



## St Mary's Shaw cum Donnington

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

Church Warden: **Ros Stuart**

Parish Administrator: **Maggie Wiseman**

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9<sup>th</sup> February – Lent 4

### 10:00 Morning Worship

Lead: Raymond; Sermon: Ed

A/V: Mike S and Rachel

Stewards: Sally and Janet S

Welcome & Notices

**RB342 Awake, Awake fling off the night.**

Confession

**Anthem O for a closer walk with God**

Ruth 1 (Paul S)

Psalm 57

**RB238 Blest are the pure in heart**

Luke 5:12 -16 (Steve J)

**Sermon**

**RB112 God moves in a mysterious way**

Creed (Apostles)

Intercessions (Jane Y)

**RB 172 Glorious things of thee are spoken**

Blessing

**Church Café**

*Lesley A and Diana*

### Collect (Lent -4)

*O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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*

### Behind a frowning providence

How can you tell whether God is pleased with you or not? One approach, popular since time immemorial, is to look at how things are going in your life. If things are generally going well and you enjoy health, prosperity and happiness, that must be a sign that God is blessing you. If, on the other hand, you are suffering illness, hardship or heartache that must show God is angry with you.

In our passage this week, Naomi feels sure that God has turned against her. She tells everyone who will listen, 'The LORD has afflicted me; the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me.' (Ruth 1:21) And it's not hard to see why; over a period of ten years, she has endured famine, suffered the death of her loved ones, and fallen into poverty.

But Naomi is mistaken. God's faithful love has never abandoned her and is even now working things for her good. It is the same with us. Instead of judging the situation by our circumstances, however dire they may be, we should trust in God's promise to us, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' (Heb13:5)

*Ed.*

## Electoral Roll: Full Revision 2025

This year (and every 6 years) we are preparing a new Electoral Roll. If you are on the Electoral Roll now, or if you are not on the Electoral Roll and would like to be (or think you should be!) you are invited to apply to be on the new Roll.

*Note: You must apply this year and do so **before 8<sup>th</sup> March** for your name to be on the Electoral Roll for the APCM on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025.*

**Blank Forms** are available from the Electoral Roll Officer (Derek Harwood), or the Church Office.

**Completed forms** should be given to Derek (or hand into the office and Maggie will see that Derek gets them.)



Green tip

Take your soft plastics to Co-op in Newbury (Wash Common, Speen and Pound St), Thatcham or Hungerford or to Waitrose for recycling as they actually recycle them using a British firm.

### Note from Ros

NUTS concert postponed until later in the year. Church coffee morning at St Nic's on Thurs 13th March. Please could you start collecting bric a brac and tombola prizes. Signup sheet at back of Church for homemade cakes/scones or available to help on the day. See Ros for more details.

## Newbury Cancer Care Calendars 2025 are still available: £5.00

Beautiful local photographs, that you may wish to put on your walls at home.

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

All proceeds to Newbury Cancer Care.

### **Your invitation to a Reminiscence Afternoon**

Tuesday 18 February 2025 from 2.30 to 4.00 pm

In the Church Centre

Transport available if needed. Ring Libby on 30719 or

email [libby.goldsack@btinternet.com](mailto:libby.goldsack@btinternet.com)

Come and share your (or your family's) memories of **Spring**

All welcome - do please bring your friends.

### **Choral Concert at St Mary's**

St Mary's are delighted to welcome back Cantemus Choir who will be performing their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert on 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30pm.

Steve Bowey will be accompanying the choir and will also play some solo pieces during the concert.

Tickets are £12 each and can be purchased from Rachel Haslam.

All proceeds will be for church funds.

Stewards will be needed to welcome the audience and serve interval refreshments so please let Rachel know if you are able to help.

### **Christian Resources in Newbury**

Sonrise Christian Resources will be popping up with a Christian Resources stall at the Open Door coffee morning at Newbury Methodist Church on 25 February 2025 from 10am until 12.

Open to everyone, this is a great opportunity to pick up Lent reading material, as well as Easter cards and gifts. Do pop by for a browse, a chat and to sample the coffee and cake at the Open Door.

## *World Day of Prayer*

*Cook Islands - "I made you wonderful"*  
*You are warmly invited to join the*  
*Newbury World Day of Prayer*



*On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 10.30 am*  
*At Newbury Methodist Church Northbrook Street*

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## 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, Sheila Smith, MansourAfshari.***
- ***For the Boys' Brigade***
- ***This week, the residents of Love lane, Castle sch, Shaw school & Trinity School***
- ***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 weeks: February 2025

Monday	10th	Myrtle Café	12:00 – 14:30	Church Centre	David Willets
Tuesday	11th	Meeting Point	09:45 – 11:15	Church Centre	Libby
		Daytime Home Group	14:30 – 16:00	Church Centre	Ed
		Home Group	17:30 – 21:00	Rectory	Ed
Wednesday	12th	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

### 16th February 2025 – Lent - 3

10:00	Holy Communion
Leader:	Raymond
Stewards	Wendy/Jane Y
Sound	Heather/Visuals Mike S
Reading	Ruth 2– George Luke 5: 12-16 – TBC
Intercessions	Ed Y
Kitchen	Heather & Mary R