



Sunday Praise

PERSHORE BENEFICE

21 March 2021

Fifth Sunday of Lent – Passion Sunday

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

In person worship in the Pershore Benefice has been
suspended until further notice.

This service will be recorded in advance and available to view [here](#) on Sunday morning
from 1030 on our YouTube channel or on our Facebook page.

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

Welcome and Introduction

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you

And also with you.

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Hymn

A&M 156

(Bow Brickhill)

We sing the praise of him who died,
of him who died upon the cross;
the sinner's hope let men deride,
for this we count the world but loss.

Inscribed upon the cross we see
in shining letters, 'God is love';
he bears our sins upon the tree;
he brings us mercy from above.

The cross! It takes our guilt away:
it holds the fainting spirit up;
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,
and sweetens every bitter cup.
It makes the coward spirit brave,
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;
it takes its terror from the grave,
and gilds the bed of death with light:
The balm of life, the cure of woe,
the measure and the pledge of love,
the sinner's refuge here below,
the angels' theme in heaven above.

[Thomas Kelly, 1769-1855]

Confession

Christ himself carried up our sins in his body to the tree,
so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness;
by his wounds we have been healed.

Let us confess our sins.

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society,
in the misuse of God's creation. God our Father, we are sorry for the times when we
have used your gifts carelessly, and acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

May almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Collect

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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**

Hymn

A&M 707

(Crucifer)

Refrain:

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, let us follow where our Captain trod,
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God:

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
he hosts of God in conquering ranks combine:

Each new-born soldier of the Crucified
bears on his brow the seal of him who died:

This is the sign which Satan's legions fear
and angels veil their faces to revere:

Saved by the cross whereon their Lord was slain,
earth's fallen children their lost home regain:

From north and south, from east and west they raise
in growing unison their song of praise:

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us unto thee:

(Cont.)

Let every race and every language tell
of him who saves our souls from death and hell:

From farthest regions let them homage bring,
and on his cross adore their Saviour King:

Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease
beneath the shadow of its healing peace:

For thy blest cross which doth for all atone
creation's praises rise before thy throne:

[George William Kitchin, 1827-1912
Michael Robert Newbolt, 1874-1956]

The Gospel John 12:20-33

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection *by Angela Gerrard (Licensed Lay Minister)*

Mentioning the Greeks who wished to speak with Jesus at the beginning of our reading seems a bit of a red herring, because when Jesus speaks he is not just addressing them but his disciples and the whole crowd gathered for the festival.

As usual he tries to help them understand what is going to happen to him by likening himself to a grain of wheat. Unless it dies when it falls into the ground it will remain a single grain, but there in the ground it germinates and rises up to become a whole new plant with an 'ear' full of many seeds of grain to be harvested and provide food for both humans and animals. In the same way if Jesus does not die for humankind he will remain a single voice whose message will die with him in time. But by dying on the cross for us and being raised again by God, he and his message of salvation will live forever, from generation to generation.

Then Jesus questions rhetorically whether he should ask God to save him from death, but answers for himself, 'No' this is why he has come to earth, and he asks God to glorify his name. When God answers He has glorified it and will do again, there is confusion in the crowd – is it thunder they hear, or an angel speaking? Jesus tells then that God has spoken not for his sake but theirs – this is judgement coming; the ruler of the world, Satan, who was driven out of heaven by Michael and all the angels, will be overcome. Here is a force stronger than Satan, who has victory over death. When Jesus rises again and ascends into heaven all who believe in him and spread his message of salvation throughout the world and down the generations to 2021 and beyond, we will all, upon our own death transcend it and be drawn up to live again with Jesus for eternity in God's heavenly kingdom.

Now his followers can understand that when he is crucified and rises again in victory over death, they will begin to spread his gospel of salvation – the one who has died for us all to rise and grow and bear fruit until everyone throughout the world can be glorified with him at the end of time in fulfilment of God's purpose.

May we praise his glorious name at the beginning of this Passiontide. AMEN

Declaration of Faith

We say together

**We believe in God the Father,
who created everything in heaven and on earth.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith and fills us with His love**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

The Peace

God is love and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

We offer God our Prayers and Thanks

At the end of each prayer when you hear 'God of love', please respond 'hear our prayer'

We end by saying together The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn

A&M 489

(Servant King)

From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load He chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

(Cont.)

So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

[Graham Kendrick, b.1950]

Thanksgiving and Blessing

Eternal God, our beginning and our end, accompany us in this day's journey. Dawn on our darkness, open our eyes to praise you for your creation and to see the work you set before us today. Take us and use us to bring to others the new life you give in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, evermore. Amen.**

Go in the joy and peace of Christ
Thanks be to God.

