**Community Notices**

**Black Bin Café -** This is held in Pen Selwood Village Hall on Fridays and is a great social event and well worth a visit. Tea, coffee & wonderful cakes. Please check the Pen Selwood website [penselwood.ning.com](http://penselwood.ning.com/) for which Fridays the café will be open.

**Wincanton Town Festival** – An illuminating trail of light illuminations, based on sustainability, around Wincanton Town Centre, including St Peter & St Paul’s Church. On Saturday **11th and**  **18th December**, from **5pm-9pm**. It will not be illuminated this coming weekend to ensure the electricity supply to Choral concert.

**Wincanton Silver Band –** will be holding their **Christmas Concert** at **The Memorial Hall** on **Sunday 12th December** at **3pm**. Tickets £6, children free.

** Prayer Diary**

**From the readings:** “I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.”

**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 & Bryan Phillips, Sam (Gill Oaten’s Great Great Nephew), Joyce Bentley, Mike Gray, Sue Cox, Brenda Piper, Bishop Peter & Jane Hancock, Canon Alan & Rosemary Watson, Elroi Manor, Gwen Evans, Oliver Feltham & family, Father Louis Beasley-Suffolk, Cynthia & Ed Finity, Steven Kendrick (Gill Oaten’s Great Nephew) & Mavis Way.

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

**Please pray for those who grieve, and for the departed:** Jean Elsie Rose,

Marie Lilian Sibbald, Mervyn Willman.

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

*The Parish Office will be open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings*

*from 9:15am – 1:15pm at 38 High Street, Wincanton BA9 9JF. Any items for inclusion the Newsletter to Rachel by midday on Thursday.*

 *Email:* *office@wincantonparishchurch.co.uk* *Tel: 01963 824503.*

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

*and St. Michael, Pen Selwood*

**

 Parish Office: 01963 824503

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

**5th December 2021 2nd Sunday of Advent**

Dear Friends,

As our Advent journey continues this week we are thinking about ‘being prepared’, as the gospel set introduces John the Baptist ‘preparing the way of the Lord’. With Christmas a few weeks away, there is often a lot to get sorted and prepared at this time of year. With that in mind - plans for all our Christmas special services are well under way. The first of these, Pen Selwood’s Village Carol Service and Wincanton’s Christingle are next Sunday (12th) at 4pm. We are hoping to proceed with these things, but we will be mindful of the current circumstances. When we cannot distance between households in our church buildings, can we please request face coverings are maintained.

The way we approach our Christmas services will also be a little different to promote households and families staying together. Specifically, this has meant not including the nativity tableau in Pen Selwood’s carol service for this year, and may impact how we go about sharing the light of the Christingles in Wincanton.

Obviously things are unpredictable with the new Omicron COVID variant, which may mean we have to change our plans if guidance that impacts us is introduced as we draw closer to Christmas or equally it may not! So please watch this space.

Each Sunday of Advent we will be lighting the candles on our Advent wreath and using special prayers to help us. So you can use this prayer more widely during this week – here is the prayer for the second Sunday of Advent.

**All: Lord Jesus, light of the world, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people in trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmas and show all the world God's love. Amen.**

With best wishes, Alison

**DIARY DATES**

**11th December Christmas Coffee Morning** in St Peter & St Paul’s Church from 10:00am – 12:00 noon. Cakes, books and Christmas Hamper Raffle! – All Welcome!

**12th December 4pm** Christingle Service – Wincanton Church **POSTPONED**

 **4pm** Village Carol Service – Pen Selwood Church

**19th December 6pm** Carol Service – Wincanton Church

**24th December 4pm** Christmas Eve Family Service – Wincanton Church

 **6pm** Christmas Communion – Pen Selwood Church

 **9pm** First Communion of Christmas – Wincanton Church

**25th December 10am** Christmas Family Communion – Wincanton Church

**26th December 10am** Said Communion – Wincanton Church (Ken Masters)

**Worship for the Week:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Day | Psalm | Reading |
| 6th Dec | 44 | Matthew 14:1-12 |
| 7th Dec | 56 | Matthew 14:13-end |
| 8th Dec | 62 | Matthew 15:1-20 |
| 9th Dec | 54 | Matthew 15:21-28 |
| 10th Dec | 86 | Matthew 15:29-end |
| 11th Dec | 145 | Matthew 16:1-12 |

**Readings for 5th December: Philippians 1: 3-11 Luke 3: 1-6**

**Readings for 12th December: Philippians 4: 4-7 Luke 3: 7-18**

#### Church Diary

Sat 4th Dec 5:00pm Wincanton Choral Society Concert – Wincanton

Sun 5th Dec 9:00am Pen Selwood Communion Service led by Rev Ken Masters

10:45am Wincanton Communion Service

 7:30pm The Pilgrim Singers Concert – Wincanton

Tues 7th Dec 7:30pm Bell Ringing Practice – Wincanton

Thurs 9th Dec 7:30pm Choir Practice – Wincanton

Sat 11th Dec 10-12:00 Christmas Coffee Morning – Wincanton Church

Sun 12th Dec 10:45am Wincanton Communion Service

 4:00pm Wincanton Christingle Service – **POSTPONED**

 4:00pm Pen Selwood Village Carol Service

**St Peter & St Paul’s Church in Wincanton will be open on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th December for the music concerts and Sunday worship service ONLY due to rehearsals, and will be closed over this weekend at all other times. Many apologies.**

St Peter and St Paul’s Church in Wincanton is open every day between 9am and 3pm

St Michaels Church in Pen Selwood is open every day between 10am and 3pm

#### Church Notices

**St Peter & St Paul’s Church** will **not be open for private prayer** on **Friday 3rd December before 11:30am** or on **Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th December after 1pm for the afternoon**. This is due to the church being in use. **Apologies.**

**Christmas Coffee Morning** - **Saturday December 11th** in **Wincanton Parish Church** from **10am – 12:00**. This is our last coffee morning of the year. We will have all the usual stalls plus the magnificent Hamper Raffle which will be drawn at this coffee morning. Seasonal music will be played by **Wincantata Handbells**. We look forward to seeing you there. **All Welcome!** CAKES - We would be grateful for donations of cakes and produce to sell. Please bring to the church on the morning or we can collect – Telephone: 33834. **Thank you.**

**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

*Please note my usual day off is on 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.**

**Your Church Needs YOU! – St Peter & St Paul’s Church** require a Church Warden to join the church team. Would you be willing to help with this rewarding job? If you or someone you know would like to take on this role please talk to Sue or Alison for more information. Please note as a Churchwarden you do not need to be in church every Sunday, there is an excellent support group to share the duties.

**TRUST130 helps keep the heating on –** Take out a home insurance policy with **Ecclesiastical** and they will donate **£130** to the church of your choice! The more insurance policies taken out, the more money donated to your church! Telephone: 0800 7830 130 and quote CHMAT21 or visit [www.ecclesiastical.com/trust130](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/trust130) for more information.

**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.**