**Community Notices**

**Wincanton Carers Support Group –** Held on the **2nd Tuesday of the month** **2pm-3:30pm** at **River Cale Café**, Cemetery Lane, Wincanton BA9 9ED. For people who care for a friend or family member on an unpaid basis. Share ideas, laughs, experiences and information. Hear from local organisations who can offer help and guidance. For more information contact **Cath Holloway** on 07535 279 359 or cathh@somersetrcc.org.uk.

**Live Well with Pain Café -** Every third Thursday of the month 2-4pm at Common Road/Deansley Way Communal Lounge BA9 9RG. Are you living with a long-term pain condition? Come and talk about your pain and share ideas, develop new tools and just chat about everyday life. Call Sue Crisfield on 07749418850 or the Health Coaches on 435700.

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**PRAYER DIARY**

**From the readings:** “Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.”.

**Prayer Chain:** If you would like immediate prayers for yourself or someone you know please contact the following (requests passed in confidence): Penny Ashton 07733 162342 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, contact Penny, Judy or Rachel in the Parish Office.

**Please continue to pray for** those of our fellowship and friends whoare ill or recovering from operations: June Beech, Ann & Bryan Phillips, Sam (Gill Oaten’s Great Great Nephew), Brenda Piper, Rosemary Watson, Elroi Manor, Oliver Feltham, Mavis Way, Andrew Gardner, Elizabeth Wise, Brian Dicker, Christopher Browne, Sandra Jones, Ken and & Madeley, Josie Dukes, Ben White, Sylvie Pattison, Anne Beaven, Grace Cox, Sandra James, Gill Abbott, Elizabeth Baxter, Doug Puckett, Beryl Williams, Susan Greenway, Gertraud Smith, John Wray.

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

**Please pray for those who grieve, and for the departed:** Denise Peacock, Eric Stokes**,** Susan Davey.

* We pray for our interregnum and for our churches coming together with our neighbouring parishes of Charlton Musgrove, Cucklington and Stoke Trister with Bayford and for our vacancy process for a new Priest.
* We pray for His Majesty King Charles III and Her Royal Highness, Catherine, Princess of Wales both recovering from cancer.

***CONTACT US:*** *Administrator -* ***Rachel Feltham*** *01963 824503 in the Parish Office* *office@wincantonparishchurch.co.uk* *Office hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays 9:30-1pm. The Parish Office, 38 High Street, Wincanton BA9 9JF. Website for Wincanton:* [*www.wincantonparishchurch.co.uk*](http://www.wincantonparishchurch.co.uk) *Pen Selwood:* [*www.penselwood.ning*](http://www.penselwood.ning) *Facebook Page: Wincanton and Pen Selwood CofE Churches. Find us on* [*www.achurchnearyou.com*](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)*.*

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

*and St. Michael, Pen Selwood*

**

 Parish Office: 01963 824503

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

 www.penselwood.ning

**16th March 2025 2nd Sunday of Lent**

**Everyone is very warmly welcome to our services:**

Welcome!

**SUNDAY 16th March:**

 **9:30am** Pen Selwood – Communion Service with Revd Ken Masters

**10:45am** Wincanton – Communion Service with Rev Lydia Avery

**Readings: Pen Selwood: Philippians 3: 17-4:1 Luke 13: 31-end**

 **Wincanton: Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18 Luke 4: 1-13**

**Please join us for tea and coffee after the services**

A loop system operates at both churches. Large print service sheets are also available, please ask a Churchwarden for them. ‘Play bags’ are available for children in the play corner at Wincanton. A public toilet is available just outside the North gate up the road on the right-hand side at Wincanton. At Pen Selwood toilet facilities are in the adjacent village hall (please obtain the key from a sides-person/helper).

**SUNDAY 23rd March:**

**10:45am** Wincanton – Communion Service with Rev Diane Barrett

 **4:00pm** Pen Selwood – Joint Evensong Service with Penny Ashton

**Readings: Pen Selwood: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13 Luke 13: 1-9**

 **Wincanton: Isaiah 55: 1-9 Luke 13: 1-9**

 ***Please take a copy of this newsletter to a friend or neighbour who is not in church today so that they may keep in touch with Church/parish events.***

**DIARY DATES**

**Black Bin Café** Held in **Pen Selwood Village Hall** every other Friday **10:30am – 12:30pm** a great social event and well worth a visit. Tea, coffee and wonderful cakes. Café next open **March 28th & April 11th.** Please check [www.penselwood.ning](http://www.penselwood.ning) for more details.

**29th March Jumble Sale** in **Pen Selwood Village Hall** **2pm – 4pm.** Jumble, White Elephant, Raffle, Cakes & Produce. Proceeds in aid of St Michael’s Church. **Everybody welcome**!

