon of light and hope for the coming year. With our best wishes for a Happy Christmas and New Year to you all. *Ann and Suzanne - just a small part of the Christmas Tree Team.*

MINCE PIES: The Workplace Chaplains are determined our traders don't miss out this year and have organised a large batch of individually wrapped mince pies to be ready for distribution in the town on Tuesday, 15th December. If there are any brave souls who would like to help with this, please contact Angela Gerrard. All Covid-safe rules will be observed. *Angela*

MINISTRY AND CHURCH NEWS

FAITH AT WORK IN WORCESTERSHIRE:

The **DISCOVER CHAPLAINCY** event, **Tuesday January 26th, 1900 – 2030** is for anyone wanting to know more – those thinking about volunteering as chaplains as well as people who are just curious. To book a place sign up via [Eventbrite-discovering-workplace-chaplaincy](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-chaplaincy-tickets-12345678901234567890)

Faith at Work in Worcestershire have produced a video containing simple, practical and helpful advice for not only workplace chaplains but anyone wishing to support a friend, neighbour or family member who has lost their job. We as Christians and as a Church are acutely aware there are many who have been made redundant and others who fear they too may be laid off. This 28min video may help you feel more confident in reaching out to our local community in this time of crisis. <https://vimeo.com/446770267>

A copy of the latest Faith at Work newsletter is available to view and download here: [Faith at Work Newsletter November 2020](#)

CHURCH GIVING - GIVE.NET DONATION PAGE NOW LIVE:

We need your support now more than ever, so please consider giving through our dedicated give.net page, which offers secure regular or one-off payments from as little as £1. Click on the logo here or visit our website to donate. If you would prefer to set up a Standing Order, download the form [here](#).



HELP IN THE COMMUNITY

CTIP FOODBANK NOW OPEN ON TUESDAYS:

The Foodbank remains open on Tuesdays 1100 - 1300 and Fridays 1300 - 1500.

Social distancing procedures remain in place with clients being asked to wait in the entrance hall, as guided by a volunteer.

Our thanks go to all of the volunteers who work so hard to make this possible, and to all those who continue to donate items.



CITIZEN'S ADVICE:

Face to Face sessions have now been suspended. To speak to an adviser please ring **01386 712100**.

For General Advice select option 1.

For help to complete your first Universal Credit application select option 2.

This service is available Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 1000 -1300.

The Worcestershire Adviceline is also available Monday to Friday between 1000 - 1600: ring 03444111303 or email enquiries.wychavon@citizensadvice.org.uk

IMPORTANT LOCAL INFORMATION:

Get all of the latest Covid-19 information from Pershore Town Council by following this link.

www.pershoretowncouncil.gov.uk/latest-news

FOODBANK REQUESTS CHRISTMAS 2020

Once again the Foodbank is giving out Christmas bags to our clients.

This year we will deliver the weeks beginning 7th and 14th December.

We also make up small chocolate bags for children; often Mum's tuck these away ready for Christmas day.

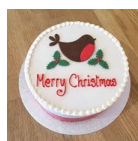
Last year the hampers were blessed in the Abbey; we hope to be able to do so again this year.

Please bring your donations to St Andrew's in Church Walk, during our Tuesday and Friday sessions.

Please, please, could you kindly make sure donations are well in date (Mince Pies seem to have a short shelf life) .

Lynne Raymer

Please can you help to provide a Christmas Parcel to those in need. We would particularly like



Christmas Cakes



Biscuits



Sweets and Chocolates
For both Children and Grown ups



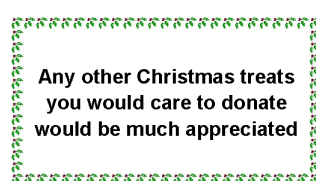
Tinned Ham, Salmon or Chicken



Chocolate money



Custard



Mince Pies

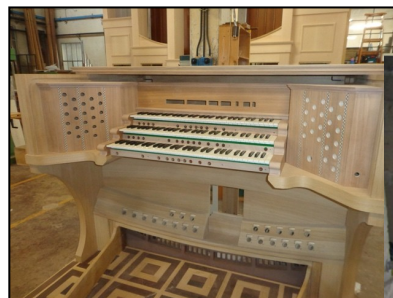
(We are not able to use fresh, chilled or frozen items.)
Churches Together in Pershore

Pershore Foodbank is run in partnership with local churches facilitated by Pershore Abbey
Registered charity number: 1133566 | Registered in England & Wales

FABRIC COMMITTEE UPDATE

FABRIC COMMITTEE UPDATE NOVEMBER 2020: Remarkable progress has been made with the major projects started before the lockdown which were resumed when the Abbey was conditionally reopened in July. Here is an outline of some of our achievements:

- **New Energy Efficient Lighting System**
- **New Organ Enabling Works**
- **Ruffatti Progress Report**
- **Abbey Development Project**
 - ◆ **St Andrew's**
 - ◆ **Vestry Block Enhancement Project**
 - ◆ **Organ 'Adopt a Pipe' Scheme:**
- **Lectern Rail**



Organ console cabinet under construction



Blower room under construction

The full report can be viewed here: [Fabric Committee Update November 2020](#)

David Long

ADOPT A PIPE UPDATE - ONLY 10 LARGE PIPES REMAINING!

