**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:** “Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”.

**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, 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, Ken Madeley, Elizabeth Vivyan.

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

**Please pray for those who grieve, and for the departed:** Ann Madeley, 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

**6th April 2025 5th Sunday of Lent**

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

Welcome!

**SUNDAY 6th April:**

 **9:00am** Pen Selwood – Rise & Shine Family Service with Penny Ashton

**10:45am** Wincanton – Communion Service with Revd Ken Masters

**Readings: Isaiah 43: 16-21 John 12: 1-8**

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

A loop system operates at both churches. **Large print service sheets** **and hymn books** 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 13th April:**

 **9:00am** Pen Selwood – Communion Service with Rev Brian McConnell

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

**Readings: Psalm 118: 19-end Luke 19: 28-40**

 ***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 **April 11th and 25th.** Please check [www.penselwood.ning](http://www.penselwood.ning) for more details.

**5th April Easter Coffee Morning** in **Wincanton Church** **10:00am – 3:00pm.** Easter Raffle, Homemade Cakes & Savouries, Bookstall & Refreshments. **History Day Victorian Schoolroom from 10:30am,** ring the bells and Horseshoe Decorations. **All welcome**!

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**Readings for the Week Ahead:**

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| **Day** | **Psalm** | **Reading** |
| Monday 7th April | 73 | John 11: 28-44 |
| Tuesday 8th April | 35 | John 11: 45-end |
| Wednesday 9th April | 55 | John 12: 1-11 |
| Thursday 10th April | 40 | John 12: 12-19 |
| Friday 11thApril | 22 | John 12: 20-36a |
| Saturday 12th April | 68 | John 12: 36b-end |

#### Church Diary

Sat 5th April 10am-3pm Wincanton Coffee Morning & History Day Activities in Church

Sun 6th Apr 9:00am Pen Selwood – Family Rise & Shine Service (Penny Ashton)

 10:45am Wincanton – Communion Service (Revd Ken Masters)

Tues 8th Apr 7:30pm Wincanton – Bell Ringing Practice in Church

Thurs 10th Apr 7:30pm Wincanton – Choir Practice in Church

Sun 13th Apr 9:00am Pen Selwood – Communion Service (Rev Brian McConnell)

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

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. Bring your donations along to the coffee morning or see the Churchwardens. Raffle prizes can be left at the Parish Office. The next coffee morning is **5th April – to coincide with celebrations for Wincanton History Day** and the Church will be open from **10am–3pm.** Then **10th May** which will include our annual Plant Sale!

**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.We have prepared some notes about the role of a Churchwarden. Please contact **Gill or Judy** if you would like a copy. **Thank you.**

**New Church Electoral Roll –** Many thanks to all those who have returned their Wincanton Church Electoral Roll application forms so promptly. Please note that the closing date for inclusion on the new roll is **next week 11th April 2025**.  Any queries, please contact **Rosemary Keep** on 01963 33656 or email: rosemarykeep@gmail.com.

**Calling all flower arrangers –** do you enjoy flower arranging? Would you like to arrange Wincanton Church flowers for a special anniversary? We are looking for people to join our dedicated team of flower arrangers. If you think you could help with this task of beautifying our church, please contact Gill Oaten on 01963 32607 or the Parish Office on 01963 824503.

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.**

**Update on the Vacancy progress** – The Advert for a new Priest for our proposed new Benefice of Wincanton, Pen Selwood, Charlton Musgrove, Cucklington and Stoke Trister with Bayford is now **LIVE** again in the Church Times and on the Diocese website, until the deadline for applications on **Sunday 20th April** - [Priest - Benefice of Wincanton, Pen Selwood, Charlton Musgrove et al - Bath and Wells Diocese](https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/-vacancies/clergy-vacancies/priest--benefice-of-wincanton-pen-selwood-charlton-musgrove-et-al.php). ***Please continue to pray for the Lord to guide the right person to apply to bring their gift to our beautiful benefice, to guide those who are seeking the right next step in their ministry and those who are seeking the right priest to be our next vicar.***

Wincanton Lay Worship Assistant **Chris Avery** is proposing to hold a **Vacancy Day of Prayer** on **Saturday 12th April** in **Wincanton Church.** The idea is to welcome people into Church for half an hour of personal worship, peace and reflection, or you can commit to do it at home. Further details will follow and there will be a sign up sheet in Church. Everybody is welcome from all our benefice churches and communities in Church throughout the day.

**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.

**Lent Lunch –** Thanks to all those who helped and supported our Lent Lunch in aid of our Zambia Link Church, St John, Chingola. Special thanks to Gill Oaten for organising the food and attractive table settings for the lunch. **£137** was raised for the Zambia Link fund which will be added to the contributions from the Lent boxes**. Rosemary Keep.**

The funeral of **Marion Raymond** will be at **Yeovil Crematorium** on **10th April** at **1:20pm** and afterwards at The Dolphin, Wincanton. Donations for Wincanton MHA (Live at Home).

Please continue to pray for peace: “*God of peace and justice, we pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for those who fear for tomorrow, your precious children at risk and in fear, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them, that you would hold and protect them. Amen”.*