

St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey Bulletin 11 October 2026



Dear Friends,

I want to start by saying a big thank you to all who donated food for the foodbank at our Harvest Festival last week. Thanks too to Lynne, Pat and Dave for sharing their experiences of farming with us! It's never too late to support our farmers by buying local, and supporting our foodbank by donating whenever possible – and remember it's not just about food, Foodbank offers various other means of support, including debt and benefits advice, signposting, and someone to chat to. Find out more here: <https://ramsey.foodbank.org.uk/>

This week we're moving on from our Creationtide series, to a new short series that will lead us to the feast of All Saints on 1st November.

For the next four weeks, we're going to be exploring the lives of some inspiring Saints and Influencers through Christian history, including some well-known characters from our Scriptures and some standout church leaders over the last few hundred years. We're specifically and intentionally exploring **female** Saints and Influencers too. Through there are many male-dominated narratives in the Church's history, there are also plenty of women who have had a huge impact and influenced the world around them, who have been driven by faith and trust that God is at work in their lives. Today, women inhabit significantly more prominent roles than they have done historically. That is a Very Good Thing in my view, though there is always more to do to achieve genuine equality of opportunity. We can start by celebrating the female clergy, priests, Bishops and Archbishops who lead the church today. We'll draw out themes such as bravery, courage, church planting, faith, hope, and how God so often chooses those on the margins to do amazing things. So join us on these next four weeks as we meet some wonderful women of faith, and be encouraged as we seek to walk in the footsteps of those who have followed the footsteps of Christ. We start this week with the fabulous Eden's baptism, and explore the epic story of Queen Esther. See you there!

Revd Joe Magill

Sunday Services:

Sunday 11 October

8.00am Holy Communion (said)

10.30am Worship Together with baptism

Sunday 18 October

10.30am Parish Communion with Sunday Fun

5.30pm Evensong

Sunday 25 October

10.30 Worship Together

3pm Fen Church in the churchyard

Readings for Sunday

Esther ch 4

Ruth and Naomi Ruth 1: 1- 16

Baby Loss Awareness Week: October 9th to October 15th. During this time, we are inviting people who have lost a baby or child to visit our prayer space for personal reflection and prayer. The week will finish with a service on Thursday 15th October at 6.30pm with the wave of light at 7pm.

Church data base: over the next few weeks I would like to build up the church data base as we have lots of new people worshipping with us. If you have not signed up with us, please see Jackie and she will give you a card to fill in. There will be a list of names (no other data) of those people who are already in the data base at the back of church. Please note, if you are signed up to the Bulletin by subscribing from the website, this does not add your details to our data base as it only collects your email address. Thank you. *Jackie*

Church Coffee Morning: Jones Court have kindly agreed to host a coffee morning on Wednesday 14th October from 10 -12. £3 entry. Raffle, tombola and bring and buy stall.

Becket Seniors Lunch: Wednesday 21st October. We invite you to arrive at 12.15 for a chat before eating at 12.30. Please sign up at the back of church or contact Val Molloy: 01487 710583 by **Sunday 18th October**. Followed by Holy Communion at **1.45pm**. Open to all. ***We will be asking members to fill in a new contact form if you didn't complete***

one last month. As part of our work to keep you safe, we will be asking for emergency contact details. Please bring these with you.

Fen Church: our next Fen Church will be on Sunday 25th October at 3pm in the Churchyard. Come and join us for A Celebration of Light. Open to all. Please bring a reusable cup.

Love in a Box: our annual appeal for you to pack a shoebox with small gifts and lots of love is now underway. Covered boxes are available (if you don't want to cover your own) with leaflets explaining what is asked of you. You can also pack a 'Home' box, thinking about what would make life more lovely for the person holding the home together. A minimum donation of £3.50 per box towards the cost of shipping is requested.

If you feel unable to fill a box but want to be part of this wonderful event, then any monetary donations will be gratefully received.

The final day (Shoebox Sunday) will be on November 1st , so please bring your boxes to church by then.

A letter from Rachel Harris FNKD:

Dear friend

I've just returned from my recent visit to Uganda and was happy to receive and bring back with me beautiful letters and Christmas cards from our sponsored children and it's my pleasure to share them with you. We now have 83 children being sponsored for their education and other needs, living in very remote areas of North Kigezi in South Western Uganda. I would like to thank you for enabling us to reach out a loving hand to help these children, who otherwise wouldn't be managing. It's through Friends of North Kigezi (FNKD) that these children have an opportunity of education that is otherwise usually taken for granted, they have been given a chance to have some of the circumstances of poverty that they face on a daily basis relieved and we thank you for this. Without your help these children couldn't be helped, so we would like to thank you for making the difference to them.

The children in Bucence Children's Centre are flourishing – they all entered the place after severe suffering, but with gentle love and care they are recovering and have become part of a large family with 31 children currently living there. Due to the amazing work of our staff, another 4

children will return back to their families in December. The children in the centre feel quite sad when some leave but this is all part of the work we do. We don't operate with an intention of keeping the children forever but our goal is to safely resettle as many as possible.

This year, 2026, FNKD celebrated our 20th Anniversary of working in North Kigezi Diocese and in August we all came together for a celebration of all that's been achieved during those years. Members working within the Diocese have been so touched by the work we are doing with vulnerable children and also our community outreach work, but it's by your help and generosity that we have been able to reach these children and improve their lives – so thank you.

Much of my time during my visit this summer was spent with the children, but, I also had an opportunity to go out into the villages with members of our Ugandan team and the Community Development Officers from the Probation Service and meet some very poor families to assess their needs. It was by the means of a grant that we'd been awarded that we were able to help. We donated bed sheets, hand knitted blankets, mattresses, mats, soap and other items to these desperately needy families who had no other way but to sleep on the bare mud floor – it was so humbling.

A large part of my time during my visit was monitoring and developing the work that we do. So, there were several meetings to get through for planning and especially looking to the future of Bucence Children's Centre. We have a number of children living in the centre that have no families to return to. They can't stay in the centre forever so we feel we should provide for them a stepping stone for leaving care safely and protected. It's our plan to build a small transition centre for these young people to move to as a safe place to stay while they are training and preparing for life outside. If anyone feels they would like to help us with this by making a donation we would appreciate so much.

If you would like to have a look at our website – it's quite new and has a few interesting blogs plus lots more. It's fnkd.org.uk

We would sincerely like to thank you – as together we are making such a difference.

If you would like to be in touch I am as always so happy to hear from you and to tell you how your child is doing.

Yours sincerely

Canon Rachel Harris

rachel@fnkd.org.uk or rachh123@hotmail.co.uk

07772311133

Cleaners needed: as the winter approaches and the weather changes, the cleaning team work harder to maintain the cleanliness of the church.

Would you feel able to give about an hour each month to mop the ramp and clean the glass barrier alongside it?

The care these need puts a lot of extra cleaning time on those who are already keeping the toilets and kitchen sparkling.

Please let me know if you feel you would like to take up that part of being in our church family. Cathy Moulton cathy@moultonfamily.co.uk

07823484892.

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 (Term time)

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

Prayers:

Please pray for Juliet and Philip Dyke and Doug and Mo Crane.

If you would like our morning prayer team to pray for you, please write your prayer on one of the slips from the prayer board at the back of the church and place the small wooden prayer box. Names can be added to the Bulletin Prayer list by notifying Jan Bowd 01487 829005. They will be included for 2 weeks unless asked to be renewed.