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Join the Prayer for Our Nation and set aside time every evening to pray
together at **1800.**

Click here to find out more: [Prayer for the Nation](#)



PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

21 MARCH 2021

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

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

PERSHORE ABBEY APCM AND ST ANDREW'S PARISH CENTRE TRUST AGM

NEW DATE: THURSDAY 22 APRIL 2021 AT 19:00 VIA ZOOM

The Pershore Abbey APCM and the St Andrew's AGM for 2021 has now been confirmed as **Thursday 22nd April at 19:00** via **Zoom**

If you would like to join the meeting, please contact Sara Speed (tel: 01386 710776) or email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk for further details.

Access to a Zoom meeting will be available through a mobile, tablet, laptop or landline.

Elections of the Churchwardens, up to 8 additional PCC members and 2 representatives to the Deanery Synod will take place at this meeting. Anyone wishing to be nominated for any of these roles should contact Sara Speed, as above, for further information.

The APCM booklet will be available on our website in due course and a link will be sent by email to those on the Abbey circulation list. Should you require a printed copy, please contact Sara Speed by **Thursday 15th April** at the latest.

If you would like an email copy sent direct to your email address, please contact the office at office@pershoreabbey.org.uk.

The APCM Booklet, links to the official accounts and all notices regarding these meetings will be available on our website in the coming weeks.

ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll is due to be revised before the APCM.

Anyone who wishes to be added should apply now.

The Roll will of course be open again after the meeting .

Please contact the office on **01386 552071** (answerphone only), email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or speak to Bill Newman if you would like to be added.

Alternatively you can download the form here and return it to the Benefice office:

[ELECTORAL ROLL APPLICATION 2021](#)

COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY TUESDAY 6 APRIL

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES 2021

PERSHORE BENEFICE CHURCHES PLAN TO RE-OPEN FOR LIMITED SERVICES DURING HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

SEE [PAGE 12](#) AND [PAGE 13](#) FOR FULL DETAILS OF OUR PLANNED RANGE OF ONLINE AND IN PERSON WORSHIP



Come Worship With Us!

For the past year our events and services have been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, but we have done our very best to make sure that we can still celebrate the main festivals of the Church, even if it's in different ways from what we have been used to.

This Easter is no different. Please see pages 12 and 13 for the full range of services that will be happening, either in person or online. Due to social distancing and other restrictions the services may not all be as you are anticipating, so please check the details so you know what to expect.

Please also do remember to keep an eye on the garden at St Andrew's which will be featuring a display to help us journey through Holy Week.

We very much look forward to safely welcoming all those who feel able to join us back in to our churches as we celebrate Easter.

PLEASE NOTE:

OUR CHURCHES REMAIN CLOSED FOR IN PERSON PUBLIC WORSHIP UNTIL MAUNDY THURSDAY 2021 AT THE EARLIEST

The Abbey will remain open for personal prayer only from 9:00 till 17:00 seven days a week. The Village Churches will also continue to open for personal prayer. See [Page 19](#) for details.

We will continue to offer access to worship through our online service sheets and pre-recorded services for those of you who decide to stay at home during these difficult times and will review our position once again after Easter.

LENT 2021

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: This quiet and reflective service which will last half an hour will be held every Monday throughout Lent at **1900** via **Zoom**. We will spend time with some of the stations of the cross each week, hopefully enabling us all to actively engage with the path of suffering walked by Jesus. Please contact me for more information and for the Zoom invitation for each week. *Claire*



Ted Degrazia

THURSDAY LENT GROUP CONTINUES: Join us for this half an hour session every **Thursday** evening from **1900-1930** via **Zoom**, enabling us to reflect on the following Sunday's gospel reading.

The format will be gentle; listening to the gospel passage, a period of silence and reading it through again to see what God might be saying to us. Some of us may then choose to share any insights that we have without comments; a question to prompt a brief discussion will follow. This will help us to deepen our love of God and his word, prepare ourselves to celebrate Easter and to have fellowship with one another.

If you would like to join the group, please email curate@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the weekly invitation to the Zoom session. *Steve*

LENT BOOK READING GROUP - THY WILL BE DONE by Stephen Cherry: The Lent Book Group continues to study Stephen Cherry's book, which sets out to enliven our faith through study of the Lord's Prayer. Providing insights from those who have used the Lord's Prayer throughout the centuries, the book explores how we can live its challenges and learn from its guidance, deepening our understanding of the prayer that holds us together as individuals and as a church. Please email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk if you would like to join.



