



Knowing Jesus

Sharing God's Love

Caring for People

St Mary's Shaw cum Donnington

Rector: **Revd Raymond Obin** Curate: **Revd Ed Yates**

Church Warden: **Ros Stuart**

Parish Administrator: **Maggie Wiseman**

T: 01635 40450

E: office@shawchurch.org w: shawchurch.org

15th December – Advent 3

Holy Communion

Lead: Ed; A/V: Mike & Steve

Stewards: Lesley A & Rachel

Welcome & Notices

RB484 Long ago prophets knew

Confession

Acts 11:19-24 (Charles)

Anthem: This is the truth sent... (VW)

Luke 10:1, 17-24 (Mary D)

RB 29 The Lord will come

Sermon

Creed (Nicene)

Intercessions (Jane Y)

MP420 Like a Candle Flame

Holy Communion

RB 156 Come Down, O Love Divine

Blessing

Church Café

Heather & Mary R

Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Gaudete – Rejoice in Advent

Advent, like Lent, is a time to prepare. And for things as auspicious as the birth and the death of the Son of God, these penitential purple Christian Seasons gives us time to consider our sin and repent. (We shouldn't need a special time, but sometimes we need reminding...). For some reason, we get 7 Sundays in Lent, but only 4 in Advent. There is a tradition that allocates particular passages of scripture to set the tone for Sunday worship, and the Introits for the 4th Sunday of Lent and the 3rd Sunday of Advent both begin with the words 'Rejoice'. Perhaps it's a reminder that the point of penitence is a restored relationship with God. I'm not sure we're prone to excessive dourness in these seasons anymore, but austerity can be eased by an occasional treat.

Someone said "don't fret over the past, instead think about the good things life has given". Repenting and receiving forgiveness removes the reason to fret, and the King of Love's 'goodness faileth never'.

This Sunday is named from Philippians 4:4 in Latin: *gaudete in Domino semper iterum dico gaudete*. "Rejoice in the Lord always, I will say it again, Rejoice".

Raymond

Christmas Collection: Throughout December, there will be a basket at the back of church for donations to Action Through Enterprise in Ghana and Jesus Disciples Centre youth work at Riverside.

Volunteers and Costumes wanted!

If you are available and happy to volunteer for a role in the Nativity Service on Christmas Eve (we need both men and women!) or if you have any adult sized costumes that might suit a nativity service, please get in touch with Ed in person or by emailing ed@shawchurch.org.

Christmas Greetings – on-screen

If you would like to send a Christmas Greeting to the Church and give the money saved on Cards to one of our charities, please pass you message to Wendy (who will put it on the screen before our Sunday worship) and your gift to Libby or Ros.



Food Bank:

Urgently needed items

- Sugar (500g)
- Tin of Biscuits
- Stuffing/Gravy/Cranberry Sauce
- Toilet Paper
- Tin of Sweets/chocolates
- Cooking Oil

Low on Stock

- Milk Powder
- Savoury Biscuits
- UHT Milk
- Pringles or sharing crisps
- Non Biological Washing Powder
- Cooked Meat with ring pulls
- Custard/Rice Pudding Pots
- Christmas Cake (long dates)

Newbury Cancer Care Calendars 2025 are now available: £10

Please see Maggie in the church office (Tue/Wed/Fri, 9am-2pm).

All proceeds to Newbury Cancer Care.

Green Tip

Buy local, seasonal produce for Christmas where you can.

Read Luke 1:39-56 (NIV)

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.

⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfil his promises to her!"

And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name. ⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. ⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful ⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors." ⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

Christmas Carol Services

Do come along to sing and hear read the account of the first Christmas. Our Main Carol Service (with choir) is next Sunday at 5pm (with seasonal refreshments after).

And our Daytime Carol Service is on Tuesday at 2:30pm.

You are very welcome to come to one or both.

Meeting Point

17 Dec Informal with mince pies
t: 01635 30719
e:libby.goldsack@btinternet.com

Children's Nativity

On Christmas Eve, at 4pm our Christmas Nativity takes place in the church.
Dressing up is encouraged!

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.



- **Cynthia Lane, Mark Hutson, Ruth Fisher, June Milsom, Geoffrey Keegan, Brian Eaton.**
- **Our nursing home fellowship members, including Joan Lamonby, Chris Fenwick, Pat Marshall, Mary Curtis**
- **For the Boys' Brigade**
- **This week, the residents of Orchard Dene & Newport Close**
- **Our ministers Raymond and Ed, 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.

What's on this week:

Monday	16 th	Myrtle Café	12:00-14:30	Church Centre	David Willets
		Shaw cum Donnington School Service	14:30	Church	Raymond
Tuesday	17 th	Meeting Point	9:45-11:15	Church Centre	Libby
		Lunch Club	12:00	Church Centre	Ros
		Daytime Carols	14:30	Church	Raymond
		Home Group	19:30	Rectory	Ed
Wednesday	18 th	Morning Prayer	09:15-10:00	Church	Raymond
		Barnabas Group	10:00-12:00	Church Centre	Mary D
		Boys Brigade	18:15-19:45	Church Centre	Ed

Next Sunday

22nd December 2024 – Advent 4

10:00	Morning Worship	17:00	Carol Service
<i>Leader:</i>	<i>Raymond</i>	<i>Leader:</i>	<i>Raymond</i>
<i>Stewards</i>	<i>Mary D & Janet S</i>	<i>Stewards</i>	<i>Mary D & Janet S</i>
<i>Sound</i>	<i>Heather Visuals Rachel</i>	<i>Sound</i>	<i>Steve J</i>
<i>Reading</i>	<i>1John2:28-3:3 Barbara</i>		
	<i>Luke 2:41-52 Rachel</i>		
<i>Intercessions:</i>	<i>David Willets</i>		
<i>Café:</i>	<i>Nick & Sally</i>		