The adopt a pipe scheme continues to be well supported with only 10 of the large visible pipes left for donors to adopt!

There are many smaller pipes still available too, so if you are looking for an alternative Christmas gift, take a look at the [Adopt a Pipe Scheme Leaflet](#) for further details on the scheme.

We also have special certificates available for those wishing to adopt a pipe as a gift.

OTHER NEWS

INTERIM TREASURER NEEDED FOR ST JAMES CHURCH DEFFORD: Defford are desperate for someone to cover this role whilst they look for a more permanent solution. I understand that this is a small account to manage so shouldn't be too arduous for the right person to simply keep the books up to date. If you think you can help and want more details please contact the Rector of Defford, Revd Allison Davies direct eckingtonvicarage@hotmail.com

DOORSTEP CAROLS 16TH DECEMBER AT 1800: An invitation to everyone to sing along to carols on the radio on your own doorstep. This website gives you a carol sheet to download and the various radio stations involved. If you don't have a radio, you are able to listen in to local radio stations via a computer: <https://www.doorstepcarols.co.uk/>

HANDMADE WITH LOVE IN PERSHORE: If, like us, you have excited little bears longing for Christmas decorations, you may be using lockdown to think ahead towards your decorations this year.

Pershore Abi has been offered these Pershore handcrafted decorations to raise money for both the Abbey and the Pershore Community Cupboard in Farleigh Road. 100 per cent of the proceeds will be equally divided between the two charitable organisations. Isn't that kind? It brings home the #truespiritofchristmas

The pack of 2 holy decorations is £3 and the pack of 5 angels £5. We will have them available from Wednesday 3rd December when, hopefully, lockdown has ended.

So if you want to have something on your tree specially hand-crafted in the town and do your bit to help others at the same time, please message us through our social media pages or email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk and we will reserve them for you.



AND FINALLY . . .

THE MINCE PIE MORAL MAZE?: As you prepare to tuck into your mince pies this year, take a moment to consider the environmental impact of this traditional festive treat. This month's Called to Action Newsletter offers some handy tips on buying choices, recycling packaging waste and also using up those leftovers—mince pie ice cream anyone?

Take a look at the latest newsletter here: [**Called to Action December Newsletter**](#)



If you need any help in accessing any of the online features mentioned in the bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact the office or Revd Claire Lording for support.



PERSHORE BENEFICE

INFORMATION ON RE-OPENING FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP

Details of our planned public worship services for December and Christmas in the Pershore Benefice are given below, but please do check our social media pages and website for full service details in case of any changes. Thank you for your continued support.

ATTENDING A PUBLIC WORSHIP SERVICE

It is important that you only attend a public worship service if you feel that it is appropriate and safe for you to do so within the current guidelines.

We understand that some of our congregation are still shielding and will not feel able to attend, however, the decision to attend or not is yours and yours alone.

For those who do wish to attend a service, things will be different. There will be no hymns and the service will be shorter than usual. Please rest assured that people will be available to help you with clear instructions and guidance.

New guidance requires that face-coverings must be worn by those attending a place of worship. The full guidance and list of exemptions can be found [here](#).

PERSHORE ABBEY

SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER

BCP Eucharist at 0800

SUNDAY 6, 13 & 20 DECEMBER

Said Eucharist at 1030

CHRISTMAS EVE

Said Eucharist at 2100*

Midnight Mass at 2315*



CHRISTMAS DAY

Said Eucharist at 0800

All Age Eucharist at 1030*

SUNDAY 27 DECEMBER

Sunday Praise at 1030

**Additional Christmas services online -
see [Page 7](#) for the complete schedule**

** These services will be ticketed to enable us to
maintain a Covid-secure environment - full
details on [page 8](#)*

Please Note: Daily Offices have resumed

ST MARY'S, WICK

SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER

Morning Praise at 1030

SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER

'Walking Carols' at 1800

CHRISTMAS DAY

Said Eucharist at 0900

ST NICHOLAS', PINVIN

SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER

Said Eucharist at 1030

SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER

Sunday Praise at 1030

CHRISTMAS EVE

Said Service at 1700* pre-booked tickets only

ST JAMES', BIRLINGHAM

SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER

Christmas Celebration at 1800*

Please contact Adrienne Woodward on 01386
750936 to book your place at this event

CHRISTMAS DAY

Said Eucharist at 1030

PERSHORE BENEFICE

INFORMATION ON CHURCHES OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

Please see below for information on the current situation for each church in the Benefice.

Please be aware that only restricted areas of our churches will be open and numbers will be limited to ensure your safety.

PERSHORE ABBEY

OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER ONLY

DAILY

1000 - 1700

ST MARY'S, WICK

OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER ONLY

DAILY

1000 - 1600

ST JAMES', BIRLINGHAM

OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

SUNDAYS ONLY

1030 - 1330

ST NICHOLAS', PINVIN

OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

SELECTED SUNDAYS

(see website for opening updates)

1000 - 1300

IMPORTANT UPDATE:

THE USE OF FACE COVERINGS IS NOW MANDATORY FOR ALL THOSE ENTERING OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED SAFETY OF EVERYONE.