LENTEN LUNCHES: Don't forget to have a look at our weekly soup recipe posted online each Friday throughout Lent to help you experience this traditional aspect of Lent at home. Click here to view this week's recipe: [Lockdown Lenten Lunches](#)

#LIVE LENT 2021: The Church of England will be running its #LiveLent 2021 campaign from Ash Wednesday (17 February) to Easter Sunday (4 April) with six reflections for each week including a short passage from the Bible, a brief exploration of the reading, and a prayer. Click [here](#) for more information.





HOLY WEEK AND EASTER IN THE PERSHORE BENEFICE 2021

Due to social distancing and other restrictions the services may not all be as you are anticipating, so please check the details so you know what to expect.

Some of our services will be ticketed to ensure everyone's safety, so please ensure you book in advance if you wish to attend one of these services.

Palm Sunday 28 March

Palm crosses will be available to collect from the back of the Abbey between 0900 and 1100 to take home and display

1030 Palm Sunday Procession (*YouTube only - recorded 2020 and 2021*)

1030 Eucharist (*YouTube only - recorded 2021*)

Monday in Holy Week 29 March

1900 Compline (*Zoom*)

Please contact Claire vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the invitation

1900 Compline (*YouTube - recorded 2020*)

Tuesday In Holy Week 30 March

1900 Compline (*Zoom*)

Please contact Claire vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the invitation

1900 Compline (*YouTube - recorded 2020*)

Wednesday in Holy Week 31 March

1900 Compline (*Zoom*)

Please contact Claire vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the invitation

1900 Compline (*YouTube - recorded 2020*)

Maundy Thursday 1 April

2000 Eucharist of the Last Supper and the Stripping of the Altar (*Pershore Abbey*)

This will be a shortened Eucharist without footwashing. This will be followed by a silent watch until midnight. You are welcome to leave after the stripping of the altar.
No booking required.

2100 Office of Tenebrae (*YouTube only - recorded 2021*)

During this meditative service we hear again the gospel of the watch and beautiful Taizé chants.

Good Friday 2 April

1000 How to make an Easter Garden (*YouTube only - recorded 2021*)

Join us for this family- friendly children's activity specially recorded for 2021

1015 Churches Together in Pershore Walk of Witness (*YouTube only - recorded 2020*)

1400 Service of the Last Hour (*Pershore Abbey*) *No booking required*

1400 Service of the Last Hour (*YouTube - recorded 2020*)

1500 Bredon Hill Service (*YouTube only - recorded 2014 and 2019*)

Holy Saturday 3 April

1700 Evening Prayer with Short Easter Vigil (*Pershore Abbey*) *No booking required*

1700 Evening Prayer with Short Easter Vigil (*YouTube - recorded 2020*)

Easter Day Sunday 4 April

0600 Dawn Service (*YouTube only - recorded 2021*)

0800 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

1030 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*) This will be a ticketed service.

Please contact Claire vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk to book your ticket or leave a message on the office answerphone - **01386 552071**

1030 Holy Communion (*St James', Birlingham*)

1030 Holy Communion (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*) This will be a ticketed service.

Contact Pinvin Churchwarden Glen Hurst for more information.

1030 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)

1500 Eucharist (*YouTube – a recording of the 1030 Easter Service 2021. Recorded live at Pershore Abbey this Easter Sunday*)



Come Worship With Us!

THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS

THANK YOU SARAH!! After many years of being at the very heart of Pershore Benefice Office, Sarah is marking her retirement on 19th March. So many people have shared their fond memories of going into the office and being welcomed by a smiling and super helpful Sarah. No problem or enquiry was too difficult or challenging to sort out and everyone left the office knowing that Sarah would deal with it in her kind way. It has been a very strange year and we have all missed seeing Sarah behind her desk. We give thanks for all that Sarah has contributed to the life of our parishes and all that she has done for wider community groups. Sarah was presented with a lovely cheque, a beautiful rose and the promise of an afternoon tea, as a small sign of all our love and grateful thanks. *Claire*



GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY! Many congratulations to Ann and David Bray who will be celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary on 27th March. We send them all our love and prayers. Sadly we won't be sharing cake and wine in church for this incredible achievement, but perhaps raise a glass to them in your own home. *Claire*

WEDDING BLESSING: Our love, best wishes and prayers also go to Rob and Lesley Faulkner who celebrate their special anniversary with a wedding blessing at Pershore Abbey on Saturday 27 March. *Claire*

