



St Mary's Shaw cum Donnington

Knowing Jesus, Sharing God's Love, Caring for People

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

Church Warden: **Ros Stuart**

Parish Administrator: **vacant**

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Sunday – Holy Communion

Leader: Ed Steward: Sally

AV: Heather & Mike

Welcome & Notices

RB 207 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Confession

Collect

RB 238 Blest are the pure in heart

Reading Rom 2:1-16 (Gill)

Reading Luke 13:31-35 (Derek)

Sermon (Raymond)

Creed

Intercessions (Wendy)

MP921 Purify my Heart

Holy Communion (Ed)

MP 473 My hope is built on nothing less

Blessing

Church Café

Heather & Mary R

Collect: Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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.

Problems and Solutions

It has been said that (and as with many things, it might be true, it might be not – but even if it's not, it's still quite plausible), when the Times Newspaper wrote to some notable people asking them 'What is wrong with the world?', GK Chesterton answered with what is probably the second shortest letter to The Times: "I am".

It takes a certain humility (or maybe it's just honesty) to admit that you're wrong when you are – and some people continue to deny they are wrong in the face of clear evidence to the contrary.

But, unless you know the problem, and own the problem, you're not going to find a solution to the problem. And if the problem is quite as stark as 'I am', what kind of solution could there possibly be?

Chesterton also wrote a poem called Ultimate, where the words 'I am' become the bankrupt creed of one who denies God. But the poem ends by drawing our attention to the notion that, although 'I am' can be a proud boast on human lips, it also speaks of the Creator. Because it's His Name.

I am the problem and "I am" is the answer. *Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" John 8:58*

Raymond

Slide Show By Paul Sievers

Saturday 17th February

2pm – 4pm in the Church Centre

Madeiran images:

a colourful show

with a mixture of flowers,
scenery and local crafts.

Then after a short interval

Church floral arrangements during 2023

Followed by a macro quiz

Proceeds will go to the new Lychgate
railings



Meeting Point

Time together for you and your little ones

9.45 to 11.15 am on Tuesdays in term
time (refreshments from 9.15)

Small, informal, friendly group - all in one
room . Chat, discussions etc for adults

Play and crafts with little ones

Carpet time and singing for everyone

Come along to any meeting, but if you
would like more details,

contact Libby on 01635 30719

or libby.goldsack@btinternet.com

February 2024

20 Feb Lent

27 Feb Book recommendations

5 Mar Mothering crafts and *Fledglings*

12 Mar Motherhood

19 Mar Easter crafts

Understanding Dementia

Led by Sue Butterworth

Senior Public Health Programme Officer

Wednesday 13th March 10am – noon
Newbury Methodist Church (Wesley Hall)

A two-hour workshop learning about
dementia, diagnosis, and the support
available for people living with dementia
and their carers

To book a place contact:

Karen on 07444 851606 or email
pastoraldevelopmentworker@outlook.com

St Mary's Flower Club

Next Meeting

Wednesday 6th March

See Mary Dawkins for details

Shoemakers

20th

Anniversary

Thanksgiving Service

Join us as we celebrate 20 years
of God's wonderful provision

Saturday 16th March, 2pm
St Mary's, Shaw

Read Mark

Mark 4:1-20



⁴ Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. ² He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: ³ "Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times."

⁹ Then Jesus said, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

¹⁰ When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables. ¹¹ He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God * has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables ¹² so that, " 'they may be ever seeing ¹² but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!' "

¹³ Then Jesus said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? ¹⁴ The farmer sows the word.

¹⁵ Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. ¹⁶ Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. ¹⁷ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ¹⁸ Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; ¹⁹ but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²⁰ Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."

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 Sally in the office know.



- *Cynthia Lane, Mark Hutson, Ruth Fisher, Sue Povey, June Milson, Angie Mackoon and Karen & Katie Fenwick.*
- *Our nursing home fellowship members, including Mary Taylor, Joan Lamonby, Sylvia Reed, Chris Fenwick, Pat Marshall, Pat Troughton and Mary Curtis.*
- *This week, the residents of Love lane and The Castle School, Shaw school & Trinity School*
- *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.

Things taking place this week

Monday	19 th	Myrtle Café	12:00 –15:00	Church Centre	David Willetts
Tuesday	20 th	Meeting Point	9:45 –11:00	Church Centre	Libby
Tuesday	20 th	Funeral <i>Shirley Crittenden</i>	11:00	Church	Ed
Tuesday	20 th	Lent Course	19:30 – 21:00	Church Centre	Raymond
Wednesday	21 st	Morning Prayer	9:15 –10:00	Church	Raymond
Wednesday	21 st	Barnabas Group	10:00 –12:00	Church Centre	Mary D/Judith
Wednesday	21 st	Deanery Chapter	12:00 –14:00	Church Centre	Raymond
Wednesday	21 st	COINS Pause & Pray	14:00	Church Centre	Raymond

Lent Course 2024 Tuesday evening: 7:30 – 9pm in the Church Centre

All are welcome to join us for our Lent Course this year.

Each week we will be reflecting on and digging deeper into the things talked about from Romans on the previous Sunday. Our journey through Romans is gently following Andrew Ollerton's Romans: A Letter that makes Sense of Life.

20th Feb Romans 2:1-15 Sin in our Attitudes

27th Feb Romans 3:21-31 Justified by Faith

5th Mar Romans 4:1-25 Living by Faith

12th Mar Romans 5:1-11 Peace with God

19th Mar Romans 5:12-21 Peace for you

28th Mar Romans 7:1-25 Sin brings death

Next Sunday 25th Feb 2024: Lent 2

10:00 am Morning Prayer

Leader: Raymond Steward: **Rachel**

Readings: Romans 3:21-31 **Heather**

Mark 8:31-38 **Mark**

Intercessions: **Ed** Café: **Nick & Sally**