



# Sunday Praise

**PERSHORE ABBEY**

**28 NOVEMBER 2021**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

## **SUNDAY PRAISE SERVICE SHEET & WEEKLY BULLETIN**

**This service will be live-streamed and available to view on our YouTube channel.**

You can join in live at 1030 or catch up later in the day or week.

Please use this service sheet as an aid to worship in church and take it home with you when you leave.

Following a review of Covid arrangements, you can join in singing the hymns in church, but we ask that you wear a mask and sing quietly.

### **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.**

### **The Advent Wreath**

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 remind us of God's people who in every age watch for his coming.

**And one for God's people,  
In every age and day,  
We are watching for his coming.  
We believe and we obey.**

**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.**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here,  
until the Son of God appear:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free  
thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell thy people save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave:

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight:

O come, thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery:

O come, O come, thou Lord of Might  
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,  
in ancient times didst give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe:

[John Mason Neale. 1818-1866]

## Confession

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ 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**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **Hymn**

### **A&M 358**

**(Be Still)**

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

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

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place;  
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace -  
No work too hard for him. In faith receive from him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

[David J. Evans (b. 1957)]

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## **The Gospel                      Luke 21.25-36**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Reflection**

### **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 “Lord in your mercy” 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 41**

***(Helmsley)***

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,  
once for favoured sinners slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia!  
Christ appears on earth to reign. (x 3)

Every eye shall now behold him  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at naught and sold him,  
pierced and nailed him to the Tree,  
deeply wailing,  
shall the true Messiah see.

*(Cont.)*

Those dear tokens of his passion  
still his dazzling body bears,  
cause of endless exultation  
to his ransomed worshippers:  
with what rapture  
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory,  
claim the kingdom for thine own:  
Alleluia!  
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

[Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 and John Cennick, 1718-1755]

## Thanksgiving and Blessing

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**

**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.**

***Don't forget our Advent Carol Service is at 3.00pm this afternoon and will be a wonderful way to start the Advent season.***

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**This service is being live streamed to the Abbey's YouTube Channel**

To find the recording please visit  
**www.youtube.com** and search for **Pershore Abbey Community**  
**Pershore Abbey Community on YouTube**

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



# PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

## 28 NOVEMBER 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 Benefice Office remains closed due to ongoing maintenance.*

*Please email you enquiry to office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or leave a message on 01386 552071 and we will get back to you as soon as we are able.*

### 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.

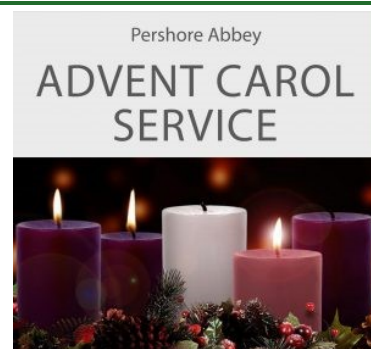
**BENEFICE OFFICE:** The office is currently under enormous pressure due to the ongoing maintenance works in the Broad Street office. This is even more challenging as the usual work load has increased due to forthcoming Christmas activities. Can I please request that you are mindful of this when thinking of approaching the office to assist you. Can your query wait? Can someone else help you? Thank you for your understanding. *Claire*

## WEEKLY BULLETIN 28 NOVEMBER 2021

### **PERSHORE ABBEY ADVENT CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER 1500:**

A reminder that our Advent Carol Service takes place next week on 28 November. It will include favourite advent carols and will feature the Abbey Choir singing beautiful advent anthems.

We hope that you will be able to join in with the carols, but please be prepared to wear a face-covering and sing quietly.



### **MINISTRY AND CHURCH NEWS**

**CHRISTMAS IN THE PERSHORE BENEFICE:** The full list of our Christmas services, events and activities is included in the Monthly Bulletin, so please take a look - there is a correction to 19 December! There are flyers available at the back of all of the Pershore Benefice Churches with details of each individual churches services from this week.

We do hope that we will be able to move forward with all of our Christmas services as planned, but please be aware that it may be necessary to make changes, so do keep yourselves updated through the bulletin, our website and our social media pages.

### **IONA GATHERING & SERVICE SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER - ST ANDREW'S FROM 1330:**

Everyone is welcome to a short **Iona Service** at 1400 on Sunday 28 November in St Andrew's, **BEFORE THE PERSHORE ABBEY CAROL SERVICE at 1500**. If you have time, do join us for a short social from 1330, also in St Andrew's Centre. We will be decorating lanterns and singing, accompanied by Andrew on cello. It's also possible to join in via Zoom from 1350. Please contact Helen for a link at [iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk](mailto:iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk) (NB. This replaces the 1700 Iona service)

### **ADVENT COMPLINE BY ZOOM 1900 ON MONDAYS IN ADVENT FROM 29 NOVEMBER:**

Please 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 which will enable us all to pause and reflect on our Advent journeys. If you would like to be part of this service, contact [office@pershoreabbey.org.uk](mailto:office@pershoreabbey.org.uk) for the Zoom invitation and a copy of the order of service.

