

## **St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey**

### **e-Bulletin 21 June 2026**



Dear Friends,

#### **Churchwardens - who are they and what is their purpose?**

Last Sunday evening at Ely Cathedral, during sung Evensong, several churchwardens from around the Diocese of Ely were admitted for duty, including Adam and I. Locally we were elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. On Sunday we declared we are not disqualified from holding such an office, we accepted responsibilities laid on us as Churchwardens by the 'Canons and Measures of the Church of England' and declared solemnly and sincerely before God and his people that we will faithfully and diligently discharge the duties of Churchwarden for our parish during the period of appointment which is one year.

Ven Dr Alex Hughes, the Archdeacon of Cambridge, was preacher and during the sermon he observed deep but simple qualities for Churchwardens which I found incredibly helpful. I thought you might find it helpful to hear how he described the role that Adam and I have signed up for.

Churchwardens have a role that is both deeply practical and quietly spiritual and our call is to faithfulness not perfection. In our time of service, we will be dealing with moments of pressure, noticing tensions and smoothing difficulties, stepping up to managing practical demands, supporting clergy and helping our church remain connected. All this whilst balancing the care for people, buildings, worship and community. Leading is very much about unity not uniformity and not avoiding difficult conversations. Most importantly a well-run church needs to hold central the one thing that gives it life: the presence of God.

That's it in a nutshell!

I do hope you can help us with the practical and spiritual wherever possible. I encourage you to communicate with us honestly and fairly and certainly

recognise that every one of us has an indispensable role in our church life. Stay blessed.

Rachel Thompson

### **Sunday Services:**

10.30am Worship Together with Baptism

### **Sunday 21 June**

10.30am Parish Communion

5.30pm Evensong

### **Sunday 28 June**

10.30am Worship Together with Baptism

**Adult baptisms and the renewal of baptism vows:** On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June, as part of our 10:30 service, we are very excited to be offering a service of baptism for adults, as well as the opportunity to renew baptismal vows. Baptism is one of the central rites of the Church, it is how we publicly express our faith, and the conscious decision to turn our lives towards Christ. There is powerful symbolism in leaving our old selves in the water, and being raised with Christ to new life. For that reason we are hoping to have a small pool of some sort at the front of church.

If you **haven't** been baptised before, and would like to be baptised on this Sunday, we'd love to hear from you! There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church, or you can speak to Revd Joe.

If you **have** been baptised, perhaps as a child, and would like to renew your baptismal vows, we are also inviting people to do so in one of two ways:

1. Publicly alongside the adults being baptised, or
2. More subtly with the wider congregation.

For now, we just need to know whether you would like to either be baptised, or to renew your baptismal vows. Please take some time to prayerfully consider whether this is for you now.

The sign up sheet is already at the back of church, please put your name down, and we will be in touch with you. Alternatively, email me Revd Joe at [joe@ramseysandupwood.org](mailto:joe@ramseysandupwood.org) - I'd love to hear from you.

### **Bands on the Green:**

We are hosting Abbey College Band and Janine Mitchell this Sunday, 21 June, from 2.30pm to 4.30pm sponsored by Ramsey Town Council. As a church, we will be offering hospitality by serving teas.

**Our mission in Uganda:** At the last committee meeting we were told about two children and a young woman who are in need of our support. Letitia is 10 years old. She was found as a baby beside her dead grandmother and brought to the children's centre.

Moses is 13 years old. He was brought to the centre as a baby after being found by some children.

Shallon has just passed her O levels and would love to train as a nurse. At present she is working at the centre as an 'aunty'.

Many of you contribute to The Jim Hewison fund and from that we can provide for Moses and Letitia.

In conjunction with another parish we are asked to provide £360 a year for Shallon. If 12 people offer £30 each we would provide easily. We already have two offers! Are there 10 more of you reading this?

You are such a generous congregation, we continue to fund the trainer for the girl's sewing training.

And a date for your diary – Concert on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm!

