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

*and St. Michael, Pen Selwood*

**

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

November 8th 2020 Remembrance Sunday

Dear Friends,

As I write this on Saturday morning, I am sure you are aware that the Government restrictions in this second lockdown include cessation of public worship. Thankfully this time, we are in a position to allow for times of private prayer and funerals, and both churches will be open for private prayer this Sunday – In Wincanton between 10:15 and 12noon and in Pen Selwood between 10 and 3pm. Here is the link to what is currently available to guide us from the Government:-

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november?priority-taxon=774cee22-d896-44c1-a611-e3109cce8eae#weddings-civil-partnerships-religious-services-and-funerals>

With this newsletter are some resources to help mark Remembrance Sunday. There are prayer resources for marking Remembrance Sunday on our doorsteps, which we hope you will find helpful. There are separate Act of Remembrance service videos for both Wincanton and Pen Selwood. There is a longer Remembrance service video with music and a reflection – this has a Wincanton flavour as St Peter and St Paul have the necessary streaming license to cover this.

The Archbishop has asked us to make prayer for our nation a focus in this month, and specifically to pray at 6pm every day. Here is a link to the call of prayer for the nation <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/call-prayer-nation>, and there is a prayer resource leaflet attached with this e-mail.

With love in Christ, Alison

**PS:** We hope there will be very limited outside Acts of Remembrance at the war memorials in both Wincanton and Pen Selwood on Sunday 8th November at 10:50am approx. With a heavy heart, we ask you please to be mindful of the Government regulations concerning attendance and observation.

[*https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-preparations-for-remembrance-sunday/local-authority-preparations-for-remembrance-sunday#who-can-attend-a-remembrance-sunday-event*](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-preparations-for-remembrance-sunday/local-authority-preparations-for-remembrance-sunday#who-can-attend-a-remembrance-sunday-event)

**A prayer for these uncertain times**

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

**A prayer for Remembrance**

O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those people who have been injured or who have died in service. As we honour their courage and cherish their memory, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life, peace and hope, now and for ever. Amen

*(Both prayers are from the Church of England website)*

**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

My usual day off each week is THURSDAY.

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*I gather the daily hope line – now includes an option for light chair based exercises…. Alison.*

**Readings for 8th November: 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end Matthew 25: 1-13**

**Readings for 15th November: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 Matthew 25: 14-30**

**The Parish Office** has had to close due to the continued restrictions placed on employers, due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Rachel is working from home, during normal office hours: **Tuesday, Thursday & Friday mornings**

**9:15am – 1:15pm.** You can contact Rachel on 01963 824503 or via email at: office@wincantonparishchurch.co.uk business will continue as normal.

**Good Samaritan Telephone Calls –** As we approach another period of lockdown, would you like a regular wellbeing telephone call from your church? Many of you found these calls invaluable during the last lockdown, and we are offering this service again. Please contact me and let me know if you would like to be included in our weekly catch up telephone calls. **Alison.**

#### Church Diary *(provisional depending on further guidance)*

**Sun 8th Nov 10:15am–12:00 Wincanton Church open for private prayer**

**Sun 8th Nov 10am - 3pm Pen Selwood Church open for private prayer**

**Wed 11th Nov 12pm - 2pm Wincanton Church open for private prayer**

**Sun 15th Nov 9am - 11am Wincanton Church open for private prayer**

**Sun 15th Nov 10am - 3pm Pen Selwood Church open for private prayer**

#### Church Notices

**Advent Calendars –** I am again taking orders for the Real Advent Calendar. They 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. Priced at £3.99 each, please let me know if you would like to order one more. Closing date for orders is **November 8th**. **Penny.**

**Children's Society boxes -** It's time to open the Children's Society boxes. Please bring your box to church when there is a service, or contact me for collection. Thank you.  **Judy** – 33834.

The Churches Together **Course for Advent** is the York Courses Living in Hope.  Please contact myself, or Rachel in the Parish Office, if you require further details. You will notice that this year's course will be run on Zoom and if, as seems possible, we have to accept further restrictions on meeting due to Covid 19, we may be relying on Zoom more and more. If you use email you may be able to access Zoom, and I am happy to help anyone with the basics so that they can join in more.  Please just ask.  **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:** “But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.”

**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, Nicky King, Ron Lawrence, 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:** David Doe,

Jacqueline Myatt, Sidney Bundy.

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

**Food for thought and prayer** - We will be looking for another churchwarden to accompany Sue, next April for St Peter and St Paul. Please give this your consideration and pray.

*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*