

'St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey **e-Bulletin July 13 2025**



Dear friends,

I can't quite believe that I am now coming to the end of my third year as Children and Families Missioner at Ramsey and what a fun journey it has been so far! I hope you don't mind but I thought I would hijack this week's bulletin introduction to share some of the ways we are seeing and feeling growth in our church and what we are putting in place to guide our children in their faith journeys.

- We are delighted that we now have a larger number of families with children attending all of the services, with the greatest growth being in Holy Communion services.
- We are now very much a Family Church, which does mean that there will be noise at times, and we appreciate your support with making our families with young children feel welcome.
- We have made the decision to increase our Sunday Fun session to twice a month and we have been heartened that we have had four new volunteers approach us to help with this and toddler provision.
- We are in the process of setting up a toddler safe area in choir vestry, with soft furnishing, new carpeting and spiritual resources for little ones.
- Naomi and Charlotte have offered to lead a toddler input on the same days as Sunday Fun in the choir vestry.
- Now more children aged 7 and above are taking Holy Communion, we have been working on teaching what taking the bread means. Maggie came into 3in1 club this week and demonstrated with one of the children copying alongside with a small version of the chalice etc. It was such a special moment! Over the next few weeks I will be setting up a small altar in the chill-out area with a box of resources for children to use as they learn about Holy Communion.

- We are looking forward to our next holiday club on 27-29th August where we will be learning about what it means to be 'Children of God'. We can't wait!
- Look out for more information coming soon about provision for youth at St Thomas a Becket. Maggie, Joe and I have a few things in the pipeline that we are excited about!

Thank you so much for the support you have given me since I have arrived at St Thomas a Becket. It's a very special community to be a part of.

With warmest wishes,
Hayley

Services:

Sunday 13 July	8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Worship with Baptism
Sunday 20 July	10.30am Holy Communion 5.30pm Evensong
Sunday 27 July	10.30am Family Worship with Baptism
Sunday 3 August	10.30am Holy Communion 5.30pm evensong

[Online Service](#)

Barbara Bowman: many of you will remember Barabara Bowman who passed away recently. She was a regular worshipper and Sunday School leader at St Thomas a Becket for many years. Her funeral will be held on Tuesday 15 July at 2pm in church.

Doreen Salmon: the funeral of the late Doreen Salmon will take place on Friday 18 July at 10.45am at Huntingdon Crematorium and afterwards at The elm in Abbots Ripton. Family flowers only or donations to St Thomas a Becket Church or Hospice at Home (ARHC.org.uk)

Our mission to North Kigezi Diocese: Our outreach to children beyond the Ramseys is a blessing to all who take part.

26 children are looked after at the Bucence Children's Centre, mostly orphans, the latest two having been abandoned outside a prison. Our sponsored children grow and mature and it is lovely to hear of them moving into their chosen fields of work.

On July 26th Martin Muir leaves for a three week visit to them. He will be working hard, painting and helping with repairs as well as travelling to visit those young people who have grown up with our sponsorship

Amazingly he manages to take all his personal belongings in carry on luggage ,saving the hold bag for our donated items. So our wish list is as follows:

- Single flat sheets and pillowcases – any colour
- Children's shoes or trainers - these can be second hand
- Boys school shorts (grey) aged 10-13
- Cottons and needles for the girls in the sewing training classes whose teacher we sponsor.
- Paint brushes
- Donations of £5-£10 to buy girls sweaters out there

Martin will need these by 23rd July at the latest. Thank you for your help.

Calling all potential volunteers to help with our children

Our church is growing as we are welcoming more children and families. We have four great people who will lead the teaching of our children, but we need some assistance. The aim is to have two Sunday Fun sessions a month for school age youngsters and a different space (in church) for preschoolers.

Could you commit to helping in Sunday Fun maybe once a month? You would be helping, not planning, unless you want to begin to do some of that and back in church in time for communion. **If so, please chat to Pip or Hayley.** Or, could you commit to helping with our pre-schoolers? If so, please chat to Charlotte or Naomi.