With love, thanks and prayers

Martin, Lesley, Val, Simon and Cathy – The Mission Committee

**Becket Seniors:** Our next lunch will be on Wednesday 15 July. Please sign up at the back of church or contact Val Molloy: 01487 710583. There will be a short service of Holy Communion at 1.30pm for those who wish. Anyone is welcome to come – even if you don't come for the lunch.

**Summer Holiday Club:** 24 to 26 August 9.15am to 12 noon. Contact Hayley to book: [hayley@ramseysandupwood.org](mailto:hayley@ramseysandupwood.org)

**A landmark community event on climate change is coming to St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey on Wednesday July 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm - and the whole town is invited.** The 50 minute film "The People's

Emergency Briefing” brings together some of the UK's most respected experts in climate science, food security, public health, economics, and national security to present a calm, clear, and evidence-based picture of how these issues are already affecting everyday life in Britain and is being shown at over 2000 venues up and down the country. Across the UK, churches are being invited to host screenings and engage with local communities as part of a growing call for national action. The Bishop of Norwich, the church’s lead Bishop for the environment, describes it as “a wake up for us all. Its message to care for climate, people and nature is so urgently needed, not least so that we might live and act as Jesus would have us be.” Churches have always played a vital role in times of national challenge; offering care, refuge and a moral voice. The climate crisis is no different and as churches we are being encouraged to host screenings of this film. The good news for us is all we are being asked to do is provide the venue as Dr Arun Aggarwal, who chairs the Ramsey U3A Climate Change Group, is doing the organising. We also wish to stress that this is **not** a political event – there are no politicians of any party involved in this film. Instead, it gives us an opportunity to objectively learn and explore together. Whatever your views, you are warmly invited to attend and join the conversation. Admission is free and you can just turn up or register your interest at <https://buytickets.at/u3aclimategroup/2266566>.

**Diary date:** That’s Entertainment! a concert by Huntingdonshire Concert Band, Saturday 18 July 7pm.

**Church Summer Clean:** Friday 31 July Church Summer Clean 9.30am. Put in your diary, a reminder will pop up in the Bulletin next month!

**Craft Group** -on second Tuesday of the month usually in church starting at 7pm. If you would like to be included in the email list, please let us know via [crafts@ramseysandupwood.org](mailto:crafts@ramseysandupwood.org). We dabble at many crafts, keep the costs as low as possible and if we have surplus funds we give to charities. Judith Hyde and Rachel T

**St Mary's Church Strawberry Tea:** Saturday 27 June 3pm to 5pm at 306 Uggmere Court Rd, Ramsey Heights. Adults £5, children free. Scones, raffle and games for children.

**Clergy days off:** as a general rule, Joe's day off is a Saturday.

**Regular Activities:**

**Mondays:** Toddlers 9.30am – 10.30am  
3 in 1 (primary-aged) 3.30pm – 5pm (Scout Hut)

**Tuesdays:** Bellingring 7.30pm  
Craft Group 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month 7.30pm

**Wednesdays:** Youth Space 3.15pm – 4.30pm  
Becket seniors 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month 12.30pm

**Friday:** Choir practice 6.45pm

**Saturday:** Men's Breakfast first Saturday of each month.

Becket Flower Group meet throughout the year for events and to decorate the church for festivals.

For more information about the above activities, contact:

[jackie@ramseysandupwood.org](mailto:jackie@ramseysandupwood.org).

**Bulletin items:** please send all items for the Bulletin to

[jackie@ramseysandupwood.org](mailto:jackie@ramseysandupwood.org) by noon Wednesday.

**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](mailto: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; Ian; Kay; Juliet and Philip; Janet; Vicki; Oonagh and her parents Matthew and Jade; Alan; Jill; Pauline Cook, Neville and Kay Palmer, and Julia Hayes

Names can be added to the list by notifying Jan Bowd  
[janbowd298@btinternet.com](mailto:janbowd298@btinternet.com) or Jackie Southwell 07748 160833