



St Mary's Shaw cum Donnington

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

2nd August 10am- Holy Communion

Lead: Raymond

Sermon: Rev Geoff Sowden

A/V Olly & Mike

Stewards: Jane S & Lesley

LCA & CA: Sally & Rachel

Welcome, Notices

RB207 Praise to the Lord

Confession

Collect (Trinity 9)

Gloria: (St Thomas)

Reading 1: Prov 10:15-25 Judith

RB118 Firmly I believe

Reading 2: Luke 5:27-31 Lesley

Sermon

Creed (Nicene)

Intercessions: Mary D

RB170 The Church's One Foundation

Communion

MP 496 O for a thousand tongues to sing

Blessing.

Church Café: Julie & David

Collect (Trinity+9) Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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**

Good News for Tax Collectors

I wonder what would happen if all HMRC's officers suddenly got up from their desks and left. Would the public finances fall into disarray? Would we no longer have to pay tax?! I think not. HMRC would import officers from elsewhere and everything (especially paying tax) would continue. I imagine the Roman Tax authorities took a similar approach when Matthew (called Levi in Mark and Luke) and Zacchaeus (Luke 19) decided to give up their revenue generating career to follow Jesus. But these events are not about tax.

They are about sinners. The Gospels often use 'Tax Collector' as synecdoche – tax collectors were sinners, so we can refer to sinners as tax collectors. It is poetic rather than strictly correct, but it means the events are as relevant to us as they were to Matthew.

What happens when a sinner meets Jesus? The answer is the sinner's choice: carry on or follow. Carry on as a sinner; or follow Jesus, knowing that He is the only way to escape the wages of sin.

My choice. Your choice. To hold on and carry on to destruction, or to let go and follow on the road that leads to life (Mat 7:14).

Raymond.

Mark Hutson

Marks Funeral Service will be held this Tuesday the 4th of August at 10.30am, here at St Marys.

Please continue to pray for Mary, Louise and Chris

LUNCH CLUB for Children

A reminder that Bridge Church hold their Lunch Club during school Holidays. Every Thursdays in August (10:30am – 12:30pm). If you want a Flyer to pass on, there are some at the back of the church

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

1. Can you give extra food to West Berks Foodbank for their Hungry Holidays scheme? (in church or at supermarkets). This provides free-school-meals families with groceries and support through the summer holidays. Monetary donations also welcome. Online or pay in Lloyds Bank, Newbury: Sort Code 77-95-05 West Berks Foodbank: Account No. 72784660. Or send a cheque payable to West Berks Foodbank to: The Treasurer, West Berks Foodbank, 21 Liberty House, Greenham Business Park, Thatcham, RG19 6HS.

More about the scheme at <https://westberks.foodbank.org.uk/2026/06/15/hungry-holidays-supporting-families-when-it-matters-most/>

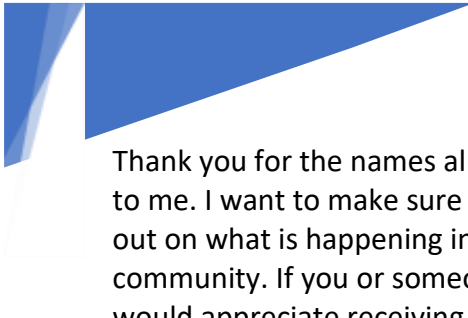
2. It's not too late to sign up for the Big Butterfly Count which you can do any times(s) and anywhere, from 17 July to 9 August, and help protect endangered butterflies <https://butterfly-conservation.org/events/big-butterfly-count-2026>

3. You don't have to worry, panic or put a blanket over your head as we see the effects of climate change. There is something everyone can do. See what the wildlife trusts suggest. For a nation of nature lovers, we are fortunate that one of the most powerful solutions we have available - alongside rapidly reducing emissions from fossil fuels and increasing energy efficiency - is the recovery of the natural world. <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/blog/zoe-quiros-cullen/why-it-so-hot-look-heatwaves-and-how-nature-can-help-us-cope>

Libby (01635 30719 or libby.goldsack@btinternet.com)

Green Tip

Save your rinsing water from salad, fruit and veg or other washing in a bucket for bowl in the sink, and water the garden with it.



Thank you for the names already passed on to me. I want to make sure no one misses out on what is happening in our church community. If you or someone you know, would appreciate receiving a fortnightly or monthly news update through the post instead of email, please let me know. I am very happy to arrange this so that everyone stays included and connected. Thank you for helping us make sure our whole church family is cared for.
Christine

Tree of The Year 2026

The Woodland Trust have a page on their website, where you can vote for your favourite tree of the year.

There is a list of ten trees. **The Donnington Castle Oak** is on this list. It states that this Oak outlasted the 17th Century Bombardment nearby. *It survived the Civil War.*

If you would like to read more about it and place your vote, then just type into Google the following, (vote for your tree of the year 2026). This will take you direct to the Woodland Trust link, where you can read about all ten trees that have been shortlisted and cast a vote. **The Donnington Castle Oak** is number 10 on the list

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 Curling Way*
- *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.

Tuesday	4 th Aug	Funeral	10:30	Church	Raymond
Wednesday	5 th	Morning Prayer	9:15-10:00	Church	Raymond
		Barnabas Group	10:00	Church Centre	Mary D
Sunday	9 th	Holy Communion	10:00	Church	Raymond

Next Sunday, 9th Aug 10am

Morning Prayer

Leader: Raymond / Sermon: Raymond

A/V: Steve J & Wendy

Reading 1: Jer 31:33-37 (Sally).

Intercessions: David W

Stewards: Mary D & Rachel

Reading 2: Luke 15:1-10 (Steve J)

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



Scan to give to Shaw Church