



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**

t: 01635 40450

e: office@shawchurch.org w: shawchurch.org

### 21st December 2025

#### 10:00 am Holy Communion

Lead: Ed Speak: Raymond

A/V: Mike S & Steve J

Stewards: Rachel & George

#### Welcome, Notices

#### RB 30 Hark the glad sound !

Confession

#### MP 752 When he comes

Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16 Derek

#### Anthem Thy kingdom come O God

Reading Matt 1:18-25 Judith

Sermon

Creed (Nicene)

Intercessions Libby

#### MP 420 Like a candle flame

Holy Communion LCA: Mary.D & Ros

#### RB 484 Long ago prophets knew

Blessing

#### Church Café: Heather & Mary.R

#### Collect (Advent 4)

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your son grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge: who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever. Amen

#### The clue is in the name

What is important about Christmas?

We make it a time for family and festivities, reminding ourselves of what is important in life. We make it a time for good will, and we support initiatives and charities working with people who struggle in life – remembering Mary and Joseph in a stable. We pray for peace throughout the world because the Angel said 'Peace on Earth' (even though peace sometimes seems further away than ever).

The wise men's gifts are a model for our gift-giving, but I suspect their real significance was simply being there – gifts, a natural outworking of their honour, respect and insight. The shepherds were just as welcome coming as they were, to be there, so see, and then to go tell their story.

Luke tells us the baby's name and status: Jesus, descendant of David, called the Son of God. Matthew reveals his purpose: Jesus will save his people from their sins, and King Herod identifies him as The Messiah. Shepherds and wise men heard, believed and came. Thirty years later, others heard, believed and came, and told the story. And now it's our turn.

Jesus asked "Who do you say I am?" (Mat 16:15).

*Raymond*

### **17:00 Today Carol Service**

Stewards: Libby & Ros

A/V Steve J

You are invited to join us in the church centre after the service for mulled wine and mince pies

### **Advent Readers!**

Advanced notice for all

#### **“Hallelujah” readers**

the Messiah will be broadcast on

Radio 3

on Monday 22 December at 7-30pm

### **Green tip**

Make the most of your leftovers, then spare a bit for the birds. No salt or grease but please crumbs, pastry, cheese, potato and fruit - fresh or dried. RSPB says use a bird feeder not bird table to prevent disease.

**Save your used stamps** and bring to church for RNIB. Box at back.

### **Support your Village Hall**

Congratulations to the Trustees of our Village Hall who have secured planning approval to build a small hall and a community room at the rear to accommodate a wider range of community activities. The current hall is over 100 years old, and the number of parishioners continues to increase over the years as we welcome new parishioners to our community in Shaw Valley and Donnington Heights.

Shaw-cum-Donnington artist, Ludmila Cummings has crafted and donated these Christmas Cards to support of the Trustees meeting the challenge of raising the substantial funds necessary.

Please take a few cards from the table at the south door entrance to give to family and friends and make a donation to the Trustees. It will help the fundraising if you are willing to indicate your support by adding your name as a donor. Major funders will take note of the level of support coming from within our community.

**Thank you and thank you Ludmila**

**St Mary's Myrtle Community Café**

## We need your help!

If you shop online for yourself or for your business, or are thinking of buying **Christmas presents** on-line or booking a **holiday** for next year, please could you sign up to **easyfundraising** to support St Mary's Church, Shaw-cum-Donnington?

It's a really easy way to raise money for us – you just use the easyfundraising site to shop online with more than 3,600 well known online stores like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden and M&S. When you make a purchase, the retailer sends us a free donation, **at no extra cost to you**.

When you have registered with easyfundraising, don't forget to activate the 'donation reminder.' This prompts you to confirm that you would like a retailer to make a donation to St Mary's on your behalf when you visit their site.

We have already raised **over £600** since we started using this fundraising tool. We hope we can raise lots more in the future to support our activities here at St Mary's. All our office and church supplies are already purchased this way.

Even a few pence raised with each transaction adds up if lots of people take part. Some companies make bigger donations on purchases, for example £30 on Direct Line Car Insurance, up to 2% from John Lewis and up to 4% on Booking.com

Please talk to Rachel Haslam if you need any more information.

Thank you for your support.



### **Support our Christmas Charities 2025: Action Through Enterprise (in Ghana), Jesus Disciples Centre (Riverside) youth and children's work, and West Berks Food Bank.**

There will be a basket at the back of church for donations to ATE throughout December

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE to put a Christmas message on the screen and support our Christmas charities Action Through Enterprise (in Ghana) and Jesus Disciples Centre's youth and children's work at Riverside.**

Give £5 to one of World Partners Libby/Ros/Barbara/Julie/Gill and email your message to Wendy by Saturday 20th LATEST.

**Stock up the food bank for Christmas. Goods need to reach Food Bank warehouse by 22 December, either direct or via your supermarket.**

**Needed please** UHT milk, jam, instant coffee, tinned veg, tinned soup, cereal, tinned fish, baked beans, pasta, instant mash, pasta sauce, sugar, tinned fruit, non-bio laundry, rice, deodorant, longlife fruit juice, confectionary, tinned custard, toilet roll, washing-up liquid, tinned tomatoes, tinned meat, rice pudding.

**The Carol Service (this Sunday at 5 pm) pass-the-plate collection will go to West Berks Food Bank**

## 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 Marshall, Pat Lee, Mansour Ashfari.**
- **For the Boys' Brigade and Girls Association**
- **Residents of Shaw Road & Coachman's Court**
- **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](mailto:libby.goldsack@btinternet.com) and she will circulate your request.

## What's on in the coming week:

Sunday	21 <sup>st</sup>	Carol Service	17:00	Church	Raymond
Wednesday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Prayer	9:15 - 10:00	Church	Raymond
		Crib Service	16:00	Church	Raymond
		First Communion. of Christmas	23:15	Church	Ed
Thursday	25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day	10:00	Church	Raymond

### 10:00 Christmas Day

Stewards: Jane Y & Sally

A/V Rachel/Wendy

Reading: Rev 14:1-5 – Jill M

Gospel: Matt. 2:13-18 – Barbara

Intercessions: Jane Y

CA: Sally & Ed

### Next Sunday, 28th December

#### 10:00 Morning Prayer

Stewards: Janet S & Ros

A/V Mike S/Heather

Reading: Rev 14:1-5 – Jill M

Gospel: Matt. 2:13-18 – Barbara

Intercessions: Jane Yates

Café: Wendy & Karen

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January

#### 10:00 Holy Communion

A/V Mike S/Steve J

Stewards: tba

Reading: Eph 1:3-14– Paul

Gospel: John 1:14-18 – Lesley

CA: Lesley & Rachel

Intercessions: Sally

Café: tba