*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)

18th July 2021 7th Sunday after Trinity

Dear Friends,

As I write this (on Wednesday) we are still awaiting updates to the guidance for places of worship reflecting the move to stage four of the Government’s road map, which is now confirmed for Monday 19th July. The time delay between announcements and available guidance is not unusual(!) and we will start the necessary work as soon as we can. Details will be available here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance#na> in due course.

 I imagine the process of applying this guidance, will need to be gradual over the coming weeks. Members of PCCs will also need to prepare for some questions and decisions (and probably to agree an updated risk assessment), which we will do by email in the main for speed. We may also need some volunteers to do some practical tasks in the buildings in the days ahead depending on what is required.

From all I have seen, one of the things that is finally back on the table (and in the near future is communal singing)! We will look at this first as it so important to our worship (and has been so missed). We will start by adding hymns. So one of the important questions is what to sing first! I have already had a number of suggestions, but I would love to hear more ideas about that so do get in touch with your suggestions.

Meanwhile let’s turn our attention to another important topic for our diocese – the search for a new Diocesan Bishop. Everyone has an opportunity to have their say. There is an online questionnaire at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/R2GC5WB> Alternatively you can fill in a questionnaire on paper and send it in, or just email newbishop@bathwells.anglican.org with your thoughts. Inputs are needed

by 20th August so there is plenty of time to get in a thoughtful response. After that inn September the Archbishops’ Appointments Secretary and the Prime Minister’s Appointments Secretary will meet with various groups of people in the diocese and then hold an open public meeting (details to follow).

With love in Christ, Alison

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**Readings for 18th July: Ephesians 2: 11-end Mark 6: 30-34, 53-end**

**Readings for 25th July: (St James) 2 Corinthians 4 v 7-15 Matthew 20 v 20 -28**

**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 is Monday*

**Home Communion and other visits:** It is possible moving forward to make pastoral visits, preferably in a well-ventilated room at home or in your garden, (and this could include home communion if desired). Please get in touch to arrange, it will be very good to catch up.  **Alison and Penny.**

**The Parish Office** 38 High Street, Wincanton BA9 9JF. Rachel, the Parish Administrator, works during the following 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.

#### Church Diary \* SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE

**Sun 18th July 10:00am Wincanton Church Public Worship Service**

**Sun 18th July 10am – 3pm Pen Selwood Church open for Private Prayer**

**Wed 21st July 12:00 -2pm Wincanton Church open for Private Prayer in**

**the holy space only.**

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

**Sun 25th July 9am – 11am Wincanton Church open for Private Prayer in**

**the holy space only.**

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

**the holy space only.**

#### Church Notices

**Volunteer Required Please -** At St Peter & St Paul’s Church we are looking for a volunteer to join our rota to help on the 5th Sunday of the month as a Collection Counter. If you would like to help, please contact Richard D’Arcy for further information on 01963 33160. **Thank You.**

**GDPR Return Form** – Please don’t forget to return your GDPR consent form to Rachel at the Parish Office as soon as possible, either by post to the Parish Office, 38 High Street, Wincanton BA9 9JF (or via the stamped addressed envelope enclosed with your posted mailout) or complete the form electronically and send it via email to: office@wincantonparishchurch.co.uk. **Thank you**. A huge Thank You to those of you who have already returned your forms, very much appreciated.

**Help Required Please -** St Peter & St Paul’s Church require short term help unlocking and locking the church for our Sunday worship services. If you were on the Locking Rota before the pandemic, or if you attend our Sunday services and could unlock the church in the morning and lock the church after the service, the Church Team would gratefully appreciate your help. Please contact Rachel at the Parish Office if you can offer your help. **Thank you**.

**For St Michael’s Pen Selwood - Pen Selwood Village Fete meeting -** Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 21st July – please attend this important meeting if you can.

**Contact Pool –** Lucky winners for the June draw (drawn on July 14th) are: 1st prize £30 Rachel Hopkins (No. 103), 2nd prize £20 Hilary Andrews (No. 42) and 3rd prize £10 Kay Hutchings (No. 99). Many congratulations! **Joanna Durham-Matthews.**

**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 he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.”

**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, Elroi Manor, Gwen Evans, Maurice Steady (Prayers are requested for Elizabeth & Maurice, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer, they will be relying on palliative care as referred by the Doctor at the Hospital).

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

**Please pray for those who grieve, and for the departed:** Congetta Ida Short (Connie).

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*