*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)

October 25th 2020 Bible Sunday

Dear Friends,

On Sunday we mark Bible Sunday, and give thanks for our freedom to ‘read, mark, learn and inwardly digest’ the scriptures. Our sacred texts have a way of speaking to us that is fresh and Spirit inspired for each day. All we need to do is dip into them to find refreshment for our Christian journeys.

Our annual meeting for St Michael’s Church Pen Selwood is on Sunday 25th October after the 10am Service in Church (at 10:45 approx). Paperwork has been circulated, and it would be helpful if questions and items of any other business are submitted ahead of the meeting. Please speak to the wardens if you wish to join the PCC at this important time. Please let Rachel know if you are planning to attend.

We are all conscious that Remembrance Sunday is now on the horizon. There are a number of levels that we need to think and pray about marking Remembrance in 2020.

Firstly - We will need to work out for ourselves what it is possible for us to do based on the restrictions in place when we get to that point. I will send out some resources in the week ahead of Remembrance Sunday to enable us to do our time of Remembrance on our doorsteps if that is the best option for us. I also think this might be a good time to decorate a door, window or front garden with poppies to show our hearts steadfastly remembering.

Secondly - As I am sure you realise in these current days there is careful thought and planning going on behind the scenes (and risk assessments) being drawn up for what may be possible for a socially distanced, respectful outside marking of Remembrance in both Wincanton and Pen Selwood. This will be limited by our current circumstances and prone to alteration with the changing tides of Government guidance. Please pray!! We will let you know nearer the time what

we hope will be happening. We do intend to have St Peter and St Paul Church open for private prayer that day (10:15am – 12 noon) – if you could help with stewarding to enable that please let Rachel know.

With love in Christ, Alison

PS: For tracking and tracing we now have **QR codes** up in both churches – so you can scan your attendance via the NHS Track and Trace app if you wish. The app appears to be reliant on having phone signal!

**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.

**Home communion:** It is now possible for Penny or Alison to make a brief visit to administer communion (in one kind) in a well ventilated room at home or in your garden, particularly if you are unable to come to Church currently. Our capacity to do this is rather limited by the guidance and the potential transmission risk. If this is something you would be interested in, we would need to talk through with you individually the best way for us to meet your needs at this time (as there are options). So, please give Alison a ring to discuss it.

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

**Readings for 25th October: Colossians 3: 12-17 Matthew 24: 30-35**

**Readings for 1st November: 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12**

**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.

#### Church Diary

**Sun 25th Oct 10am Pen Selwood Church Public Worship Service**

**Sun 25th Oct 9am – 11am Wincanton Church open for private prayer**

**Wed 28th Oct 2pm-4pm Wincanton Church open for private prayer**

**Sun 1st Nov 10am Wincanton Church Public Worship Service**

**Sun 1st 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. **Penny.**

**Intercession Prayers -** As many people are staying at home to keep safe from Covid, we have lost several from our rota of regular readers and intercessors in services at St Peter and St Paul.  We are particularly short of people to lead us in intercession prayers. Please would you consider whether this is a way in which you could contribute to our worship.  We have several people who undertake this duty once every three months, and the prayers can be taken from a book if you wish. We don't need polished performances, but sincerity in bringing our communal concerns before God, so please give this prayerful consideration and let me know if you are able to help.  Thank you. **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.**

**Yeovil4family** have secured extra funding to deliver a family support programme across all of South Somerset. They are looking for volunteer mentors (once trained they are looking for a time commitment of around 2 hours a week). If this is something that might be of interest to you, get in touch with Alison and she can pass on more information and who to contact.

**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:** “As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.”

**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.

*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*