



PERSHORE BENEFICE
The Abbey Church of the Holy Cross with
St Nicholas' Pinvin, St James' Birlingham & St Mary's Wick
Sunday, 30 March 2025
MOTHERING SUNDAY

SERVICE SHEET, BULLETIN & DIARY

Welcome to our All Age Mothering Sunday Service
at Pershore Abbey



The 1030 Service from the Abbey will be livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube channel. Visit www.youtube.com and search for [Persnore Abbey Community](#)
Please use this sheet in conjunction with the service booklet provided. Please take this sheet home with you and recycle when you have finished with it. If you have any queries or concerns please do speak to a sidesperson or churchwarden.

THE COLLECT

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Exodus 2.1-10

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?'

Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because,' she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

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

THE GOSPEL

John 19.25b-27

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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



HYMN SHEET

FIRST HYMN

A&M 138

ELLACOMBE

1 Our Father God in heaven
on whom our world depends,
to you let praise be given
for families and friends;
for parents, sisters, brothers,
a home where love belongs,
but on this day for mothers
we bring our thankful songs.

2 What wealth of God's bestowing
for all the world to share!
what strength of heart outgoing
to children everywhere!
Our deepest joys and sorrows
a mother's path must trace,
and earth's unknown tomorrows
are held in her embrace.

3 How well we know the story
that tells of Jesus' birth,
the Lord of heaven's glory
become a child of earth;
a helpless infant sleeping,
yet King of realms above,
to find in Mary's keeping
the warmth of human love.

4 Our Father God in heaven,
to you we lift our prayer,
that every child be given
such tenderness and care,
where life is all for others,
where love your love displays:
for God's good gift of mothers
let earth unite in praise!

[Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)]

GRADUAL HYMN

A&M 137

LOVE DIVINE

1 God of Eve and God of Mary,
God of love and mother earth,
Thank you for the ones who with us
Shared their life and gave us birth.

2 As you came to earth in Jesus,
So you come to us today;
You are present in the caring
That prepares us for life's way.

3 Thank you, that the Church, our Mother,
Gives us bread and fills our cup,
And the comfort of the Spirit
Warms our hearts and lifts us up.

4 Thank you for belonging, shelter,
Bonds of friendship, ties of blood,
And for those who have no children,
Yet are parents under God.

5 God of Eve and God of Mary,
Christ our brother, human son,
Spirit, caring like a mother,
Take our love and make us one.

[Fred Khan (1929-2009)]

1 For the beauty of the earth,
 for the beauty of the skies,
 for the love which from our birth
 over and around us lies,

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
 this our sacrifice of praise.*

2 For the beauty of each hour
 of the day and of the night,
 hill and vale and tree and flower,
 sun and moon and stars of light:

3 For the joy of human love,
 brother, sister, parent, child,
 friends on earth, and friends above,
 pleasures pure and undefiled:

4 For each perfect gift of thine,
 to our race so freely given,
 graces human and divine,
 flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

5 For thy church which evermore
 lifteth holy hands above,
 offering up on every shore
 her pure sacrifice of love,

[Folliott Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917)]

COMMUNION MOTET**View me Lord—Richard Lloyd**

Sung by the Pershore Abbey Choir

*1. View me, Lord, a work of thine;
 Shall I then lie drowned in night?
 Might thy grace in me but shine,
 I should seem made all of light.*

*2. Cleanse me, Lord, that I may kneel
 At thine altar, pure and white;
 They that once thy mercies feel,
 Gaze no more on earths delight.*

*3. Worldly joys, like shadows, fade
 When the heavenly light appears;
 But the covenants thou hast made,
 Endless, know nor days nor years.*

*4. In thy word, Lord, is my trust,
 To thy mercies fast I fly.
 Though I am but clay and dust,
 Yet thy grace can lift me high.*

COMMUNION HYMN**A&M 136****BUNESSAN**

1. Fathers and mothers,
 sisters and brothers,
 all those who love us,
 for whom we care:
 help and befriend them,
 keep and defend them,
 Jesus our Saviour,
 this is our prayer.

