



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**

T: 01635 40450

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8th December – Advent 2

Morning Worship

Lead: Ed; A/V: Mike & Wendy

Stewards: Libby and George

Welcome & Notices

RB 24 Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding

Confession

RB 27 On Jordan's Bank

Isaiah 61:1-3 (Rachel)

Anthem: People Look East

Luke 7:18-28 (Barbara)

Sermon

Creed (Apostles')

MP8 All Earth was dark

Intercessions (Karen)

Lord's Prayer

Collect

RB 142 Hail the Lord's Anointed

Blessing

Church Café

Lesley A and Diana

Collect

Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Word for the Week

One of the key figures we remember during the season of Advent is John the Baptist.

That's because he was sent by God to prepare people for Jesus' first coming. How might he help us prepare for Jesus second coming?

This week's passage shows us John in a moment of darkness and doubt. He is locked up in prison. We know, as he didn't, that he would eventually be executed.

Things are going very differently to how he expected and he's starting to wonder whether Jesus really is the Messiah he'd thought he was.

Jesus' return is a common area of doubt for Christians today. Hasn't it been so long already? Many of our neighbours find it a bizarre or even comical belief, more suited to the Middle Ages than the 21st Century. Jesus encourages John by pointing him to the evidence of all he was doing. When he healed disease, cast out evil spirits, raised the dead and preached good news to the poor, it was a clear sign of God's Kingdom coming.

It should likewise encourage us. These signs are a preview of the world Jesus died to bring about. We should not lose hope that he will return to bring it to completion.

Ed

Christmas Collection: Throughout December, there will be a basket at the back of church for donations to Action Through Enterprise in Ghana and Jesus Disciples Centre youth work at Riverside.

Volunteers and Costumes wanted!

If you are available and happy to volunteer for a role in the Nativity Service on Christmas Eve (we need both men and women!) or if you have any adult sized costumes that might suit a nativity service, please get in touch with Ed in person or by emailing ed@shawchurch.org.

Christmas Greetings – on-screen

If you would like to send a Christmas Greeting to the Church and give the money saved on Cards to one of our charities, please pass you message to Wendy (who will put it on the screen before our Sunday worship) and your gift to Libby or Ros.



Food Bank:

Urgently needed items

- Sugar (500g)
- Tin of Biscuits
- Stuffing/Gravy/Cranberry Sauce
- Toilet Paper
- Tin of Sweets/chocolates
- Cooking Oil

Low on Stock

- Milk Powder
- Savoury Biscuits
- UHT Milk
- Pringles or sharing crisps
- Non Biological Washing Powder
- Cooked Meat with ring pulls
- Custard/Rice Pudding Pots
- Christmas Cake (long dates)

Newbury Cancer Care Calendars 2025 are now available: £10

Please see Maggie in the church office (Tue/Wed/Fri, 9am-2pm).

All proceeds to Newbury Cancer Care.

Green Tip

Re-use wrapping paper, or offcuts of pretty cloth.

Check new paper and cards are made from recycled paper.

Read Luke 1:26-38 (NIV)

²⁶In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, 'Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.'

²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. ³¹You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.'

³⁴'How will this be,' Mary asked the angel, 'since I am a virgin?'

³⁵The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷For no word from God will ever fail.'

³⁸'I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered. 'May your word to me be fulfilled.' Then the angel left her.

Meeting Point

10 Dec The Christmas

Story *Fledglings*

17 Dec Informal with mince pies

t: 01635 30719

e:libby.goldsack@btinternet.com

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, Mary Curtis***
- ***The family of Mary Taylor, who died peacefully on Wednesday.***
- ***For the Boys' Brigade***
- ***This week, the residents of Doveton Way, & Leslie Southern 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 and she will circulate your request.

What's on this week:

Monday	9 th	Myrtle Café	12:00-14:30	Church Centre	David Willets
Tuesday	10 th	Meeting Point	9:45-11:15	Church Centre	Libby
		Daytime Home Group	14:30-16:00	Church Centre	Ed
Wednesday	11 th	Morning Prayer	09:15-10:00	Church	Raymond
		Barnabas Group	10:00-12:00	Church Centre	Mary D
		Holy Communion	10:30	Church	Ed
		Boys Brigade	18:15-19:45	Church Centre	Ed

Next Sunday

15th December 2024 – Advent 3

10:00 Holy Communion

Leader: Ed

Stewards: Lesley A & Rachel

Sound: Mike S, Visuals Steve J

Reading: Acts 11:19-24 Charles
Luke 10:1,17-24 Mary D

Intercessions: Jane Y

CA: Sally

Café: Heather & Mary R

This afternoon 8th Dec

Our Christingle service is this afternoon. Join us at 15:45 for a light procession (meet at the corner of Love Lane/ Trinity School Entrance) or at 16:00 in Church for the start of the service.