

St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey
e-Bulletin 30 November 2025

Dear friends,

I have been reflecting on the theme of Fiona's 'Worship for All' service last Sunday, which centred on finding space in God's refuge amidst the escalating chaos of the Christmas build-up. The season is certainly ramping up: Christmas lights, shopping, and songs are everywhere.

Our own list of activities is extensive: planning Christmas workshops in all our benefice reception classes, a Christmas craft morning, Fen Church, school Christingles, assemblies, the Nativity play, various services, and a Christmas theme for Youth Space—the list goes on! Please continue to pray for us and for the children who will hear the joyous news of the birth of Jesus, our King.

I recently read that we are the hands and feet of God, and I am wrestling with the tension between being His hands and feet and finding refuge under God's wings. Over the last few days, I have consciously tried to find a little calm space to be with God amongst the whirlwind of activity.

I wonder, how are you managing this balance?

As we begin our journey toward the joyous birth of Jesus, our God, born as a baby in an overcrowded town, amidst the chaos of a stable full of animals, let's try to find time to stop, be still, and be present in the moment with God.

Please join us this Sunday afternoon at 3pm in the churchyard. We will consider the challenging journey Mary and Joseph took to Bethlehem while she was heavily pregnant, and reflect on our own journey toward Christmas. It promises to be a wonderful chance to take some refuge in the chaos of Advent. *Hayley*

Services

Sunday 23 Nov

10.30am Worship Together

Sunday 30 Nov

10am Benefice Holy Communion at St Peter's,
Upwood
3pm Fen Church "Journey to the Stable" in the
Churchyard

6.30pm Advent Carol Service

Sunday 7 Dec 10.30am Worship Together with Breakfast and Baptism
 3pm Swearer's Service of Remembrance

Sunday 14 Dec 8am Holy Communion
 10.30am Parish Communion
 4.30pm Evensong

Please notice the change of service pattern in the first two weeks of December.

Ramsey Christmas Lights: this Saturday 29 November a team from STaB are having a space at the Bazaar at Abbey College to share what we are doing at Christmas and to provide activities for children. Later on, the choir are singing at 4.30pm along with Joe leading the community in prayer. Do come and support us.

Fen Church: Journey to the Stable Sunday 30 November at 3pm in the Churchyard.

Christmas Craft Holiday Club: Saturday 6 December 9.30 with a short service at 12. Book with Hayley: hayley@ramseysandupwood.org or 07935549947.

Toy Service: this will be held on Sunday 7 December at 10.30am which will be Worship Together rather than Parish Communion. (Parish Communion will be on December 14th) This year we are collecting **new** toys for Ramsey Foodbank to support those families in our local community who are in need. Please bring any donations on the morning of the 7th.

Nativity Service: It's nearly Nativity time again! Once again I'm looking for adult volunteers who would like to take a small role in the church nativity. I will send out scripts shortly to anyone who volunteers. I need people who are able to come to the rehearsal on Saturday 20th Dec 10am -12pm then be at the service on Sunday 21st December. It's a fun and

relaxed activity. No acting experience required just a willingness to have a go! Please contact me on fiward@yahoo.co.uk if you're interested. *Fiona*

Funds for Uganda: when you look at the price of Christmas cards and think that you will greet many church friends personally at Christmas, what about just sending one card to all your church family and donating the money saved to our outreach mission in North Kigezi Diocese?

There are ribbons hanging on the pillar by the font just waiting to be festooned with greetings!

Your donation can be put into one of the envelopes and placed on the collection plate. *Thank you*

Becket Seniors Christmas Lunch: We are now looking ahead to our Christmas Lunch, which will once again be held at the Old Nene Golf Club. This will take place on Wednesday 17th December at 12.30, our usual time. There is a lovely choice which can be seen on a laminated menu on the back table.

The cost is £23 for 2 courses and £28 for 3 courses, and we will be asking for the full cost to be paid in advance when you book your place please.

Lists will be available at the next Seniors Lunch in November, or at the back of church, so you can give us your selection and payment.

If anyone else in the congregation would like to join us please speak to Val or Judith. (Val Molloy: 01487 710583)

Uganda Christmas Hampers: A reminder that if you would like to support the hamper appeal for Uganda the cost of a hamper is £42. Money can be given in the following ways:

By bank transfer to The Friends of North Kigezi Diocese, sort code 20-02-62, a/c 33294587

By cheque made out to The Friends of North Kigezi Diocese

By cash which can be placed in an envelope and clearly marked Uganda hamper or given to either Martin Muir or Lesley Barker.

Tinsel and Brass: Somersham Town Band will be presenting their annual Christmas Concert on Saturday 13th December at 7pm. Tickets £15 from Richard Hyde

Flower Rota 2026: a reminder that we have space for three new people to join the Flower Rota. We love to encourage new people to join the happy and friendly throng of flower folk! Please speak to Rachel Thompson, Judith Hyde or Lynne Paul if you are interested and/or want some clarity. Alternatively email Rachel on chamthom4@gmail.com. Thank you!

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.

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; Fay; Janet; Vicki; Oonagh and her parents Matthew and Jade; Alan; Jill; Jennifer and Simon, Pauline Cook, Glen Dawkins and Helen Hewett

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