STEWARDSHIP

BOXED ENVELOPES: Could you please let the office know if you would like to receive the next annual boxed set of planned giving envelopes. We will deliver the box to you so please confirm your address and the identification number on your envelopes in your request. Email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or leave a message on **01386 552071** (answerphone service only). Thank you. *Sarah Thomson*

CHURCH GIVING - GIVE.NET DONATION PAGE NOW LIVE:

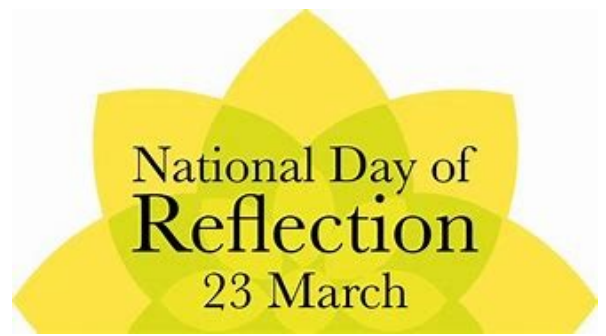
We need your support now more than ever, so please consider giving through our dedicated give.net page, which offers secure regular or one-off payments from as little as £1. Click on the logo here or visit our website to donate. If you would prefer to set up a Standing Order, download the form [here](#).



OTHER NEWS

MARIE CURIE NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION:

The Church of England has partnered with Marie Curie on 23 March 2021 to mark the first anniversary of the first lockdown in the UK with a national day of reflection to reflect on our collective loss due to Covid-19, to support those who have been bereaved, and to give hope for a brighter future.



The churches of the Pershore Benefice are being asked to participate in this day by marking the end of the one minute silent reflection at 12 noon by tolling a bell at 12:01.

There will be 125 tolls to remember all those who have died during the pandemic and the 3 million people who have been bereaved, many of whom have been unable to properly say goodbye to loved ones or grieve.

As the bells ring and we take time to pause on this National Day of Reflection we offer this prayer:

God of Love,
As we think about all that has changed this year,
help us to trust that you are always with us.
As we remember those who have died,
help us to trust they are at peace with you.
As we reach out to others with kindness and care,
may hope shine out in every heart and home. Amen

You can find more information and discover more ways to get involved here at the Marie Curie website: [Marie Curie Day of Reflection](https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/national-day-of-reflection)

GET VACCINATED - #GIVEHOPE: Pershore Benefice is embracing the NHS backed Give Hope campaign convened by YourNeighbour and supported by many churches, including the Church of England. When it comes to sharing the good news of the Covid vaccines, the best way to give hope to your neighbours is through a kind and constructive conversation. It's as simple as H - O - P - E.

Visit yourneighbour.org to find out more about the Give Hope campaign and the work of the YourNeighbour organisation.

If you have any concerns about the Covid 19 vaccine, or need practical help and support, then do get in touch with our Ministry Team via office@pershoreabbey.org.uk



The COVID-19 vaccine
is the first glimpse of
light in the darkness.
Be part of the mission
and give HOPE.



Have a Conversation

Open up a conversation about the vaccine & listen to concerns.

Offer accurate information

Combat misinformation & bust myths with accurate information.

Provide practical support

Some people may want help to get the vaccine.

Engage others & share opportunity

Share on social media & in your WhatsApp groups to friends & family.

HELP IN THE COMMUNITY

CTIP FOODBANK: 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.

Please can you help our Foodbank with these non-perishable items: (We are not able to use chilled or frozen items.)

- Coffee
- Rice Pudding
- Cereal
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Instant Mash
- Sponge Puddings
- Veg /Tomato Soup
- Pasta in Sauce
- Tinned Meat
- Deodorant
- EASTER EGGS!!



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.

**citizens
advice**

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

**Get all of the latest Covid-19
information from Pershore Town
Council [here](#)**

ST ANDREW'S SURVEY - HAVE YOUR SAY AT PERSHORE LIBRARY

We have had a terrific response to the survey so far, but we are aware that there are people who are not able to access the links online to be able to have their say.

We have teamed up with Pershore Library who are happy for anyone who is a library member and who is computer confident to complete the survey using the public computers .

If you are a non-library member or not comfortable with using the computer, they may be able to complete the survey over the phone with you. Just call the Customer Contact Centre on 01905 822722 (Mon – Fri 0900—1700) and ask to be put through to Pershore Library .

Pershore Library is open Mon – Fri 1000 - 1700 & Sat 1000 - 1600 .

Please do spread the word to anyone who may not be able to access the digital links or QR code so that we can get as great a range of views as possible to help us move St Andrew's forward.

