

St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey
e-Bulletin 22 February 2026

Dear friends,

It's half-term, so there haven't been many groups running this week. On Monday, I spent the day meeting with the wonderful Open the Book team, followed by the equally wonderful Holiday Club team. It felt so good to sit together and intentionally pray for our children, young people, and families. On Sunday (my Sunday off), as I watched our regular children returning from Sunday Fun, Toddler Fun, and Youth, running and chatting as they came into church, I couldn't help but smile. I was reminded of the verse in Mark 10 when Jesus rebukes the disciples for holding the children back: "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Our children seem so at home here. They belong, and they know they are valued. It's also been a real joy to see the junior servers grow into their roles — there's such a sense of reverence as they stand in their albs, taking part in the Holy Feast.

I'd like to thank our whole church community for so readily involving children and families in the life of the church, and for your patience when our provision hasn't been quite right. A special thank you, too, to all the volunteers who gladly give their time and skills to our clubs, school support, and Sunday activities.

If, as you read this, you feel prompted to get involved, we'd love to hear from you! We're currently looking for volunteers (with DBS checks and safeguarding training) for the following roles:

- Youth on Sunday – once a month
- Youth Space – Wednesdays, 2:45–5pm (monthly, fortnightly, or weekly)
- Open the Book – once a month
- 3in1 Club – Mondays, 3–5pm (monthly, fortnightly, or weekly)

Please do consider whether you could take part — it's deeply rewarding. Feel free to chat with me, or email me at hayley@ramseysandupwood.org if you'd like to know more.

As I prepare to begin my new role as Growing Younger Enabler at the Diocesan office, I would so appreciate your prayers. I'm a little nervous about balancing this new adventure with my wonderful work here in Ramsey, and with my LLM studies.

Thank you so much for your love, support, and prayers.

Blessings, *Hayley*

Services

February 22 10.30am Worship Together

March 1 **10am** Benefice Service followed by bring and share lunch for Maggie's farewell

March 8 8am Holy Communion (said)

10.30am Worship Together

March 15 10.30am Holy Communion

4.30pm Evensong

Bring and Share Lunch: if you are coming to Maggie's farewell lunch on Sunday 1 March, please sign up on the sheet at the back of church to indicate what you are able to bring. *Thank you.*

APCM and Electoral Roll Revision 2026: This year's APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) is to be held on Monday 27 April 2026 at 7.30pm. Prior to this, the Church Electoral Roll needs to be revised. Notice is given that the revision period will be between Monday 2nd March and Monday 30th March 2026. Please note this is NOT a renewal. If you are already on the roll, you do NOT need to reapply, but you may want to check that you are on it. If you are not the Church Electoral Roll, please do consider joining. This is your chance to have your say in how the church is run by voting at the APCM. It can also affect the number of people we are allowed on our PCC (Parochial Church Council). You can also have the added bonus of a free pass to Ely Cathedral! Forms

are available at the back of church. Once filled in, please post in the black internal letter box at the back of the church. For any further information, please speak to Ian Bell-Berry, our Church Electoral Roll Officer.

Classics for All: Our next concert is by concert pianist, Julian Saphir on Saturday 28 February at 7pm. Tickets £15 available from Richard Hyde 01487 812220 or Jane Cusworth 01487 814984 or on the door. Raffle and refreshments. Sponsored by Butler Smith Piano Carriers and Kawai.

Becket Seniors Lunch: we are looking forward to resuming lunches on Wednesday 18th March at 12.30pm. If you would like to join us, please sign up on the sheet at the back of church, or through Val Molloy 01487 710583. Please note, places are limited to 30 people.

Becket Flower Group Fund Raiser

On Sat 14 Feb we hosted a Wine and cheese tasting evening at St T a B church for 60. A new type of fundraising event which was a sell out and a very enjoyable social evening. The tables were laid and it all looked inviting!

Six wines were paired with six cheeses for the event by a competent wine specialist, which we tasted throughout the evening. Andy, the wine specialist gave his services free of charge, for which we have thanked him. It was a busy time for the Flower Group members, but so it was enjoyable facilitating this for a large group of friendly folk in such an atmospheric setting. We thank God for this.

Ticket sales, raffle and donations mean that we raised in excess of **£900** on the night to help put on an August Bank Holiday weekend Flower Festival. Thank you to all who supported the event in any way.

Spring Clean March 2026

Volunteers required to help with a Spring Clean ensuring the church is ready for a glorious Easter celebration!

Anyone willing and able to join a work party:

Thursday 19 March from 2pm

Friday 20 March from 9.30am

We break the tasks down into smaller sections so you can select something that suits you and the time you can give. Tea and coffee break essential on each day!

Please can you let me know if you will be able to help out as this allows me to make suitable plans.

Lent lunch at St Mary's Church: We are hosting a Lent Lunch on Saturday 7th March from 12 - 1.30pm in St. Mary's Church. There will be a selection of delicious homemade soups with breads and cheeses then hot drinks will be served.

Everyone is very welcome to share this frugal Lent lunch. Please do invite your friends and neighbours to come along and join us. Thank you.
Donations to Charity.

Sunday Fun: our Sunday Fun is flourishing. We are still looking for a volunteer to lead our youth (ages 11–17) on a monthly basis. Support and training will be provided. If this is something you feel a calling for, please speak to Hayley.

Cakes: just a reminder we are asking for volunteers to make cakes for after Sunday services. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of church.

World day of Prayer: this will be held on Friday 6th March 7.30pm at Sacred Heart Church in Newtown Road.

Quiet Mornings at Ramsey Quiet Garden

We invite you to take time from the busyness of life to quietly appreciate the sights and sounds of Ramsey Quiet Garden as it changes through the seasons. The gentle rhythm of the morning encourages calm contemplation, offering a refreshing sense of renewal. At 37 Newtown Road, Ramsey PE26 1EQ on the following **Saturdays** from **10am to 12noon:**

February 28th

March 21st

April 25th

May 30th

June 27th

July 25th

August 22nd

September 26th

October 24th

November 21st

A voluntary contribution of £3 per session is welcome to cover costs

Booking: Is essential as places are limited **Contact:** Eilish Storey on

01487 710363 **Email:** qgrproject@gmail.com

Facebook: [com/Quietgardenforramseyproject](https://www.facebook.com/Quietgardenforramseyproject)

Ramsey Neighbourhood Plan: the consultation period is between 19 January and 9 March. Details of where to find the draft plans and how to respond are in a letter at the back of the church.

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.

Regular Activities:

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

Tuesdays: Bellringing 7.30pm
Craft Group 2nd Tuesday of month 7.30pm

Wednesdays: Youth Space 3.15pm – 4.30pm
Becket seniors 3rd 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.

Bulletin items: please send all items for the Bulletin to 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

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, Glen Dawkins and Neville Palmer

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