

St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey e-Bulletin 24 May 2026



I wonder what is the best gift you have ever received?

It might be something fun, something useful, something meaningful, something edible and sweet, something precious, something silly even! We give and receive gifts regularly, for birthdays, festivals, special occasions and sometimes just because we care.

When I completed my Curacy in Wigan, I was presented with a wonderful, meaningful and practical gift. Three coloured stoles: green, purple and red, for use during my ministry during the different seasons. Useful because I wear them often in worship, meaningful because of the people they remind me of. But my favourite gift I received as a Curate was also a bit silly. It was a cheese grater! It's honestly the most useful gift, we use it all the time, it's one where you grate straight into a little box which makes serving and storage a breeze! Ok...yes it's a bit silly, but meaningful still - given as a reminder and encouragement to foster a gift of service and hospitality towards others.

On Sunday we're celebrating Pentecost, the Holy Spirit empowering the disciples for mission and ministry after Jesus' ascension, bringing to Church to birth. Therefore, it's also known as the Church's birthday, and like any good birthday, there's going to be a party complete with birthday cake, balloons and bunting!

And like birthdays, there are gifts. In this instance, we are the receivers, and the gift-giver is God the Holy Spirit. As we celebrate, we'll explore the gifts the Holy Spirit gives us; and as we consider the gifts we are given – or even ask God to give us these spiritual gifts – we'll ponder what it means **use** those gifts. For, like my cheese grater, these are gifts to be used and not squandered or wasted. Unlike my cheese grater, they are the most precious gifts we can ask for, or receive.

So I hope to see you on Sunday, and feel free to wear a party hat!

Joe

Sunday services:

Sunday 24 May

10.30am Worship Together

3pm Fen Church meet outside Upwwood Church

Sunday 31 May

10am Benefice service of Holy Communion at **Ramsey St Mary's Church**

Sunday 7 June

10am Parish Communion

5.30pm Evensong

Annual Leave: please note that Joe will be on annual leave from Monday 25th May to Saturday 30 May. Jackie will also be on semi-annual during the same period. She will still be checking emails and dealing with urgent matters that arise during this time.

Fen Church: Sunday 24 May in Upwood. We will once again be visiting the small sheep farm. Please meet outside Upwood Church at 3pm ready for a short walk to the farm. Please bring your own drinks and a chair if you wish to sit down. They have eight lambs this year for you to come and meet!

Funeral of the late John Everington: some of you will remember John Everington who was organist at St Thomas a Becket before Neville. His funeral service is to be held at St Augustine's Church, Wisbech, on 28 May at 3pm.

Summer Fete Saturday 6 June:

New request: if anyone has gazebo we can borrow for the Fete please could you let Adam or Jackie know? We are looking for several offers.

Please remember to fill in the forms at the back of the church if you are able to help with setting up or taking down the Fete.

Please can you start collecting items for the stalls:

- Books

- Bric-a-brac
- Toys and games
- Plants (time to get propagating!)
- Bottle Tombola
- Tombola – tins, toiletries etc.
- Jewellery
- There will be a cake stall – but maybe wait a while!

Please do not bring to church yet as we have nowhere to store donations.

Bands on the Green: thank you to all those people who have signed up to help. A great response so far. We have two weeks that are looking a bit thin on July 12th and July 26th.

We are looking for volunteers to:

- Make cakes
- Be a chief steward
- Serve
- Wash up

Please sign up on the sheets at the back of church if you can help. . *Jackie*

Flower Arrangement Demonstration: Tuesday 9 June 7pm in church by Adrienne of Battersea Bloem, Cambridge. Focusing on large arrangements using sustainable materials. Tickets £10 in advance from flowers@ramseyandupwood.org or any member of Becket Flower Group. Price includes, punch or tea/coffee and nibbles.

Becket Seniors: Our next lunch will be on Wednesday 17 June. Please sign up at the back of church or contact Val Molloy: 01487 710583. There will be a short service of Holy Communion afterwards for those who wish to stay.

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: 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.

[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; Ian; Kay; Juliet and Philip; Janet; Vicki; Oonagh and her parents Matthew and Jade; Alan; Jill; Pauline Cook, Neville and Kay Palmer, Colin and Yvonne and Julia Hayes

Names can be added to the list by notifying Jan Bowd

janbowd298@btinternet.com or Jackie Southwell 07748 160833