St Andrew's - have your say...

Please

fill in our on-line survey about St Andrew's,
the town's vital Community Centre.
Plans for improved facilities and repairs are
afoot and we need public comments
to get grants. Go to

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/5CJB6FL

or click on the QR code.



ECO NEWS - EARTH HOUR

Along with Worcester Cathedral and other churches throughout the country, Pershore Abbey will be marking Earth Hour on Saturday 27 March. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details.

Earth Hour was started by WWF and others in 2007 as a symbolic switching off of lights to call attention to climate change.



There are many things you could try this Earth Hour:-

1. Switch lights off in your home or where you have influence
2. Join the candle lit vigil from Worcester Cathedral on Facebook at 22:30
www.facebook.com/WorcesterCathedral
3. Watch the Earth Hour 'spotlight video' at www.earthhour.org
4. Play a non-electronic game such as cards, chess, Monopoly etc.
5. Let someone know you are taking part in Earth Hour, e.g. friend, councillor, MP
6. See if you can get your electric meter to stop by switching equipment off, in an act of solidarity with the people who have no electricity
7. Go outside and look at the stars or maybe see a hedgehog.

Learn more about Earth Hour in the latest Eco Newsletter: [Earth Hour Newsletter](#)

AND FINALLY . . .

HIGH SHERIFF AWARD 2021: Congratulations to Trudy Burge who has been awarded a Worcestershire High Sheriff Award by the High Sheriff of Worcestershire, Mark Jackson OBE.

People from across the county are nominated by members of the public for this award because they have gone above and beyond to improve the lives of others in the community.

Trudy has supported many organisations and causes in Pershore and beyond for many years, and we all appreciate her concern for others and her incredible gifts and talents.

Well done Trudy and thank you for all that you do for Pershore Abbey Community. *Claire*



PERSHORE BENEFICE

OUR CHURCHES REMAIN OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER ONLY

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

DAILY

0900 - 1700

The Abbey may sometimes be closed for recording

ST JAMES', BIRLINGHAM

SUNDAYS ONLY

1030 - 1330

ST MARY'S, WICK

DAILY

1000 - 1600

ST NICHOLAS', PINVIN

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.

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 choose to leave their details by scanning this code with the NHS COVID 19 App. 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](https://www.nhs.uk/covid-19).



WORSHIP DURING COVID-19 AND KEEPING IN TOUCH

PERSHORE ABBEY COMMUNITY ONLINE DURING NEW LOCKDOWN

As we move through this new period of lockdown we are continuing to review our online activity and to consider how best to move forward with a sustainable programme of online and digital activity.

We will continue to update Facebook with new items when we can, but hope you will bear with us as we go through this process.

A copy of our weekly service sheet will be available every week for you to use as an aid to worship at home, together with a pre-recorded online service.

Do continue to check out our activity on the following platforms in the meantime:

- 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

THE PERSHORE ABBAY BENEFICE CHURCHES ARE NOW CLOSED FOR IN PERSON PUBLIC WORSHIP UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Please check on social media and our website for the latest updates

The Abbey remains open daily from 0900 - 1700 for personal prayer

Please note: the Abbey may sometimes be closed to allow for recording of services

SUNDAY 21 MARCH 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY

1030 Pre-recorded Sunday Praise Service (*Online via YouTube and Facebook*)

1430 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)*

Monday 22 March

1100 Burial of Ashes of the late Alan Roberts*
(*St Mary's, Wick*)

1900 Stations of the Cross (*Zoom*)

1945 Pinvin PCC (*Zoom*)

Tuesday 23 March

0900 Social Media Recording (*Pershore Abbey*)

1100 FOODBANK (St A)

1200 National Day of Reflection

Bells toll at 12.01pm

1900 Pershore Abbey PCC (*Zoom*)

Wednesday 24 March

1000 Birlingham PCC (*Zoom*)

1530 V&W (*Zoom*)

Thursday 25 March

1900 Lent Group (*Zoom*)

Friday 26 March

SECURITY MAINTENANCE– ABBAY & ST A
GUTTERING MAINTENANCE– ABBAY & ST A

1300 FOODBANK (St A)

Saturday 27 March

1200 Wedding Blessing

Robert & Lesley Faulkner (*Pershore Abbey*)*

2030 Earth Hour

Sunday 28 March - Palm Sunday

Palm crosses will be available to collect from the back of the Abbey between 0900 and 1100 to take home and display

1030 Palm Sunday Procession (*YouTube only - recorded 2020 and 2021*)

1030 Eucharist (*YouTube only - recorded 2021*)

*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

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.