Cont'd

2. And for those others,
fathers and mothers,
children who hunger,
they must be fed:
we would be caring,
readily sharing,
one with another
our daily bread.

3. Sisters and brothers,
fathers and mothers,
we who together
offer our praise:
hear our thanksgiving,
God ever living,
may we walk with you
all of our days.

[Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)]

FINAL HYMN

A&M 656

He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole wide world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got you and me, brother, in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got you and me, sister, in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got the little tiny baby in his hand.
He's got the little tiny baby in his hand.
He's got the little tiny baby in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got everybody here in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.
He's got the whole wide world in his hand.
He's got the whole world in his hand.

[African-American traditional song,
arr. Paul Leddington Wright, b. 1951]

Organ Voluntary: Toccata in b minor—Eugene Gigout
The congregation are invited to remain seated and listen to the voluntary

Pershore Abbey CCLI No. 46441

PERSHORE ABBEY & BENEFICE BULLETIN & DIARY

30 MARCH 2025

As a Kingdom People we are churches that seek to:

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

Vicar: The Revd Canon Claire Lording

Email: vicar@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Assistant Curate: The Revd Jayne Parker

Email: curate@pershoreabbey.org.uk

Abbey Wardens: Mrs Sam Andrews 07443904635 Mr Martin Fowler (01386) 552243

The Benefice Office of Pershore with Pinvin, Wick & Birlingham

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

BENEFICE OFFICE OPENING HOURS

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 1100 - 1200 ONLY (excluding Bank Holidays)

The office staff will also be available to answer enquiries by phone or email on
weekday mornings from **0930 –1300**

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

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE MIDST OF CONFLICT TODAY, PRAYING
ESPECIALLY FOR ALL PEOPLES OF THE HOLY LAND. WE PRAY FOR LASTING PEACE.**

We pray for those whose weddings, blessings and baptisms are taking place and for all
those who are making new plans to celebrate these special life events.

We pray for all those welcoming new life into their families.

We pray for those in need.

We pray for those who have died and for their families and friends.

We pray for those whose anniversary of death occurs in the coming week.

FEBRUARY - UPDATE FROM CLAIRE: Thank you all for your continued prayers and
good wishes. I have now started my post-surgery chemotherapy and am grateful that
side effects seem to be minimal at the moment. I have had confirmation that my
treatment should be finished by the end of June. Please continue to pray for me, for
all being treated for cancer and all health professionals. *Claire*

PERSHORE BENEFICE BULLETIN NOTICES

ORGAN RECITAL 30 MARCH 1400-1500: Pershore Abbey hosts the Bath Abbey connection! Our Director of Music, James MacDowall-Scott and Gavin Phelps have worked at Bath Abbey as organists on the world famous Klais organ. It is a pleasure to welcome Gavin, a former Head Chorister at Bath Abbey for his debut at Pershore on the Ruffatti Organ. Please join us 1400-1500 for some superb music from James and Gavin.

PREPARATION OF THE ABBEY'S NEW ELECTORAL ROLL: The Abbey's Electoral Roll has to be completely **renewed** every six years. If you want to be on the Roll you must sign up **now**, even if you have been on the Roll before. Forms will be available on the Abbey website and in the Abbey. You can also contact Bill Newman who is the Abbey's Electoral Roll officer on 01386 640497.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOLY WEEK SERVICES: Sign up sheets will be at the back of the Abbey for those who would like to have their feet washed on Maundy Thursday and those who would like to read at the service of Tenebrae. There will also be a rota for those who would like to keep the watch until midnight. Those who would like to be involved in the dramatised reading of the Passion on Good Friday can also sign up. Thank you in advance to all who will volunteer. *Claire*



EARTH HOUR: The Abbey switched off its tower illumination 2030-2130 for Earth Hour Saturday 22 March. A nearby school was specially marking Earth Hour with awareness and activities. Claire encouraged us on **Pershore Abbey Vlog** to give an hour of our time to cherish our earth. Two groups from the congregation went for night walks, one finding a X50 bus deciding what to do after missing its turning!