*Claire*

**MINCE PIES PLEASE!:** Following the Abbey's Carol Service to be held on Sunday 19 December at 1700, mince pies and mulled wine will be served.

Contributions of mince pies (home-made or shop bought) would be very welcome – kindly note your offer on the sheet at the back of church. If possible, please bring your pies to the morning service and place in the collecting box. Any queries to Sara Speed (710776 or email [thespeeds94@gmail.com](mailto:thespeeds94@gmail.com)). *Many thanks.*

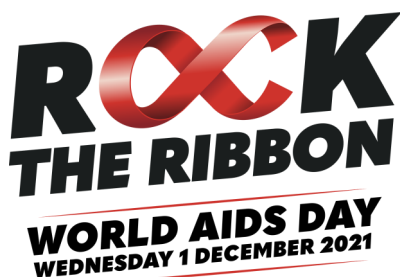


## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**GOOD COMPANY AND AFTERNOON TEA!** Pershore Abbey & St. Andrew's Social Committee are planning an afternoon get-together with afternoon tea for anyone who would appreciate company after Christmas. The event will take place on **Tuesday 28 December 2021** from **1430 until 1600** in **St. Andrew's Centre**.

If you are interested tickets can be pre-booked and are limited. Please ring the office on 01386 552071 to book your place.

We do hope you will be able to join us. *PASA*



**ROCK THE RIBBON:** 1 December is **World AIDS Day**. It's 40 years since the first HIV related illnesses and deaths, but awareness, discrimination and treatment are still issues both in UK and worldwide. Please show your support by getting a pin-on ribbon from the back of the Abbey.

**EDIBLE NATIVITY STILL BOOKING:** On **Sunday 5 December** from **1030-1145** in the **St Andrew's Centre** we are going to tell the story of the birth of Jesus in a fun way, making an edible nativity. There may be gingerbread involved - yum!!! Places are strictly limited to 20, so please book your place by emailing [office@pershoreabbey.org.uk](mailto:office@pershoreabbey.org.uk) or leave a message on 01386 552071. **YOU MUST BOOK BY 28 NOVEMBER TO SECURE A PLACE.**

## CHRISTMAS TREES AND BAUBLES

**CHRISTMAS BAUBLE COFFEE MORNING MONDAY NOVEMBER 29 1000 AT PERSHORE ABBEY:** The Abbey Christmas Tree is back this year and we would love you to all come and help dress it. There will be coffee and perhaps a mince pie!! The date for your diary is Monday 29 November from 1000 onwards.

There will be two trees, one large and a smaller one. We will have the blessing of the trees first and then sing a carol and then we will dress the tree.

This has become such a nice part of the run up to Christmas and visitors to the Abbey are always very appreciated. Please do come and help us make this year special as the last 18 months have been very difficult for us all. *Ann and the Christmas Tree team.*

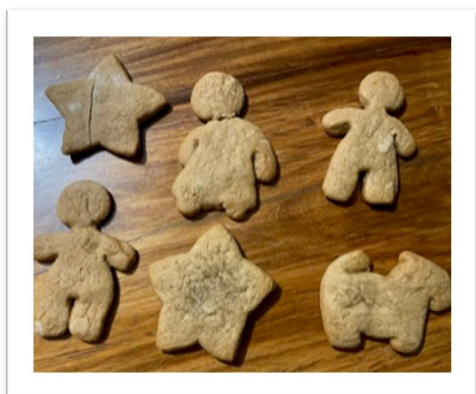


**ABBEY CHRISTMAS TREE & DECORATION DONATIONS:** If any one would like to donate towards the cost of the Abbey Christmas Trees and decorations, please put your donation in an envelope marked "**Abbey Christmas Tree**" for our Treasurer to process. *Thank you in anticipation.*

## STEWARDSHIP

**PERSHORE ABBEY PARISH GIVING SCHEME:** A huge thank you to everyone who has already looked at the Parish Giving Scheme and made the decision to do their regular giving through it. We thought everyone would like to know that in October we had a total of 4 people signed up and in November we had a total of 17. This is encouraging news. If you'd like to talk about changing the way you give please feel free to contact me, Robin Hancox, Judy Dale or Angela Gerrard. More info is also available on our website. Thank you. *Claire*

## BABIES & TODDLERS



**BABIES & TODDLERS BAKE UP TREATS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED:** Our fabulous children, families and helpers cooked up a storm last week at our Friday morning Babies and Toddlers group, baking treat to raise money for Children in Need.

They raised a fabulous £23.00, had lots of fun and created some yummy treats!

## AND FINALLY . . .

**SHOEBOX SUNDAY SUCCESS!:** On Sunday 21 November, Junior Church children, young people and many adult helpers packed 100 shoeboxes, ready to be delivered to the Teams4U warehouse this week!

The Abbey congregation were very supportive and donated boxes, lots of items, including knitting, and money to send the boxes.

