



St Mary's Shaw cum Donnington

Knowing Jesus, Sharing God's Love, Caring for People

Rector: **Revd Raymond Obin** Curate: **Revd Ed Yates**

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Welcome to St Mary's

Epiphany Sunday 7th January 2024

10:00 am Holy Communion

Stewards: Libby

Welcome and Prayer of Preparation

RB 49 O Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Confession

Collect

Gloria

Reading: Isaiah 55 (Barbara)

Anthem: Eastern Monarchs Sages Three

Reading: Matt 2:1-12 (Judith)

Sermon

Creed

RB 48 Earth has many a noble city

Intercessions (Ed)

The Peace

MP 740 We three Kings

Holy Communion

RB 47 – Brightest and best

Blessing

Café is open: Charles & Lesley

Collect

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who

know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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.

Attention

How would I get your attention? I could call your name. That ought to work if I'm close enough and there isn't too much background noise (and unless you're engrossed in something). Or I could wave? If you're looking and there aren't too many other people waving, you might see me. But would you think I'm just saying 'hello' and not come over? Sometimes people feel so invisible and ignored that they shout loudly (in voice or in metaphor) or do something obstructive or even destructive – just to get noticed.

What about God? How could He get my attention? For Elijah, it was a gentle whisper rather than the rock-breaking wind-earth-and-fire (see 1 Kings 19). CS Lewis suggested that pain "is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world." Are we deaf to him? Do we need rousing?

Many people think God only says negative things like "do this", and "don't do that", and so they close their ears. But what if God is really saying "come and celebrate at my feast", and "It's OK, I've got this", and "joy and peace"?

As the angel said to the shepherds: "Good news of great joy" Luke 2:10

Raymond.

For the next few(!) weeks, we're going to read through Mark's Gospel. In time we will have read the whole Gospel together. We'll also be using this passage on Wednesday Mornings.

Read Mark

Mark 2:1-12

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ²They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. ³Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

⁶Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷"Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

⁸Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? ⁹Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the man, ¹¹"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ¹²He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

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 and Karen & Katie Fenwick.*
- *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 Hutton Close and Willow's Edge*
- *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	8 th	Myrtle Café	12:00 – 15:00	Church Centre	David Willetts
Tuesday	9 th	Meeting Point	9:45 – 11:00	Church Centre	Libby
Wednesday	10 th	Morning Prayer	9:15 – 10:00	Church	Raymond/Ed
Wednesday	10 th	Barnabas Group	10:00 – 12:00	Church Centre	Judith
Wednesday	10 th	Midweek Communion	10:30 – 11:00	Church	Raymond/Ed

Next Sunday

10:00 am Morning Prayer Stewards: TBC

Readings: Isaiah 56 **Jane O**, Mark 1:1-8 **Rachel**

Intercessions: **Jane Y**

Café: **Jane Y and Lisa W**