Please be mindful that due to social distancing capacity will be reduced in our churches.

When entering our church please observe social distancing rules at all times.

Hand-sanitiser and tissues will be available to keep you and others safe.

Please be considerate of others and keep to the guidelines.



PERSHORE BENEFICE

NHS COVID-19 APP - TEST AND TRACE THROUGH QR SCANNING

We are now displaying a QR code poster at all entrance points to our buildings.

Visitors with smart phones can chose to leave their details by scanning this code with the NHS COVID 19 App, which is now live and available to download and install using the following links:

iPhone: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/nhs-covid-19/id1520427663>

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.nhs.covid19.production>

HOW TO USE THE APP

Once you have opened the downloaded app you need to enter some information.

The first screen asks you to enter your postcode. You simply enter WR10 if you live in Pershore.

You need to enable notifications to receive “Exposure notifications”.

You need to then allow “NHS COVID-19” to send you notifications

You will then see the next screen which shows WR10 risk as medium

Within this App is a Venue Check in. Outside Pershore Abbey and all our village churches will be posters with a QR box. Open that tab and hold your phone so that the black and white box on the poster is in the square box on your phone. The App will do the rest for you.

You can find out more information about the NHS Covid-19 App, including a short video, by visiting the NHS website from here: [NHS COVID-19.](#)



WORSHIP DURING COVID-19 AND KEEPING IN TOUCH

PERSHORE ABBEY COMMUNITY ONLINE

As we move forward though this pandemic we will continue to make a copy of the Benefice Service Sheet available both online and by email, and will post a recording of the weekly Pershore Abbey Sunday Service of worship online through our Social Media channels from 1500 every Sunday.

We will continue to regularly update Facebook with new items, messages of encouragement, video recordings and special vicar vlogs from Claire, Steve, Peter and other members of the Ministry Team as we continue to navigate our way through these difficult times.

Our YouTube channel is called **Pershore Abbey Community**

Our Facebook page can be found at **#pershoreabbeycom**

Our Facebook posts, latest Instagram posts and a Twitter feed can also all be found on our website at **www.pershoreabbey.org.uk** at the bottom of every page.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

C OF E LAUNCHES WORSHIP PHONE LINE:

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services 24 hours a day.

Please share this with those who are not online.



C OF E ONLINE SERVICES AND SUPPORT:

The Church of England continues to broadcast online each Sunday via social media at 09:00. For simple daytime and night prayer services, download the free Church of England App "Time to Pray".



The "Daily Prayer" App is free to download and is now available through our website.

There is also an accompanying daily audio offering on SoundCloud and iTunes led by the Archbishop of Canterbury .

STAYING UP TO DATE: The best way to stay up to date with all the current news and information at this time is through our website and Facebook pages.

All of our platforms can be easily accessed directly from **www.pershoreabbey.org.uk**



SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN AND DIARY: If you would like to receive email updates and a copy of the Benefice Service Sheet direct to your inbox, please email the office at **office@pershoreabbey.org.uk**.

A copy is also uploaded to the website every Friday

PASTORAL SUPPORT: The Ministry Team and Abbey Pastoral Group are doing their best to keep in touch with everyone. This is mostly by telephone or email. If you have yet to hear from anyone or have a particular need please contact Claire (**vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk**/tel:552071) or Angela Gerrard.

ABBAY & BENEFICE DIARY

(A) Abbey, (B) Birlingham, (P) Pinvin, (W) Wick,
(St A) St Andrew's, (V) New Vicarage, (CTIP) Churches Together in Pershore

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

PUBLIC WORSHIP SERVICES HAVE NOW RESUMED

Please check on social media and our website for the latest updates
The Abbey remains open daily from 0900 - 1700 for personal prayer

SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

0800 BCP Eucharist (Abbey)

1030 Said Eucharist (Abbey)

1030 Said Eucharist (St Nicholas', Pinvin)

Monday 7 December

0915 Musical Explorers

Tuesday 8 December

1100 FOODBANK (St A)

Wednesday 9 December

Thursday 10 December

0930 WW Weigh and Go - TBC

Friday 11 December

1300 FOODBANK (St A)

Saturday 12 December

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Sunday 13 December - Advent 3

1030 Said Eucharist (Abbey)

1030 Morning Praise (St Mary's Wick)

1830 Christmas Celebration - **ticket only**

(St James', Birlingham)

*All Sunday Abbey Eucharist Services after 2nd
December will be recorded and shown on our
YouTube channel at 1500*



Please be aware that all funeral, wedding and baptism services are subject to strict controls on the number of people attending, and are therefore private events

Please check our social media pages and website for further updates

WEBSITE:

Please remember you can see all the latest updates and information on our website
www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Search for Pershore Abbey Community to follow us on Facebook.

We are also on Twitter and Instagram.



All of our Social Media feeds are now available through our website.

Scroll to the bottom of each page to follow us there.