I am very grateful to everyone who was involved to make this event happen and hopefully these boxes will give the children who receive them, a Christmas to remember! *Many thanks, Suzanne*



Facebook: [#pershoreabbeycom](https://www.facebook.com/pershoreabbeycom) YouTube: [Pershore Abbey Community](https://www.youtube.com/PershoreAbbeyCommunity)

Website: [www.pershoreabbey.org.uk](http://www.pershoreabbey.org.uk)

## **NOVEMBER ABBEY PCC MEETING—NEWS ROUNDUP**

Here's a round up of what happened at the November meeting of the Pershore Abbey PCC:

- Many good things are taking off in and around the Abbey. Plans for the Abbey's Eco-Wildflower Area are going ahead with the help of the Wychavon. We are grateful that Pershore Rotary Club has kindly agreed to fund the purchasing of wildflower seeds.
- Our major improvement plan, the ADP (Abbey Development Programme), is progressing well after a site tour and vision evening with the architect, PCC members and advisers. The first stage, the installation of the new organ, should start in June, when a scaffolding arch will be erected temporarily, well clear of the pews. Target completion date is mid-August. Other projects being explored include better refreshment facilities, modern toilets and re-activating the clock and carillon. Funds are being sought.
- The Fabric Committee reported on live-streaming church services, plus work on improving the lighting at the West end.
- The Finance team reported that our funds, though reduced, are adequate thanks to reserves and the return of many paid bookings. We continue to pay our regular Parish Share.
- A busy programme of activities for children and youth is running or planned including Shoebox Sunday, Café Church, Open the Book (in schools) and an Edible Nativity event on 5<sup>th</sup> December.
- St Andrew's is now very busy, so church users were reminded of the need to check available time slots. It now has new doors and carpet but serious roof repairs are on hold till funds are found.
- Our many good works mean there is an increasing need for volunteers to lend a hand, in particular a new treasurer. Please see the Abbey stewardship leaflet for more information on volunteering opportunities.

The next bi-monthly PCC is planned for **11 January 2022**

All of our PCC members are shown on the Abbey noticeboard, so do take a look!

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO BOOK YOUR MEETINGS AND EVENTS AT ST ANDREW'S  
AND THE ABBEY VIA THE OFFICE AS BOTH VENUES ARE GETTING VERY BUSY!**

## ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

Revd Claire's usual day off is Friday and Revd Steve's is Saturday. They will not be available for commitments on those days but will get back to you as soon as they can.

### **SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2021 - ADVENT SUNDAY**

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)  
10:30 Morning Praise with choir (*Pershore Abbey*)  
10:30 Parish Communion (*St Mary's, Wick*)  
12:30 Burial of Ashes of the Late Prue Dowson (*St Marys, Wick*)  
13:30 Iona Gathering (***St Andrew's***)  
15:00 Advent Carol Service (*Pershore Abbey*)  
17:30 Christmas Tree Set Up (*Pershore Abbey*)

### **PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES:**

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Matins

1700 Evening Prayer

### **Mon 29 November 2021**

10:00 Jungle Jiggles (*St A Main Hall*)  
10:00 Bauble Coffee Morning (*Pershore Abbey*)  
11:45 Jungle Jiggles (*St A Main Hall*)  
13:30 Me, You & a Brew (*St A Upper Room*)  
18:30 Bell Ringing Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)  
19:00 Pershore Community Choir (*St A Main Hall*)  
19:00 Advent Compline (*Zoom*)

### **Tue 30 November 2021**

11:00 CTIP Food Bank (*St A Main Hall*)  
14:00 Bluebird Care Career Roadshow  
(*St A Main Hall*)  
14:00 SAEC (*St A Upper Room*)  
15:00 V&W (*St A Upper Room*)

### **Wed 1 December 2021**

10:30 Organ Rehearsal (*Pershore Abbey*)  
13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St A Upper Room*)  
15:00 U3A Singers (*St A Main Hall*)  
19:00 Wick PCC  
19:00 Vale Harmony (*St A Main Hall*)  
19:00 Pershore Town Choir (*Pershore Abbey*)

### **Thu 2 December 2021**

10:00 DAC Meeting (*Pershore Abbey and St A*)  
14:00 Meeting (*Vicar's Vestry*)  
14:15 intercessory Prayer (*Pershore Abbey*)  
18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

### **Fri 3 December 2021**

09:30 Babies and Toddlers (*St A Main Hall*)  
11:00 Funeral Service for the late Anita Smith  
(*Vale Crematorium*)  
13:00 CTIP Food Bank (*St A Main Hall*)  
20:00 Nicola Woodward Flute Concert  
(*St A Main Hall*)

### **Sat 4 December 2021**

11:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)  
14:00 Memorial Service for the Late June Butler  
(*St James, Birlingham*)

### **Sun 5 December 2021 - Advent 2**

08:00 BCP Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)  
10:30 Edible Nativity - ticket only (*St Andrew's*)  
10:30 Sung Eucharist with Traidcraft Stall  
(*Pershore Abbey*)  
10:30 Sunday Praise (*St Nicholas', Pinvin*)  
10:30 Morning Praise (*St James', Birlingham*)  
12:30 Private Hire (*St A Main Hall*)  
14:30 Private Service & Prep (*Pershore Abbey*)

**At the heart  
of Christmas**

