*The Parish Churches of St. Peter & St. Paul, Wincanton*

*and St. Michael, Pen Selwood*

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Church website: [www.wincantonparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.wincantonparishchurch.co.uk)

September 20th 2020 15th Sunday after Trinity

Dear Friends,

In the last week, the Government has tightened restrictions via the ‘Rule of Six’ measures to combat Covid-19. Cases are also on the increase with the ‘R’ value over 1. As far as I am aware that has not altered our ability to provide Sunday worship, open the church for private prayer, funerals, and conduct our annual meetings and subsequent PCCs. I am expecting some updates to the guidance in the next few days and will keep you posted.

Mostly in October and November, we have decided to continue with doing one main act of worship on a Sunday in line with our rather uncertain times. We are currently looking at how to do some of the things, which naturally fall at this time:-

* Tiny Church has gone online this week for the first time as we cannot meet in person at the moment – do share this link with anyone who you know who might enjoy it! <https://youtu.be/7o5_FHbrxC4>
* Both churches will be supporting the Lord’s larder at our marking of Harvest this year (27th September in St Michael’s and 4th October in St Peter and St Paul’s) – see further details later in this newsletter.
* We are holding our annual meeting for St Peter and St Paul on Wednesday 7th October at 6pm in Church and for St Michael’s on Sunday 25th October after the 10am Service in Charles’s barn. Please put these dates in your diary. Paperwork will be circulated before the meetings, and questions will need to be submitted at least 3 days before each meeting.
* We are planning to do our annual commemoration for those who have died (All Souls/Commemoration of the departed). I usually call this a “Remembering in Hope” Service – as that encapsulates what it is about. There will be more information soon on how to have a loved one remembered. It has

been a difficult choice but in view of the numbers that usually attend (which we cannot accommodate currently) – this will be undertaken online and will enable the service to be shared with loved ones and family members near and far – aiming to publish the service video on November 1st.

Our worship this week continues to reflect on the Season of Creation – and I conclude with the prayer for God’s creation for your personal use.

*Lord of life and giver of hope, we pledge ourselves to care for creation, to reduce our waste and to live sustainably and to value the rich diversity of life. May your wisdom guide us that life in all its forms may flourish, and we may be faithful in voicing creation’s praise. May the commitment we made this day be matched by our faithful living. Amen*

I am very grateful for your prayers and understanding as we continue to navigate these uncertain times. With love in Christ, Alison

PS: When coming to public worship, please bring a small pot of hand sanitiser if you plan to receive communion.

**Contact Details for Rev Alison Way -** Please note my contact details are:

Address: The Parish Office; 38 High Street, Wincanton, BA9 9JF

Landline: 01963 33151, Work mobile: 07515 958988

Email: rector@wincantonparishchurch.co.uk, Twitter: @revalisonway

Facebook Group: Wincanton and Pen Selwood CofE Churches

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**Readings for 20th September: Philippians 1: 21-end Matthew 20: 1-16**

**Readings for 27th September: Revelation 12: 7-12 John 1: 47-end**

#### Church Diary

**Sun 20th Sept 10am Wincanton Church open for public worship**

**Sun 20th Sept 10am-3pm Pen Selwood Church open for private prayer**

**Wed 23rd Sept 2pm-4pm Wincanton Church open for private prayer**

**Sun 27th Sept 10am Pen Selwood Church St Michael’s Day and**

**Harvest Public Worship Service**

**Sun 27th Sept 9am-11am Wincanton Church open for private prayer**

#### Church Notices

**St Peter and St Paul Harvest** - Our Harvest Festival service will take place on  **4th October** at **10am**. Donations of non-perishable food items are welcome (no fresh produce). All donations will be donated to the Lord's Larder, which will be collected and delivered, kindly, by Mike White. The box for donations has been

placed on the table near to the north door. Donations can be placed in this box when the church is open for private prayer or services. These donations will not be moved before a 72 hour period has lapsed. The Lord’s Larder have particularly requested the following items: tinned soup, tinned macaroni cheese, tins of baked beans & sausage, confectionary, toilet rolls, shampoo. **Thank you.**

**St Michael’s Day and St Michael’s Harvest –** Our Harvest Festival service will take place next Sunday on **27th September** at **10am**. We will be collecting produce for the Lord’s larder – So please bring suitable non-perishable items as listed above. Sadly we cannot collect fresh produce this year. **Thank you.**

**Advent Calendars** - I am again taking orders for the Real Advent Calendar.   The calendars contain fairtrade, palm oil free chocolate for each day, a book of the Christmas story and each window shows a scene of the Christmas story.   They are priced at £3.99 each.  Please let me know if you would like to order one or more.  **Penny**.

**Bibles for the School** - I was able to deliver the bibles bought by Churches Together to the school during the summer holidays.   Due to the generosity of everyone, I am also able to send a cheque for £50 which the school will use for resources for RE teaching.  The headteacher has asked me to pass on his thanks to everyone who contributed to this, he is amazed at the scale of the generosity.  The children are already enjoying using the bibles.   Thank you. **Penny.**

**Prayer List –** If you would like to be added to our Prayer List, or feel a friend or relative should be on our Prayer List, please do let me know. If you are wanting someone else to be prayed for you must have their permission. Anybody is welcome to be included in our prayers at any time, and I will also pray for you in

my daily prayers. Please use the contact details in this newsletter to contact me. **Alison.**

 **Prayer Diary**

**From today’s readings:** “Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents.”

**Prayer Chain:** If you would like immediate prayers for yourself or someone you know please contact one of the following (requests passed in confidence): Penny Ashton 33990 or Judy Chiplen 33834. If you wish to join the prayer chain, contact Judy 33834. If you wish to be added to our Prayer List, please contact Rev Alison Way 33151.

**Please continue to pray for** those of our fellowship and friends whoare ill or recovering from operations: Derek Ayers, June and Steve Beech, Margaret Brown (Gwen Evans’ Daughter), Irene Rix (Sue Hall’s Mum), Ann and Bryan Phillips, Sam (Gill Oaten’s Great Great Nephew), Joyce Bentley, Mike Gray, Sue Cox, Brenda Piper, Bishop Peter and Jane Hancock.

**Please remember** the long-term sick, the housebound & their carers.

**Please pray for those who grieve, and for the departed:** Jeffrey Lee,

Beryl Griffin, David Doe, Jacqueline Myatt.

We pray for Wincanton Health Centre, for the staff in their work pressures.

*Parish Office: 38 High Street, Wincanton BA9 9JF 01963 824503*

*Any items, for inclusion the Newsletter, to Rachel by midday on Wednesday.*

 *Email:* *office@wincantonparishchurch.co.uk*