*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)

25th April 2021 4th Sunday of Easter

Dear Friends,

I am very pleased to announce that Penny Ashton’s readers license has been renewed for a further period of 5 years. Penny’s ministry is much appreciated by both parishes, and we look forward to seeing it flourish and grow in the days ahead. All of this also coincides with an event marking the passing of the years – so Happy Birthday Penny for Sunday. We are praying for God’s blessing on you and your ministry amongst us.

The time for our annual meetings is upon us – and now is the time to get on the electoral roll etc in time for the meeting. Both meetings are planned to be inside the church buildings and in person. This is dependent on the next stage of the road map going ahead so that we can socialise in accordance with the rule of six inside our buildings. (As we know socialising inside our buildings is currently not permitted). The plans for the meetings are as follows.

* St Peter and St Paul Wincanton – Wednesday 19th May at 7:30pm
* St Michael’s Pen Selwood – Sunday 23rd May at 10:45am (approx.) after the Sunday service that morning.

I am grateful once again for the second tolling of bells which took place on the day, and the folk that enabled the churches to be open for private prayer on the eve of His Royal Highness – The Duke Of Edinburgh’s funeral. We must continue to pray especially for Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal family in their continued time of mourning. Here is a prayer that might help with that.

*Merciful God, be close to all who mourn, especially The Queen and all members of the Royal Family. May they know the hope of your promises and the comfort of your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

With love in Christ – Alison

*This prayer from resources supplied by the Church of England following the death of Prince Philip.*

**Bishop Peter’s farewell (taken from letter from the Bishop and archdeacons received 29th March).**

News from Bishop Peter and Jane is that they are home and +Peter continues to recover well. Plans for his farewell service on 22nd May are being worked on. We hope these will include the opportunity for as many as possible to gather online to say our ‘goodbyes’. We expect that many of you will want to give a gift or send a message. Please can you send messages to andrea.howlett@bathwells.anglican.org by **Friday 14th May** and donations for a gift to the following:

Cheques:

Payable to The Bath & Wells Diocesan Board of Finance - Post to: The Bishops’ Office, The Bishop’s Palace, Wells, Somerset, BA5 2PD

BACS:

Account Name: The Bath & Wells Diocesan Board of Finance

Sort Code 60-23-06, Account Number 52161242, Reference **Bishop Peter** (Please ensure you put this reference when making the transfer)

**Readings for 25th April: Acts 4: 5-12 John 10: 11-18**

**Readings for 2nd May: Acts 8: 26-end John 15: 1-8**

**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

 ****

**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 \* SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE

**Sun 25th Apr 10:00am Pen Selwood Church Public Worship Service**

**Sun 25th Apr 9am - 11am Wincanton Church open for Private Prayer**

**Wed 28th Apr 12:00 -2pm Wincanton Church open for Private Prayer**

**Sun 2nd May 10:00am Wincanton Church Public Worship Service**

**Sun 2nd May 10am – 3pm Pen Selwood Church open for Private Prayer**

**Wed 5th May 12:00 -2pm Wincanton Church open for Private Prayer**

#### Church Notices

**Electoral Roll -** If anyone not already on the Church Electoral Roll would like to be added before the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday, 19th May please let me know as soon as possible. Many thanks, **Rosemary.**

Rosemary Keep 01963 33656 email: rosemarykeep@gmail.com

**Planned Giving Envelopes -** If anyone has been unable to hand in their Planned Giving Envelopesto the churchduring the last financial year due to the difficult circumstances caused by the coronavirus pandemic, I would be very happy to collect them from you. Please either phone me on 01963 34965 or leave a message at the Parish Office for Rachel, if you would like me to do this. **Roger Lowe.**

**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:** “So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’.”

**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, Canon Alan and Rosemary Watson, Elizabeth Vivyan, Elroi Manor, Gwen Evans.

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

**Please pray for those who grieve, and for the departed:** Patricia Mary Lampert, Joan Croft (prayers for Nicky King & family), His Royal Highness – The Duke of Edinburgh (prayers for Her Majesty the Queen & royal family), Alan De Renzie-Brett (prayers for Brenda De Renzie-Brett & family)

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, from **April** for St Peter and St Paul. Please give this your consideration and prayer.

*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*