

CHURCH NEWS

Monthly Edition

PERSHORE BENEFICE

November 2021

Welcome to the November edition of the **Church News Monthly Edition** where you can find out more about our special services, events, courses and what's going on across the Benefice in the coming month. The weekly bulletin in our regular service sheet will keep you up to date with what's happening week by week.



PERSHORE ABBEY REMEMBRANCE SERVICE **1040 NOVEMBER 14**

Our Remembrance Sunday service this year is to be a ticketed event. Unfortunately, given the ongoing Covid situation we have no choice but to limit numbers. We have now agreed seating for the organisations involved in the service, and for the choir, sides people and ministers.

There are 100 tickets available for the general congregation. Please contact the Benefice Office on **01386 552071** or by email at **office@pershoreabbey.org.uk** if you would like to book. Very limited socially distanced seating will be available, so please ask at the time of booking if you need this. For those who will be unable to attend in person the service will be live streamed and available on our **You Tube** channel. *Claire*

COMING THIS MONTH . . .

- Advent
- Christmas
- Concerts and more

Read on for more details . . .

REMEMBERING THE FALLEN OF PERSHORE

SPECIAL CENTENARY VIDEO TO COMMEMORATE THE UNVEILING OF PERSHORE'S WAR MEMORIAL



Pershore's War Memorial was unveiled by the 9th Earl of Coventry and dedicated in a service held inside the Abbey on 1st November 1921 held at 1500. Amongst the guests were General Sir Francis Davies, Lt.Col A H Hudson (Chairman of the War Memorial Committee) , Cllr WT Chapman (Chairman of Holy Cross Parish Council) and Alfred Drury the Sculptor along with many ex servicemen and relatives of the Fallen.

The Service includes archived documents, photos, Centenary wreath laying and the Act of Remembrance, and parts will be set to instrumental versions of the hymns they had 100 years ago. The special service will be available on our [You Tube](#) Channel.

This moving and heartfelt video was made possible through the efforts of Trudy Burge - we are very grateful for her tireless work in remembering the fallen of Pershore.

ST ANDREW'S REMEMBERS: If you have been in Pershore and walked past St Andrew's you can't have failed to have seen our magnificent poppy weeping window and our cross dressed with a poppy shroud in memory of the fallen. If you haven't seen it yet, do take a look at this stunning tribute.

Look out for more poppy art over the Remembrance period and don't forget to visit our War Memorial Centenary display in Pershore Abbey



ALL SOULS', ADVENT, CHRISTMAS & MORE!

ALL SOULS' SERVICE 07 NOVEMBER PERSHORE ABBEY 1700: Join us as we remember loved ones at this quiet and reflective service. This service will be live-streamed on our YouTube channel ([#PershoreAbbeyCommunity](#)) for those who are unable to attend in person. You are also very welcome to come into the Abbey to light your own candle for a loved one at any time. *Claire*

ADVENT THEMED, IONA GATHERING AND SERVICE 28 NOVEMBER 1330: Come along to the **St Andrew's Centre** from **1330** for a cuppa followed by a short service 'Watching, Waiting and Praying' at **1400** on **Sunday 28 November**. There will be time before and during the service, to decorate lanterns and light candles. Some of us will then take lanterns over to the Abbey and join in the 1500 Advent Carol Service. Joining the Iona gathering and service by Zoom will be available from 1350. For a Zoom link, please contact Helen on iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk (NB. This replaces the 1700 Iona service)

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER PERSHORE ABBEY 1500: The service will include favourite advent carols and will feature the Abbey Choir singing beautiful advent anthems. This service will be subject to the Covid regulations and guidance in force at the time. 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.



ADVENT COMPLINE BY ZOOM MONDAYS IN ADVENT AT 1900: 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. Join us live at **1900** on **29 November, 6 December, 13 December** and **20 December**.

If you would like to be part of this service, get in touch with the office at office@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the Zoom invitation and a copy of the order of service. *Claire*

CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN THE PERSHORE BENEFICE: We are in the process of finalising our Christmas Services and planning how best to keep everyone safe whilst returning to a full and joyous Christmas season. Keep an eye on the weekly bulletin and website for Christmas updates, but please be aware that due to the Covid pandemic, it may be necessary to change the format of these service at short notice, including the introduction of ticketing systems to enable us to welcome you all safely, so please do check back regularly for updates.

Don't forget these regular services too . . .

- Café Church 7 Nov 0945 St Andrew's Centre
- Wholeness & Healing 14 Nov 1700 Pershore Abbey

At the heart of Christmas



'At the heart of Christmas' is the Church of England's theme for Advent and Christmas 2021.

