



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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22nd March 2026

10:00 am Morning Prayer

Lead: RO Sermon: RO

A/V: Mike S & Steve J

Stewards: Wendy & Rachel

Welcome, Notices

RB 72 **Lift high the cross (v1,2,3,8,12)**

Confession

RB 63 **My song is love unknown (v1,2,6,7)**

Reading 1 Th2:1-12 (George)

Anthem: **Sing my tongue – plainsong (RB59)**

Reading Matt 12:14-21 (Jane O)

Sermon

MP 85 Come and see

Creed (Apostles)

Intercessions: Ed

Lord's prayer

RB 67 **When I survey**

Blessing.

Church Café: Rachel & Gill

Collects (Lent 5+ Ash Weds)

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:

grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:

create and make in us new and contrite

hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and

acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen

A Plan

Baldrick's cunning plan was to carve his name into a bullet. If somewhere there's a bullet with your name on it, by owning that bullet he can't get shot with it! (Blackadder S4E1). All around us today we see plans (cunning or otherwise) that don't seem to be reaching their intended fulfilment. Perhaps time will tell. Perhaps governments around the world will bring peace and prosperity. Perhaps 'interventions' by force of arms, or through financial incentive, or in the making of (more) rules, will work. Perhaps.

It's easy to look at the imperfect leaders we have, and their imperfect plans and conclude that there cannot be a perfect plan. But what if there's a perfect leader with a perfect plan? Would you dare to believe?

If the crux of the plan is a man on a cross, would you turn away? Pain and suffering to end pain and suffering? A death to bring life? Surprising, counter-intuitive.

When we look into God's revelation to us – in creation, in the events we call history, in scripture, we find that it is so.

God's plan is fulfilled in Christ as "he leads justice to victory" (Mat 12:20).

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 Wantage Rd, Snelsmore & Donnington N/H

- **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:

| | | | | | |
|------------|---------|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Monday | 23rd | Myrtle Community Cafe | 10:30 - 12:30 | Church Centre | David |
| | | Confirmation/Baptism Classes | 19.30 | Church Centre | Ed |
| Tuesday | 24th | Meeting Point | 9.45 - 11.15 | Church Centre | Libby |
| | | Lunch Club | 11.00 - 15.00 | Church Centre | Ros |
| | | Lent Group | 19.00 - 21.00 | Church Centre | Ed |
| Wednesday | 25th | Morning Prayer | 9.15 | Church | Raymond |
| | | Barnabas Group | 10.00 - 12:00 | Church Centre | Mary D |
| | | Midweek Communion | 10.30 - 11.00 | Church | |
| | | Funeral | 12.00 | Church | Ed |
| | | Boys Brigade | 18.15 - 19.45 | Church Centre | Ed/Jane O |
| Thurs/Frid | 26/27th | Church Clean up | 10.00 -12-00 | Church | |
| Sunday | 29th | Palm Sunday Procession | 9.45 Starting from | Donnington primary school | |

Next Sunday 29th March

10:00 Morning Prayer

Leader: EY Speaker: EY

Stewards: Janet S & Libby

A/V: Ollie/Jacob & Mike S

Reading 1: 2Cor 5:1-10/Heather

Reading 2: Matt 21:1-11/Barbara

Intercessions Jane Y

Church Cafe: Nick & Sally

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/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 shaw-church.org/giving or scan the QR code below.

If you would like to give to the church regularly, please visit parishgiving.org.uk



Share in giving in Shaw Church

Subject: Shaping the future of Shaw-cum-Donnington: Your input needed

Dear All,

The charity **Connecting Communities Berkshire (CCB)** is currently gathering feedback to better understand the specific needs of rural villages across the county.

A key part of this research is determining whether a **Community Development Officer** could help our village reach its local goals and address gaps in services or infrastructure. To ensure that Shaw-cum-Donnington is properly represented in this study, we are looking to gather **20–40 responses** from our residents.

The survey is brief and should take no more than 5 minutes of your time. Your feedback will directly influence how CCB allocates support and resources across West Berkshire in the future.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TD7BD6Y>

Thank you for your time and for helping to support our community.

Watership Brass Concert

7.30pm 11th April 2026

St Johns Church Newbury. Admission Free

Special guests/DeBrasserie Band from Ypres Belgium.

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

1. Buy Fairtrade Easter eggs: locally; Oxfam, Waitrose, M&S, Co-Op own.

Online; Leprosy Mission (see **2**), Ethical Superstore

2. Buy Easter cards and goods from Leprosy Mission: Browse a catalogue from information stall or online and order through me.

3. Earth Hour 8.30pm 28 March: give an hour for the earth

Bear witness to the climate and biodiversity crises by turning your lights off for the hour. And/or do something to help the planet for an hour at a time of your choosing. Find out more at <https://www.earthhour.org/>

Libby 01635 30719 or libby.goldsack@btinternet.com

Green tip

Provide water for bees in a shallow dish with pebbles for landing pads.

Last evening of our Lent Course this year is on Tuesday evening

Looking at the foundations of our faith:

7:00pm, We begin with a meal together – Evening ends 9:00pm

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

24th March Holy Communion Church Centre

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.

Save the Date

Spring Cleaning morning in Church on **Thursday 26th** March 10am - 12pm PLEASE do come along if you can for part or all the morning. Many hands will make light work. Tea/coffee & biscuits provided. Please bring along any useful cleaning items you have - cordless vacs etc

On **Friday 27th** it is hoped we will be able to hire a floor polisher to do the floor so will also need some volunteers to take turns with the polisher, and to move any furniture (tables) out of the way etc.

Easter Kids Sat 4th April 10am to 12pm See further details in this newsletter.

There will be no prayer breakfast in April as we are supporting Easter Kids

Watership Brass Concert Saturday 11th April 7.30 PM St Johns Church

Ukulele concert Saturday 18th April with N.U.T.S (Newbury Ukulele Town Strummers!) at 3.00pm in Church.

