



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**

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2nd March – Last Sunday before Lent

10:00

Lead: Ed; Sermon: Ed

A/V: Heather and Wendy

Stewards: Sally and Jane Y

Welcome & Notices

RB4 Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Confession

Collect

Psalm 136

Reading Ruth 4 (Lesley A)

Anthem: Christ upon the Mountain

Reading Luke 9:28-43a

Sermon

MP296 I stand amazed in the presence

Creed (Nicene)

Intercessions (Sally)

RB263 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour

Holy Communion

MP624 Take my life and let it be

Blessing

Church Café

David and Lisa W

Collect (Last 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 be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

What makes a happy ending?

If you think of any happy story, there will be something that causes everything to turn out well in the end. Perhaps it's a bit of good luck, or a moment of supreme courage, or the persistence of one of the characters, or an epiphany that changes someone's heart. Ruth is a story that has several happy endings – in fact all the main characters end the book happier than they started it. And there's a common thread that causes all these happy endings: the Hebrew word for it is *hesed*. It means a combination of love, kindness and loyalty all rolled into one.

As a book, Ruth wants to commend *hesed* to us as a way of life. At the end of the day, there is nothing more admirable, more worthy, than a person whose love for others shows itself in abundant kindness and unflinching loyalty. How many of our stories would be happier with a bit more *hesed* in them?

But above and beyond that, Ruth wants to point us to God, whose *hesed* does not forsake the living or the dead. (Ruth 2:20) As we trust in his kindness, love and loyalty, we can know that all our stories will end happily.

Ed.

Electoral Roll: Full Revision 2025

This year (and every 6 years) we are preparing a new Electoral Roll. If you are on the Electoral Roll now, or if you are not on the Electoral Roll and would like to be (or think you should be!) you are invited to apply to be on the new Roll.

*Note: You must apply this year and do so **before 8th March** for your name to be on the Electoral Roll for the APCM on 23rd March 2025.*

Blank Forms are available from the Electoral Roll Officer (Derek Harwood), or the Church Office.

Completed forms should be given to Derek (or hand into the office and Maggie will see that Derek gets them.)

Christian Resources in Newbury

Sonrise Christian Resources will be popping up with a Christian Resources stall at the Open Door coffee morning at Newbury Methodist Church on 25 February 2025 from 10am until 12. Open to everyone, this is a great opportunity to pick up Lent reading material, as well as Easter cards and gifts. Do pop by for a browse, a chat and to sample the coffee and cake at the Open Door.

Coffee Morning at St Nic's – 13th March

Please could you start collecting bric a brac and tombola prizes. There is a signup sheet at back of Church for homemade cakes/scones or if you are available to help on the day.

See Ros for more details.

Choral Concert at St Mary's

St Mary's are delighted to welcome back Cantemus Choir who will be performing their 25th Anniversary Concert on 15th March at 7:30pm. Steve Bovey will be accompanying the choir and will also play some solo pieces during the concert.

Tickets are £12 each and can be purchased from Rachel Haslam.

All proceeds will be for church funds.

Stewards will be needed to welcome the audience and serve interval refreshments so please let Rachel know if you are able to help.

Tony Bradford and Libby are running the Bath Half Marathon for action Through Enterprise on 16th March.

If you would like to sponsor them, here are the links to their fundraising pages

<https://bathhalf2025.enthuse.com/pf/tony-bradford>

<https://bathhalf2025.enthuse.com/pf/libby-goldsack>

There will also be sponsor sheets at church.

Many thanks for your support

Green tip

Go second-hand or zero-plastic for Lent.

Mary Curtis

Mary Curtis, a once regular part of the Shaw Church community, died at the Argyles Care Home on 12th February 2025.

There will be a celebration of her life at St John's Church, Newbury on 20th March at 11:30am – all are welcome.

Pancakes before Home Group: Tuesday 4th March

Ed and Jane will be serving traditional crepes and Polish potato pancakes from 18:30-19:30 before home group on Tuesday. Even if you don't normally come to home group, you'd be very welcome (we're looking at Jonah 4). If you would like to come, please speak to Ed or Jane, or email ed@shawchurch.org before 3pm on Monday so we know how many to cater for.

**World Day of Prayer – Friday 7th March at 10:30am
At Newbury Methodist Church.**

You are warmly invited to join the
Newbury World Day of Pray



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, Sheila Smith, Mansour Afshari.***
- ***For the Boys' Brigade***
- ***This week, the residents of Northern Ave and Dene Way***
- ***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 weeks: February 2025

Monday	3 rd	Myrtle Café	12:00 – 14:30	Church Centre	David W
Tuesday	4 th	Meeting Point	9:45 – 11:15	Church Centre	Libby
		Daytime Home Group	14:30 – 16:00	Church Centre	Ed
		Home Group	19:30 – 21:00	Rectory	Ed
Wednesday	5 th	Morning Prayer	9.15 – 10.00	Church	Raymond
		Barnabas Group	10.00 – 12.00	Church Centre	Mary D
		Flower Club	13:30 – 16:00	Church Centre	Mary D
		Boys' Brigade	18:15 – 19:45	Church Centre	Ed
		Ash Wednesday Holy Communion	19:30	Church	Raymond/Ed

Next Sunday

9th March 2025 – Lent 1

10:00	Morning Worship
Leader:	Ed
Stewards	Janet S/Lesley A
Sound	Mike S/Visuals Steve J
Reading	Deut 6:4-19 – Rachel Luke 16:10-15 – Janet S
Intercessions	Ed
Kitchen	Jane Y and Daphne