Inspired by readings from the Gospels of Luke and John read at so many Christmas services, At the heart of Christmas is an invitation to everyone to discover – or rediscover – the good news of God's saving love as revealed in the birth of Jesus. It is also a challenge to each of us to ponder in our hearts – as Mary did – what the extraordinary events of the first Christmas might mean for us now and in the years ahead.

At the heart of Christmas is a deliberately simple and open theme – one that the national church hopes can be used by local churches to invite their communities to share in celebrating the good news of Christmas in a whole variety of ways.

As in previous years, there will be a range of digital and print content available, including:

REFLECTIONS: At the heart of Christmas will consist of 12 Stories and Meditations from Justin Welby, Stephen Cottrell and guests where they will share personal stories exploring themes close to the heart of Christmas.

Starting on Christmas Eve and continuing daily (Monday to Saturday) until the Epiphany (6 January), At the Heart of Christmas: 12 Days of stories and meditations for Christmas will help you make space for that exploration. On each of the twelve days, a different contributor will share something that lies close to the heart of Christmas for them, bringing the theme to life through a mixture of personal story, Bible reading, reflection and questions to ponder.

If you would like to order one of the **Reflection Booklets**, please contact the office@pershoreabbey.org.uk as we will have a limited stock available from the middle of December priced at **£1.00**.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND NATIONAL ONLINE SERVICES FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS: In collaboration with a range of Christian charities and organisations, the C of E will produce online services for the Sundays of Advent and Christmas. They will all be broadcast on the C of E YouTube channel and Facebook page.

You can find more information on this year's theme from the Church of England Website: [**At the Heart of Christmas**](#)

PERSHORE ABBEY NEWS

MORNING PRAISE (SUNDAY PRAISE) CORRECTION: Unfortunately the time of our Morning Praise services is wrong in Abbey Link.

Until Christmas, at the earliest, our half hour Morning Praise (Sunday Praise) service will be held at **1030 in the Abbey. (Not 0930 as pre-Covid)**

We will be reviewing this in the New Year but for the time being please do join us for this service at it's new time, when you can.

PRIVACY IN LIVE STREAMING: We have heard that there is some concern that people may be pictured in the Live Streaming of our services. This is not the case. We have taken steps to ensure that individuals (other than those taking part in the services, of course) will not be visible during the streaming. For example, when Communion is being distributed, we switch to a slide show of images or a photo of a feature in the Abbey. The only people who may be seen, at certain points in the service, are in the front row of pews, but there are notices indicating this is the case. Also, if you have any concerns you can ask one of our wonderful sides people who will seat you somewhere that you are comfortable.

HEALING PRAYERS AT PERSHORE ABBEY: As well as our regular Wholeness and Healing Service on the Second Sunday of the month, the 1030 Sunday Eucharist on the Third Sunday of the month will also offer the opportunity to receive the ministry of healing prayers, with two of the Wholeness & Healing team in the St John Chapel, after communion has been received.



FROM THE DIOCESE

REVD CLAIRE LORDING ELECTED TO THE GENERAL SYNOD: We are pleased to share with you the news that Claire has been elected as one of the new representatives from the Diocese of Worcester to the General Synod for the next five years. She joins Nikki Groarke and Fraser Oates in the House of Clergy, along with three representatives in the House of Laity. We join with the rest of the Diocese in congratulating the successful candidates, and in wishing them well as they represent us at the General Synod.

BISHOP MARTIN'S PILGRIMAGE: Bishop Martin is making a Pilgrimage of Prayer & Hope to the deaneries in the diocese, with the hope of visiting as many parish groups as possible. As part of this pilgrimage Bishop Martin will be presiding at a Eucharist for the whole deanery which will be on **Wednesday 17 November, 1900** at **All Saints, Evesham**. Everybody is very welcome to join this special service. If you are able to offer a space in your car, or would like a lift to the service, please contact office@pershoreabbey.org.uk and we will try to organise car-sharing. *Claire*

ST ANDREW'S UPDATE

WHY THE SCAFFOLDING AT ST ANDREW'S ? 2021 has seen a lot of work in St Andrew's - some has been funded from the Business grants we received from Wychavon to help get our feet back on the ground; others by fundraising by the Trustees; and some from funding from a Government Culture Fund to help keep our Heritage buildings up to scratch. We thank the people who gave us the grants and our users as these works have progressed - they have had to adapt how they work several times.

