



Knowing Jesus
Sharing God's Love
Caring for People

St Mary's Shaw cum Donnington
Church Rd, Shaw Newbury RG14 2DR

Rector: *Revd Raymond Obin* Curate: *Vacancy*

Church Wardens: *Ros Stuart & Lesley Almond*

Parish Administrator: *Christine Jago*

t: 01635 40450

e: office@shawchurch.org

w: shawchurch.org

4th October 2026

10am Holy Communion

Lead Raymond/Sermon Rev Hunter Smart

A/V Olly & Steve J

Stewards: Mary D & Wendy

LCA & CA Lesley A & Rachel

Welcome, Notices

RB 1 Awake my soul (1234+Dox)

Collect (Trinity 18)

Gloria (Sung) St Thomas

Reading 1Jn2:3-14(Rachel)

Anthem: And now O Father (RB260)

Reading Matt 17:1-13(Judith)

Sermon

Creed (Nicene)

Intercessions: Karen

RB 224 lead us, heavenly father lead us
Communion

MP 1 A new commandment

RB 367 God of Grace and God of glory

Blessing

Church Café: Libby & Julie

Collect (Trinity 18)

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and for ever.

Amen

Happiness

Happiness can be elusive. We all want to be happy, but we often don't know what will make us happy. We sometimes know when we are happy – but staying happy is elusive. We get in our minds that a particular 'this' will make us happy, but the satisfied desire just leads to new desires, and happiness escapes even as it approaches.

I was reminded this week of C S Lewis saying "I'm not sure God wants us to be happy." He was reflecting on suffering – and he counters the 'not' with "God does want us to love and be loved".

Jesus' (Matthew 25:21,23) talked of servants in the Kingdom of Heaven sharing their master's happiness; James (5:13) encourages those who are happy to sing songs of praise.

There are dangers of seeking happiness in this world because when it comes to an end (e.g. we die) where is that happiness? Such thoughts should lead us to seek our happiness in God. John declares his purpose in writing to his dear children, fathers and young men: your sins are forgiven, you know Him, you have overcome the evil one. (see 1Jn2:12-14). Is there a better definition of happiness?

Raymond

Church Family News

Shirley Edwards' Funeral will be:

11am on Friday 9th October

At Bwtrimawr Funeral Directors' Chapel of Rest
Ammanford SA18 2HE

Remote Action (things to do from your home to make a difference)

Fairtrade Fortnight

1. Find out where to buy Fairtrade and more about what is behind the Fairtrade mark

<https://www.fairtrade.net/uk-en/products-and-producers/buy-fairtrade.html>

2. Demand business that's fair to people and planet - sign the petition <https://action.fairtrade.org.uk/page/186243/petition/1?>

3. The Leprosy Mission catalogue is full of Fairtrade products, including clothes, gifts, household items etc as well as food.

Borrow a catalogue from the information stall in the church centre or browse at

<https://www.theleprosymissionshop.com/>

Order through me postage free.

Libby Goldsack 01635 30719 or libby.goldsack@btinternet.com

Sonrise Christian Resources

Our next bookstall will be at **St Nicolas, Newbury** on

Thursday 8 October from 10am until 12.

Open to everyone, this is a great opportunity to pick up inspirational Christian books as well as Christian cards for all occasions.



Green tip

By buying Fairtrade tea, coffee, chocolate, bananas and other food you can help the people most affected by climate change to have a decent li

Myrtle Café & Pop-up Library

Offers you a warm welcome

Monday 5th October 10.30am

*A good time to pick up a book or talk to
the Librarian and have a coffee & a chat.*

Growing Leaders, James Lawrence

Reflections on Leadership, life and Jesus

The Growing Leaders course is a highly popular, in-depth Christian leadership development program developed by James Lawrence and published through the Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS).

The primary goal of the course is to help local churches grow effectively by cultivating healthy, Christ-centered, and sustainable leadership.

Saturday 10 October

from 9.30am — 3.00

Mondays 19 October, 2 November, 7 December

from 7.30 — 9.30pm

Saturday 9 January

from 9.30am — 3.00

Mondays 1 February, 1 March, 12 April, 17 May

from 7.30 — 9.30pm

At St Lawrences Church, Hungerford RG17 0JB

To sign up email: -

Vicar@StLawrencesHungerford.org.uk

For Prayer

At Shaw Church, we keep a list of people who have asked for public prayer. If you would like to be included, please let the office know.



- **Brian Eaton, Ruth Fisher, Cynthia Lane, June Milsom Maggie Wiseman, Angie Mackoon & family.**
- **Our nursing home fellowship members, including Joan Lamonby, Chris Fenwick, Pat Lee, Mansour Afshari, Arthur Marshall.**
- **For the Boys' Brigade and Girls Association**
- **Residents of Walton Way & Lambourn Court**
- **Our minister Raymond and all those who support us in services.**

Shaw Church Prayer Chain is available if you would like confidential prayer, please contact Libby on 01635 30719 or libby.goldsack@btinternet.com and she will circulate your request.

Monday	5th OCT	Myrtle Community Café & Pop-up Library	10.30 – 12.00	Church Centre	David
Tuesday	6th	Meeting Point	9.45 – 11.15	Church Centre	Libby
Wednesday	7th	Morning Prayer	9:15-10:00	Church	Raymond
		Barnabas Group	10:00-12.00	Church Centre	Mary D
		Funeral	10.30	Church	
		Flower Club	1.30	Church Centre	Mary D
		Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association	6.15-7.45	Church/Centre	Jane O

Next Sunday: 11th October 2026
10am Morning Prayer with Baptism
Leader / Sermon: Raymond

A/V: Mike S & Wendy Stewards: Rachel & Paul
 Reading 1: 1Jn2:15-29 Heather
 Reading 2: Matt 17:14-20 Paul
 Intercessions: Sally Café: Lesley A & Diana

At St Mary's, we value the offerings people make to the work of the church: in their time, activity and money. We will not be passing an offering plate or basket round during the service today. If you would like to support the work of the church financially, please use offering plate or tap-and-go machine by the door, or visit shawchurch.org/giving or scan the QR code. If you would like to give to the church regularly, please see parishgiving.org.uk

