

St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey
e-Bulletin 228
29 September 2024



Hello! Welcome to this week's bulletin.

It's the last week of September, and I'm rounding off my first full month of ministry with you. So far it's been a joy! I have genuinely loved meeting you all and spending time with you over coffee and cake. And there are lots more of you I've yet to spend time with. There has been a LOT of cake too. Forgive me if I decline offers of sweet treats in future as I watch my expanding waistline...Ah, who am I kidding!?

Anyway, it's a fifth Sunday which would normally see the benefice coming together to worship, but I've muddled it up this month so it will be a family service this week, to which you are all most welcome indeed! We'll be marking the feast day of St Michael and All Angels. I don't want to give too much away but here's a few thoughts to lead us into Sunday.

Did you know that only two angels are **named** in the Bible? They are Gabriel and Michael. They both appear quite prominently in the book of Daniel. Gabriel is the more commonly known because of his role in the annunciation to the Virgin Mary, and his subsequent appearance in **MANY** nativities. (Sometimes alongside characters such as Spiderman!)

Angels appear all over the scriptures, both the old and new testaments. Angels are instrumental in God's plans for the early church in the book of Acts for example. When St Paul is on a perilous sailing as part of his missionary adventures, an angel of the Lord appears to Paul to give him courage and confirms to him that none of the sailors would perish. You can read it in Acts 27, its an epic story and *spoiler alert* they all survive!

We'll talk more about the **purpose** of angels on Sunday but ultimately they could be described as heavenly creatures who help to implement God's will on earth. They are not gods themselves, instead they (like us) are made to worship. Picture the multitude on the hillside singing 'Glory to God' when the Shepherds hear of the birth of Christ for example.

The imagery of angels is amazing too, sometimes startling. I remember the first time Isabelle was an angel in a nativity play. It was a teary proud Dad moment. But cute and covered in tinsel is not quite the imagery we get from the Bible...there's a bit more blazing fire in the scriptures, but that doesn't tend to go down well in the local primary school...

There's an interesting conversation to be had around angels today, how angels are perceived by the wider world. That's not a conversation for now but certainly something to ponder. In the meantime, come along on Sunday if you can, to hear a bit more about angels in the Bible.

And don't forget to join us afterwards at Ramsey Rural Museum for The Blessing of the Plough! See you there.

Rev'd Joe Magill

Services:

<i>29th September</i>	10am Family Worship
<i>6th October</i>	10am Family Worship (Harvest Festival) 6.30pm Creation Praise
<i>13th October</i>	10am Parish Communion 3pm Civic Service
<i>20 October</i>	8am Holy communion 10am Family worship

Readings:

[St Thomas Becket Youtube online service](#)

Harvest Festival: Our Harvest Festival is on Sunday 6th October starting Family Worship at 10am. During this service we are collecting non-perishable items for Ramsey Foodbank. They are particularly keen for these items:

- Tinned meat
- Tinned soup
- Small boxes of tea bags
- Milk

- Tinned fruit
- Sponge puddings
- Rice pudding and custard
- Tinned veg

In the evening at 6.30pm, do come and join us for Creation Praise for a mix of hymns, readings and anthems.

Baby Loss Awareness Week: October 9th to October 15th. This year we are inviting people who have lost a baby or child to visit our prayer corner for personal reflection and prayer. The week will finish with a service on Tuesday 15th October at 6.30pm.

Becket Seniors Lunch: Wednesday 16 October 12.30pm. £5. Please sign up at the back of church or ring Val 01487 710583 to book.

Request for Uganda: as many of you know, Martin is now back from his trip to Uganda. Eunice has requested the following items:

- white short sleeved school shirts ages 3-4 up to 14/15
- Blue (Bury blue) polos - without logos - ages 12-18
- Red polos without logos ages 12-18
- Sweaters (any colour) ages 8-18.

Any donations will be gratefully received by Martin.

Love in a Box: If you would like to fill a shoe box with small gifts to be given to someone who has very little, there are shoeboxes covered in bright paper available at the back of church. Also there are the leaflets explaining all you need to know|

We are now teamed with Teams4U, and this means we can include sweets, toothpaste and lots of other goodies which were banned by our previous partners. We can also provide a 'home' box which mothers really appreciate.

So please do pick up a box and leaflet and enjoy yourself doing this lovely pre-Christmas task.

If you feel unable to fill a box, the postage cost for each box is £3 and any donation towards that is very welcome.

Because of the arrangements for collecting the filled boxes from Ramsey, we have been asked to have them ready by November 3rd,

when they will be blessed during the morning service before their final journey begins. Thank you – *Cathy*

Becket Flower Group have cards to sell at £1 each. There are five designs and no greeting inside - three fabulous photographs of either a philadelphus, daffodils or sunflower taken by our lovely Pip Cadman, also one with a stylised tractor and one "Just a note" Do have a look, they are on display at the back of church today, there is a brown bag to put any purchases in to keep them clean and an honesty pot for payment. If you miss them this weekend but want some let me know and I can put aside for you.

Rachel Thompson, Becket Flower Group; tel 07751126752;
email chamthom4@gmail.com.

The Foodbank, now based at the Methodist Church, have recently appointed a Red Cross local link worker, Carissa Pugsley. As part of her support, clients sometimes are in need of furniture items, in particular, sofas and wardrobes. If you have anything that is no longer needed, please talk to Joe: joe@ramseysandupwood.org . Please DO NOT bring any furniture to church – we have nowhere to store it and the churchwardens will cry!

Autumn Clean: afternoon of Thursday 31 October and morning of 1st November.

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

Prayer list. Please pray for:		David and Jane
Dilys	Ian	Juliet and Philip
Doug and Maureen	Kay	Fay
Julie	Barbara	Janet

Names can be added to the list by notifying Jan Bowd 01487 822418.