Is God calling you to help with this mission? Please pray about this. Without children and young families our church will die – please help to be one of its 'gardeners'.

Band Teas: Do come along this Sunday from 2.30pm to listen to *Whittlesey Concert Band* enjoy cake and a drink whilst you're here.

Children's Holiday Club: in St Thomas a Becket 27 – 29 August 9.15am to 12 noon. "Children of God" for all primary-aged children. £3 a day or £8 for all three. Book with Hayley: hayley@ramseysandupwood.org or 07935 549947.

Huntingdonshire Concert Band: A fundraising concert for St Thomas a Becket Church with music from the movies and musicals. Saturday 19 July 7pm. Tickets £15 available from Richard Hyde or on the door. To include raffle and refreshments.

Deep Clean: Friday 25 July 10am to 12 noon

It is time to give the body of the church building a bit of extra TLC with a team clean. Arrive with vacuums, brooms, brushes and dusters to use as well as polish etc. We have some but not enough to go round.

There will be a plan ready so you can take on an area of your choice!

Coffee/tea and biscuits will be evident when we take a break!

Many hands will make light work! *Rachel Thompson*

The Children's Society: Calling all box holders - it is time to open your boxes. Thank you for supporting children and young people. You are raising vital funds to help children and young people tackle the struggles they are facing and take on their future with confidence.

Please bring your box to church by the end of July. Many thanks.

Janet - Box coordinator

Info for Gardeners:

Do remember to help yourself to coffee grounds from the bin outside the door at the ramp. Bring a suitable container in which to take some home in. Do spread the word if you see the bin is rather full! Many thanks. *Rachel*

Flower Festival 23 – 25 August: Fliers have been printed to advertise this year's Flower Festival. Please do take one to display in your window at home or the car or at work! Also take to share with friends and family, and/or share when you are out for the day. Last year we had over 800 people visit, let's make it 1000 this year! Thank you.

Becket Flower Group - *Rachel, Debs, Barbara, Sandy, Lynne, Rosemary, Judith and Mimi*

Do you take photographs? Becket Flower Group are running a photographic competition. Entries required by 31 July.

Subject: Nature's Beauty (your interpretation)

Entries digitally to chamthom4@gmail.com.

For A5 reproduction in b/w or colour

13 entries will be judged and chosen for our 2026 calendar.

These 13 will be on view at this year's Flower Festival on August Bank Holiday weekend.

Do join in! Can be photo taken on your phone or camera. All ages of photographer encouraged.

Upwood Community Coffee Morning: Do come and join us on *Wednesday mornings at Upwood Village Hall, open 10-11:30 am in July* (closed August). Just pop in when you can, all are welcome.

We have a play area for under 5s, and a separate seating area for adults. Ingrid or Hayley will be happy to serve you a latte, cappuccino, americano, hot chocolate or one of our many fairtrade teas. £2 for hot drinks, donations for cakes (which are always delicious!) and children's snacks. Maggie, Hayley or Joe leads a children's singing and story time around the parachute at around 11am.

Clergy days off: as a general rule, Joe's day off is a Saturday and Maggie's day off is a Friday. Please take note of this if you wish to speak to clergy on either of these days.

Bulletin items: please send all items for the Bulletin to jackie@ramseysandupwood.org by noon Wednesday.

[Printable Bulletin](#)

Pastoral Needs: if you have any pastoral needs or would like someone to pray with you, please contact Val Molloy: 01487 710583 or email valmolloy@hotmail.com

Online Prayer meeting:

Monday to Friday at 8.30am. To join

[simply click here](#) Download zoom and join in.

Meeting ID: 837 2798 9081 Passcode: 702720

Prayer list:

Please pray for: Dilys; Doug and Maureen; Julie; Tamara; Ian; Kay; Juliet and Philip; Fay; Janet; Vicki; Oonagh and her parents Matthew and Jade; Elizabeth; Alan; Jill; Jennifer and Simon

Names can be added to the list by notifying Jan Bowd 01487 822418
janbowd298@btinternet.com