



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**

T: 01645 40450

E: office@shawchurch.org

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Sunday – Holy Communion

Leader: Raymond Steward: Rachel

AV: Mike & Wendy

Welcome & Notices

MP 160 Forty Days and Forty Nights

Confession

RB 210 Oft in Danger

Reading Rom 3:21-31 (Heather)

Anthem Turn thy face from my sins

(Attwood)

Reading Mark 8:31-38 (Mark)

Sermon (Ed)

RB 135 Rock of Ages

Creed (Apostles')

Intercessions (Ed)

The Lord's Prayer

Collect

RB 336 All my hope (v1-5)

Blessing

Church Café

Nick & Sally

Collect: Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's
sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Plot Twist!

Some of the most iconic moments in cinema history involve an unexpected plot twist. Done well, it can be the making of a film. Apparently, the Empire Strikes Back's "No, Luke, I am your father!" was such a closely guarded secret that even the man in the Darth Vader suit only found out at the premiere!

Romans isn't a film, but the words our passage begin with today introduce one of the biggest twists in the Bible. Paul has spent most of the last three chapters proving that on judgement day "every mouth [will] be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God." (Rom 3:19) We will have nothing to say in our defence. "But now", Paul tells us, God has revealed a way to get a verdict of "righteous" on judgement day nonetheless!

The element of surprise wears off if you watch a film more than once. I no longer gasp in shock at the Empire Strikes Back like I did when I was 10. But if we are to treasure the Gospel as we should, we must never lose our wonder at the fact that there is a Gospel at all. We might have been expecting Paul's letter to come to this point but let us never take it for granted.

Ed

Mothering Sunday Posies Mar 9th

We will be meeting at 10am in the Church Centre on Saturday 9th March to put together the posies for Mothering Sunday.

Everything that goes into the posies will be provided, but please bring your own scissors.

For further information, speak to Chris W.

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

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

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 4:21-34



²¹He said to them, “Do you bring in a lamp to put it under a bowl or a bed? Instead, don’t you put it on its stand? ²²For whatever is hidden is meant to be disclosed, and whatever is concealed is meant to be brought out into the open. ²³If anyone has ears to hear, let them hear.”

²⁴“Consider carefully what you hear,” he continued. “With the measure you use, it will be measured to you—and even more. ²⁵Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.”

²⁶He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. ²⁷Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. ²⁸All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. ²⁹As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. ³²Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”

³³With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. ³⁴He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

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 Milsom, Angie Mackoon.*
- *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 Kingsley Close and Owen Rd.*
- *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	26 th	Myrtle Café	12:00 –15:00	Church Centre	David Willetts
Tuesday	27 th	Meeting Point	9:45 –11:00	Church Centre	Libby
Tuesday	27 th	Lunch Club	12:00-14:00	Church Centre	Ros
Tuesday	27 th	Lent Course	19:30 – 21:00	Church Centre	Raymond
Wednesday	28 th	Morning Prayer	9:15 –10:00	Church	Raymond
Wednesday	28 th	Barnabas Group	10:00 –12:00	Church Centre	Mary D/Judith
Wednesday	28 th	Holy Communion	10:30	Church	Raymond/Ed
Saturday	2 nd	Prayer Breakfast	08:00-09:00	Church Centre	Ros

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 3rd Mar 2024: Lent 3

10:00 am Holy Communion

Leader: Raymond Steward: **Libby, Mark**

Readings: Romans 4:1-25 **Lesley A**

John 2:13-22 **Judith**

CA/LCA – **Ed & Sally**

Intercessions: **Sally**

Café: **Charles & Lesley**