



Knowing Jesus
Sharing God's Love
Caring for People

St Mary's Shaw cum Donnington

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

Church Wardens: *Ros Stuart & Lesley Almond*

Parish Administrator: *Christine Jago*

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15th Feb 2026

10:00 am Holy Communion

Lead: EY Sermon: RO

A/V: Mike S & Rachel

Stewards: Jane Y & Lesley

LCA & CA Ros & Mary D

Welcome, Notices

**RB 1 Awake my soul and with the sun
(vv1,2,3,4,8)**

Collect (Sunday Before Lent)

Gloria St Thomas

Reading: Gen 18:16-33: Daphne

Reading: Matt 26:36-46: Mary D

Sermon RO

MP 162 From Heaven you came

Creed (Nicene))

Intercessions: David W

MP 975 Before the Throne of God above

Eucharistic Prayer (A)

**MP 239 Forth in the name, O Lord, I go
Blessing.**

Church Café: Heather & Mary R

Collect (Sunday Before Lent)

Almighty Father,

whose Son was revealed in majesty

before he suffered death upon the cross:

give us grace to perceive his glory,

that we may be strengthened to suffer with him

and changed in his likeness, from glory to glory:

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God now and forever. Amen

Talking to God

In the book of Ecclesiastes, it says "God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few". Jesus said we shouldn't babble like pagans (Matt 6:7), as if God could be impressed by our words (either because they are many, or because they are eloquent). But if God is Great, and I am small, perhaps it would be better to say nothing at all – then I can't get it wrong.

Except that saying nothing would be wrong, because it disengages us from God. God doesn't want that.

Jesus said, "When you pray, say ..." and Ecclesiastes talks about few words, not no words.

But how do we choose the right words when we pray? I wonder if the answer to that is that we shouldn't think about it. As soon as we try to construct a 'good' prayer, we've moved away from a relationship with Our Father in Heaven. Prayer isn't trying to manipulate, it is seeking to be close and growing closer.

So, if we find prayer hard or confusing, maybe we could try being like little children and saying what is in our heart. Say it once, say it to our Father who loves us, who may correct, but will never leave us. Raymond

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, Mark Hutson, Cynthia Lane, June Milsom, Maggie Wiseman**
- **Our nursing home fellowship members, including Joan Lamonby, Chris Fenwick, Pat Lee, Mansour Afshari.**
- **For the Boys' Brigade and Girls Association**
- **Residents of Donnington Park, Stable Ct. Shaw Farm rd. & Donnington Grove Est**
- **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 in the coming week: (Half Term)

Monday	16th	Myrtle Community Cafe	10:30 - 12:30	Church Centre	David
Wednesday	18th	Morning Prayer	9:15	Church	Raymond
		Barnabas Group	10:00 - 12:00	Church Centre	Mary D
		Ash Wednesday Service	19.30 – 18.30	Church	Mary D

Wednesday 18th February

19.30 Holy Communion

Leader: EY Speaker: EY

Is 58:1-12

Mat 6:1-6,16-21

Next Sunday, 22nd February

10:00 Holy Communion

Leader: EY Speaker: EY

Stewards: Janet S & George

A/V: Heather & Steve J

Heather: Gen 1:27-28,31-2:9

Rachel: Matt 12:1-12

Intercessions: Sally

Café: Nick & Sally



Swap from plastic household items: substitute paper cotton buds, plastic-free wipes, compostable dish cloths, wooden nail brushes, loofah pan scrubs etc

Green Tip

Lent begins this week.

You are invited to begin Lent on Ash Wednesday.

We have a service of Holy Communion (with imposition of ashes) at 7:30pm.

Our Lent Course this year will be on Tuesday evenings

This year we are going to be looking at the foundations of our faith:

7:00 We begin with a meal together

7:45 We open our hearts and our minds to God as we consider

24 th Feb	The Lord's Prayer	Church Centre
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3 rd March	The Apostle's Creed	Church or Upstairs
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10 th March	The 10 Commandments	Church Centre
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17 th March	Baptism	Church Centre
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24 th March	Holy Communion	Church Centre
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9:00 end

All are invited, but please could you let the church office know if you are coming so we can make sure we have enough food.

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

1. **Pray with Tearfund this Lent:** sign up for weekly emails with Bible reflections on the theme of living water, inspiring stories and prayer points from Tearfund's work around the world to help you pray for people living in poverty, and questions to help guide your thoughts as you talk to God. <https://www.tearfund.org/forms/lent-email-sign-up-form?>

2. **Choose Fairtrade chocolates and flowers for Valentine's Day:** look in Waitrose, M&S, Co-op and Oxfam. More information from <https://www.fairtrade.net/uk-en/get-involved/resources/blog/the-best-ethical-valentine-s-day-gifts.html>

3. **Volunteers needed in churchyard;** now we no longer have Derek's presence in the churchyard, we are even more in need of help with tending, tidying etc. Please let me know if you are interested or would like to contribute plants in the spring.

Let me know if you would like more information or would like to **order from the Leprosy Mission**. Spring collection, including Easter goods, is now here.

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



Easter Kids

Prayer meeting being held Sat 7th March 10am to plan activities etc for the morning of Sat 4th April 10am to 12pm

If anyone is interested in helping do come along to the planning meeting or to let Lisa know via the church office

Libby and Tony B are running the Bath Half Marathon again on 15 March, in aid of Action Through Enterprise, one of the charities we support at St Mary's. If you would like to sponsor us and help Action Through Enterprise do more for the children of Upper West Ghana and their communities, our links are below, or you can sign the list at church coffee.

Many thanks.

<https://2026getprobathhalf.enthuse.com/pf/libby-goldsack>

<https://2026getprobathhalf.enthuse.com/pf/tony-bradford>