The last big chunk of work is to repair the stonework by the back door. This was always going to be challenging - getting the needed permissions, finding the skilled tradesmen and the materials. When the stonemasons started they found the existing stonework was in worse condition than expected. So, work had to stop while they sourced more stone. The good news is that the stone has now been obtained and work will start again soon with completion by December. We are sorry for the inconvenience this is causing but it will be worth it in the end as we again repair this historic building for the future.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN PERSHORE FOODBANK

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS HAMPERS: As many of our local families and members of our community continue to be seriously challenged by the effects of the Coronavirus Pandemic, Pershore Foodbank are aiming to give them all some extra support once again this Christmas with specially prepared seasonal hampers.

Our Christmas message this year is 'At the Heart of Christmas'. What better way to ensure that those in need can truly enjoy all of those extra things which make up their Christmas celebrations, than by donating to Pershore Foodbank?

Although they have plenty of Christmas Puddings (and don't need any more!), they would very much welcome donations of the following items (*unfortunately they can't accept donations of fresh, chilled or frozen items*):

- **Christmas Cakes**
- **Sweets and Chocolates for children and adults**
- **Biscuits**
- **Tinned Ham, Salmon or Chicken**
- **Chocolate Money**
- **Mince Pies**



Pershore
foodbank

Donations can be taken to the St Andrew's Centre during Foodbank sessions (Tues 1100-1300 and Fri 1300-1500) or left at the back of the Abbey.

CITIZENS ADVICE RETURNS TO FOODBANK: We are pleased to announce that from now to Friday December 17, face to face sessions with Citizens Advice will once again be available at Friday Foodbank sessions, 1300-1500.



Persnore Abbey
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross

VACANCY ABBAY TREASURER

We are looking for a volunteer to be Treasurer for the Abbey and the St Andrew's Centre.

Ideally you will be a qualified accountant or someone with wide accounting experience and an understanding of the charity sector.

We have an excellent Team of paid staff and volunteers to help with this role.

We are a church that takes Safeguarding very seriously and will adhere to the Safer Recruitment Policy for this appointment.

Closing date for applications: 7 November 2021

An application pack is available from:

☎ 01386 552071 (please leave your name & contact details)

✉ office@persnoreabbey.org.uk

An application pack may also be collected from the Benefice Office

Persnore Abbey and Benefice Office
11 Broad Street
Persnore
Worcestershire
WR10 1BB

Facebook: [#persnoreabbeycom](https://www.facebook.com/persnoreabbeycom) YouTube: [Persnore Abbey Community](https://www.youtube.com/PersnoreAbbeyCommunity)

Website: www.persnoreabbey.org.uk

APPLICATIONS ARE STILL BEING ACCEPTED FOR A NEW TREASURER FOR PERSHORE ABBEY: We have been very fortunate in recent years to benefit from the talents and time that Helen Archer-Smith has given to Persnore Abbey in the role of Treasurer

Helen is now stepping down from this role to meet new challenges. We are looking for a volunteer who can take on the mantle and continue to move the Abbey's finances forward in this rewarding and challenging role.

We thank Helen for the amazing job that she has done in the last few years and wish her all future success.

More information on the role is available from office@persnoreabbey.org.uk or call **01386 552071**.

PERSHORE ABBEY STEWARDSHIP: Thank you to all of those who attended our Stewardship Tea on Sunday 3 October. It was a lovely event and a great opportunity to explore more about Stewardship at Persnore Abbey.

There is an additional leaflet available in church this week, which we hope you will be able to look at and complete to help us further with this important aspect of our

You can set up your regular giving by phoning **0333 002 1271**

or scan the QR code to set up a regular gift online at www.parishgiving.org.uk/persnore-abbey-worcester

PGS Parish Name: **Persnore Abbey**

PGS Parish Number: **420642094**



GIVE TO YOUR LOCAL PARISH

QUICKLY AND EASILY ONLINE



PERSHORE ABBEY
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross

We invite all our regular worshippers to contribute regularly to help the Abbey not only to survive but to flourish and plan confidently for the future.

Do follow this link to set up and manage your regular giving online.

Thank You, Claire and the Churchwardens

CALL 01386 552071 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Just like with telephone and paper donations, by choosing to give online, you can:



Give monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit



Increase your gift annually in line with inflation



Enhance your gift with an optional 25% Gift Aid



Give anonymously



Donate securely

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is an established service for managing Direct Debit donations, providing a simple and secure way for churches to receive regular donations to fund their mission and ministry.