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY MARATHON RUN: My grandson Oliver is keenly running in the London Marathon on April 27. He has a charity place and is sponsored by the CofE Children's Society which supports children in difficulty and troubled teenagers. Ollie is seeking to raise £2000 and would be grateful for any help. If you are able to donate his fund raising his page is: <https://2025tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/oliver-taylor> or cheques can be given to me at church. Thank you so much. *Margaret Goodrich*

TOWN COUNCIL CIVIC SERVICE 06 APRIL 1600 AT PERSHORE ABBEY: The Town Council Civic Service is an opportunity for the town to gather to give thanks and pray for the work of the Mayor and Town Council. Please come and support Pershore Mayor and all those who serve our town. There will be no Evensong on this Sunday.

EASTER LILY SUNDAY AT THE ABBEY: At services on 6 April it will be possible for people to make a donation towards the Easter lilies that will be used to decorate the Abbey from Easter Day. Mary Cope, a member of the Abbey Flower Guild, will be on hand to write down any names of loved ones that you may wish to be remembered as you give your donation. Donating Easter lilies in memory of a loved one is a beautiful tradition and reflects our hope and joy in the resurrection for us all. *Claire*



PLEASE SEE OUR APRIL BULLETIN FOR EASTER SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

ABBEY & BENEFICE DIARY

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

Sunday 30 March - Lent 4 / Mothering Sunday

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 All Age Eucharist with *LIVESTREAM* (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Mothering Sunday Morning Praise (*St Mary's, Wick*)

14:00 Organ Recital (*Pershore Abbey*)

PERSHORE ABBEY DAILY OFFICES

0800 Silent Prayer

0830 Morning Prayer

1700 Evening Prayer

Monday 31 March

10:30 Birlingham PCC (*Birlingham*)

12:00 Monks' Day (*Pershore Abbey*)

13:15 Art & Craft for Wellbeing (*St Andrew's Main*)

18:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)

19:00 Pershore Community Choir
(*St Andrew's Main*)

19:00 Compline on Zoom (*Zoom*)

19:30 Bell Ringing (*St Andrew's*)

Tuesday 01 April

09:30 Arrival of Foodbank Staff (*St Andrew's Main*)

11:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)

14:00 Fabric Committee Meeting
(*St Andrew's Upper*)

Wednesday 02 April

10:00 Midweek Holy Communion (*Pershore Abbey*)

11:00 Pershore Plus Volunteer Centre Lunch
Club (*St Andrew's Main*)

12:00 Organ Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

15:45 V&W (*Vicar's Vestry*)

19:00 Vale Harmony (*St Andrew's Main*)

19:30 Lent Talks (*Pershore Library*)

Thursday 03 April

09:45 i-Sing Choir Rehearsal (*St Andrew's Main*)

11:00 Eucharist (*Ganderton Court*)

11:00 Funeral Service for the late Mary Beard
(*Pershore Abbey*)

12:00 Lenten Lunches (*Pershore Baptist Church*)

14:00 Funeral for the late Robert Strapps
(*Pershore Abbey*)

Friday 04 April

ALL DAY – Organ Tuning (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:30 Babies & Toddlers (*St Andrew's Main*)

13:00 CTiP Foodbank (*St Andrew's Main*)

18:00 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

19:30 Bells - Surprise Major Practice
(*St Andrew's*)

Saturday 05 April

09:30 Marriage Preparation (*St Andrew's Main*)

15:00 Interment of Ashes for the late
Martin Coombs (*Pershore Abbey*)

Sunday 06 April - Lent 5 / Passion Sunday

08:00 Eucharist (*Pershore Abbey*)

09:15 Choir Practice (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Sung Eucharist with Fairtrade Stall and
with *LIVESTREAM* (*Pershore Abbey*)

10:30 Holy Communion (*St Nicholas, Pinvin*)

14:30 Service of Holy Baptism (*Pershore Abbey*)

16:00 Pershore Civic Service (*Pershore Abbey*)