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**Readings for the Week Ahead:**

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| **Day** | **Psalm** | **Reading** |
| Monday 17th March | 126 | John 6: 41-51 |
| Tuesday 18th March | 50 | John 6: 52-59 |
| Wednesday 19th March | 25 | Matthew 13: 54-end |
| Thursday 20th March | 34 | John 7: 1-13 |
| Friday 21stMarch | 41 | John 7: 14-24 |
| Saturday 22nd March | 147 | John 7: 25-36 |

#### Church Diary

Sun 16th Mar **9:30am** Pen Selwood – Communion Service (Revd Ken Masters)

 10:45am Wincanton – Communion Service (Rev Lydia Avery)

 12:00noon Wincanton – Baptism in Church

Mon 17th Mar 12:00noon Wincanton – Funeral in Church

Tues 18th Mar 7:30pm Wincanton – Bell Ringing Practice in Church

Wed 19th Mar 1:00pm Wincanton – Funeral in Church

Thur 20th Mar 7:30pm Wincanton – Choir Practice in Church

Sun 23rd Mar 10:45am Wincanton – Communion Service (Rev Diane Barrett)

 4:00pm Pen Selwood – Joint Evensong Service (Penny Ashton)

StPeter & St Paul’s Church Wincanton is open Mon-Fri from 9am–3pm via the **South Door.**

St Michael’s Church in Pen Selwood is open every day 10am – 3pm.

#### Church Notices

**Wincanton Church Coffee Mornings** – We would be very grateful for donations for Raffle prizes for our coffee mornings please, also donations of homemade cakes & sausage rolls would be hugely appreciated. Please bring your donations along to the coffee morning or see the Churchwardens. Raffle prizes can also be left at the Parish Office. The next coffee morning is **5th April – the first Saturday of the month, to coincide with celebrations for Wincanton History Day.** The Church will be open from **10am – 3pm.** The theme of the History Day is "The Horse" and we have been decorating horseshoes to display in the Church. The raffle will be Easter-themed, and we would be very grateful for donations of Easter eggs. **Thank you**.

**Wincanton APCM** will take place on **Saturday 10th May** after the coffee morning at approximately **11:45am.** Gill and Judy have decided not to stand for Churchwarden so we will be looking for two new Churchwardens. Please give some thought and prayer as to whether this could be you, to fulfill this crucial and rewarding role. Gill and Judy are happy to answer any questions you may have and prepared to give you as much support as needed.

Please continue to pray for peace at this time: “*God of peace and justice, we pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen”.*

**Safeguarding Training – this is your last chance to book on on the training** running in Wincanton Church on **Wednesday 26th March 10am – 2:00pm** where you can all renew your Basic Awareness Certificate (**10:30am)** and Foundation Certificate **(12:30pm)**, together, in this relaxed training environment. **Includes lunch**. Contact Rachel in the Parish Office to book a place 01963 824503. **Nicky King, Safeguarding Officer.**

The **Churches Together Lent Course** is entitled  A Place For Us and is based on the 2022 film of West Side Story.  Five meetings will be held in the Parish Room at the Catholic Church. Meetings will be weekly at 7pm for a **7.30pm** start commencing on **Wednesday 12th March** and running every Wednesday until **9thApril**. Penny Ashton.

You are invited to join us for our **Lent Lunches 12:00 – 1:30pm** for delicious soups and rolls, and a warm welcome on **21st March** in the **Catholic Church Room, 28th March** in **St Peter & St Paul’s Church** and on **4th April** in **The Quaker Barn**. All welcome.

**Lent boxes in Wincanton Church** are by the North and South doors. Please take one, fill it and bring it back on **Easter Sunday**. If you are able to Gift Aid, please fill in the label on the side of the box. Money raised goes to our Zambian link Church, St John’s Chingola.

**New Church Electoral Roll –** This year there will be a complete renewal of the Electoral Roll and members are requested to fill in a new application form. Please return completed forms to the box by the north door in church or to the Parish Office by **11th April**. Any problems, please contact  me: 01963 33656 rosemarykeep@gmail.com. **Rosemary Keep.**

The **Easter Sunday Service** in **Wincanton Church** this year will be a family-friendly communion **at 10am** followed by an Easter Egg Hunt. In the weeks to come, if you are able, please would you be willing to donate a cream egg-sized egg or two towards the hunt? There will bea basketfor donations in church every Sunday or they can be dropped into the parish office when you're passing. Thanks very much for any help you can give with this! **Lydia.**

**Wincanton's Plant Sale** is at the **10th May** coffee morning**.** If you are sowing seeds we would be very grateful if you could sow a few more for the plant sale. **Thank you.**

**Prayer for the Vacancy**

*Loving God, as we journey through this period of interregnum, we thank you for your everlasting faithfulness to us. As we wait patiently, guard and grow our parishes as we serve you together in this period without a Rector. Amen.*