Website: www.parishgiving.org.uk
Email: info@parishgiving.org.uk | Tel: 0333 002 1260

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

ABBAY LINK DISTRIBUTOR ROLES: in order to continue the work of the Abbey Link magazine, we are urgently seeking people to take on the vital role of distributor on a quarterly basis.

The role supports the link between publication and delivery. The distributor collects a large batch of magazines and divides them into bundles for roads in their patch. The distributor then takes the bundles to the homes of the deliverers for them to do their job. The person builds links with their deliverers and makes sure that they are supported. If you feel that you could offer to help with this please contact the office on office@persshoreabbey.org.uk

ABBAY FLOODLIGHTING: Eddie Howell is retiring from his involvement with the Abbey Floodlighting after a number of years of dedicated commitment. His role is to update the Book of Commemoration, renewing existing entries if any wording has changed, or creating pages with new entries. The method is all saved on a memory stick and can mostly be done at home, coming into the Abbey to replace pages in the Book of Commemoration as needed. Angela Gerrard keeps the register, adding new donors and sending out reminders when renewals are due, please speak with her if this is something you feel able to take on. **Find out more about the Floodlight Scheme here: [Abbey Floodlight Scheme](#)**

ECO CHURCH

DOUGHNUT ECONOMICS - WHAT'S THAT? A Talk on **Monday 8 November 1945** by Zoom with local teacher and councillor, Dan Boatright, who will give an explanation of this new way of thinking and planning that puts social and environmental well-being at its core rather than GDP. If you would like the Zoom link for Doughnut Economics, please contact Helen at ecochurch@persshoreabbey.org.uk



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

PERSHORE ABBEY TRAIDCRAFT DATES

- 07 NOVEMBER
- 21 NOVEMBER
- 05 DECEMBER
- 19 DECEMBER

We look forward to seeing you!

LITTER PICK SATURDAY 27th NOVEMBER

10:00 - 10:45: Meet in front of the Abbey for a quick spruce up of Abbey Park. Please bring your own gardening type gloves and dress for the weather. Other equipment will be provided. For further information please speak to David Oldham or email office@persshoreabbey.org.uk



OTHER NEWS

PERSHORE ABBEY LIT UP TO MARK WORLD PANCREATIC CANCER DAY: On 18 November the Abbey will be lit to mark World Pancreatic Cancer Day, a global campaign to raise awareness about the symptoms and risks of the disease, and the urgent need for earlier detection. Find out more here: www.pancreaticcancer.org.uk/get-involved

CHRISTMAS HAS ARRIVED AT THE ABBEY BOOKSTALL!: We now have a range of our very own Pershore Abbey Christmas Cards available to buy on the Abbey Bookstall. The cards, which were printed specially for us, feature a wonderful photograph taken by Andy Burge. Pop along to the Abbey Bookstall to buy your pack now!

SHOEBOX SUNDAY & RELAUNCHING JUNIOR CHURCH: On **Sunday 21 November**, we are relaunching our Junior Church by holding our annual Shoebox Sunday, all children and young people are very welcome to come along at **1030** in **St Andrew's** to help pack the boxes. We would be very grateful for donations of empty **shoe boxes** and the following items to help fill them - we particularly need **soaps, flannels, toothbrushes, toothpaste, rubbers, pencil sharpeners, tennis balls, small soft teddies, yoyos, and boy's toys. Sweets and chocolates** with a long sell by date may also be included. Please place items in the box at the back of the church during service times. Again, this year we will be supporting Teams4U, it costs a minimum of £2.50 to send each shoe box; if you prefer to contribute to this it would be greatly appreciated. Please give any monetary gifts in an envelope to Suzanne Clarke. *Thank you, Suzanne.*

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.*

ABBAY 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.*

EDIBLE NATIVITY SUNDAY 5 DECEMBER 1030-1145 ST. ANDREW'S CENTRE: This year 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 28 November by emailing office@pershoreabbey.org.uk or call our answerphone service on 01386 552071. Drop off your child by 1030 at St. Andrew's and collect them from the Abbey at 1145 or stay with your child if younger.

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 06

PERSHORE U3A COFFEE MORNING: ST ANDREW'S CENTRE AT 1000

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 18

PERSHORE ABBEY LIT UP FOR WORLD PANCREATIC CANCER DAY

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 21

PERSHORE ABBEY JUNIOR CHURCH SHOEBOX SUNDAY: ST ANDREW'S CENTRE AT 1030

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 27

PERSHORE ABBEY LITTER PICK: PERSHORE ABBEY AT 1000

MONDAY NOVEMBER 29

BAUBLE COFFEE MORNING: PERSHORE ABBEY AT 1000

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 30

BLUEBIRD CARE CAREER ROADSHOW: ST ANDREW'S CENTRE AT 1400

FRIDAY DECEMBER 03

NICOLA WOODWARD FLUTES CANDLE LIGHT CONCERT: ST ANDREW'S CENTRE AT 2000

SUNDAY DECEMBER 05

EDIBLE NATIVITY: ST ANDREW'S CENTRE 1030 -1145 **BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

Email office@pershoreabbey.org.uk by 28 November to book your place as numbers are limited

PERSHORE ABBEY CONCERTS AUTUMN/WINTER 2021

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 06 1930

BAROQUE SINGERS OF THE ELGAR SCHOOL OF MUSIC, WORCESTER

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 13 1430

WORCESTER PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 20 1930

PERSHORE CHORAL

SATURDAY DECEMBER 10 & 11 1900

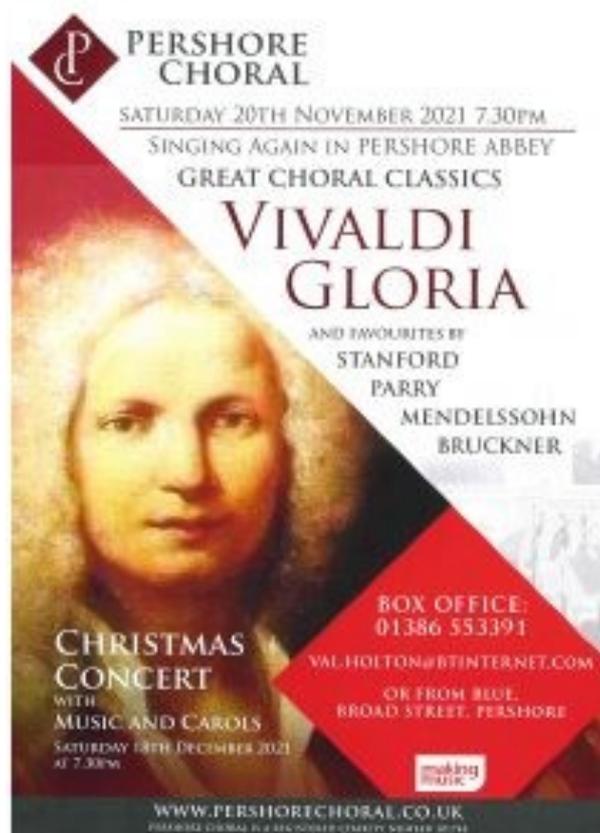
WORCESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR

SATURDAY DECEMBER 18 1930

PERSHORE CHORAL

For full details or ticket and booking information, please visit our website

www.pershoreabbey.org.uk/service-events/#events



PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE ONLINE

The Pershore Abbey 1030 service will be live-streamed every week and available to view on our YouTube Channel. We will continue to provide a copy of the online service sheet with a weekly bulletin update to aid your worship at home.

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

- 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.

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

Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk

PERSHORE BENEFICE SERVICES

NOVEMBER 2021

Details of the current planned public worship services within 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 shielding or will not feel able to attend. A digital version of our service sheet is available to assist those who wish to worship at home and the 1030 Abbey service will be live-streamed every week.

We ask that those attending public services, continue to wear masks when entering, leaving and moving about our churches. Once seated masks can be removed at your discretion. You may now join in with our hymns, but we do ask that you wear a mask and sing quietly.

PERSHORE ABBEY

SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER

0800 BCP Eucharist

0945 Café Church

1030 Eucharist

1700 All Souls' Service

SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER

Remembrance Sunday

0800 Eucharist

1040 Remembrance Service (**ticket only**)

1700 Wholeness & Healing

SUNDAY 21 NOVEMBER

1030 Eucharist with choir
(healing prayer ministry will be available)

SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER

Advent Sunday

0800 Eucharist

1030 Morning Praise with choir

1330 Iona Gathering

1500 Advent Carol Service

ST MARY'S, WICK

SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER

1500 Remembrance Service

SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER

1030 Parish Communion

ST NICHOLAS', PINVIN

SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER

1030 Holy Communion

SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER

1030 Remembrance Service

SUNDAY 21 NOVEMBER

1030 Sunday Praise

ST JAMES', BIRLINGHAM

SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER

1030 Morning Praise

SUNDAY 21 NOVEMBER

1030 Holy Communion