

**St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey**  
**e-Bulletin 232**  
**27 October 2024**



Dear friends,

Many of you have been kindly asking how my Licenced Lay Ministry training is going. I hope you don't mind me hijacking the bulletin introduction to update you.

My training is a two-year full-time diploma in Theology, Ministry and Mission, specialising in children and families ministry at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. Last year I went through a lengthy discernment process through Ely Diocese and was accepted by the Bishop for training, paid for by the Diocese (the cost being approximately £9,000 I believe). This means that there will be an expectation, after my training, that I support within the Diocese in some way, whether that is through our parish or more centrally within the Diocese.

The course involves a block residential week at the start of each term, fortnightly online lectures and loads and loads of self-study (approximately 10 hours a week). There are two modules each term to cover, each one requiring two assignments. I have just handed in my first assignment on 'reflective practices in theology'. For some of my assignments I will be drawing on my experiences at St Thomas a Becket but names will never be shared to allow anonymity as part of an ethical approach to the training.

The other part of the course is a 15-20 hour a week placement, which is my job here. The idea is that I use my training in practice as I learn so that I am merging theory with practice. This is called practical theology. I am hoping that, as I find my way through the course, that those around me in church will see a deepening of my faith and ministry. That's the idea anyway!

So far, I am thoroughly enjoying what I am learning. Apostle Paul is my focus this half term and I feel like he is walking alongside me (which is interesting as he is a bit like 'marmite'). I am finding the study a huge challenge but my brain seems to be coping. I am just finding that, when my brain is full of study, it's hard to keep all the plates of everyday life spinning!

Please do continue to pray for me as the course continues and feel free to chat to me about my studies. With warmest wishes,

*Hayley*

### **Services:**

<i>27 October</i>	10am Parish Communion
	<b>4.30pm</b> Evensong
<i>3 November</i>	10am Family Worship (Shoebox Sunday) 6pm Encounter (see below)
<i>10 November</i>	10am Parish Communion 3pm Royal British Legion Service preceded by Parade at 2.30pm

**Readings:** Hebrews 9:11 – 14; Mark 12: 28 - 34

**Encounter:** Encounter is a new relaxed evening service of modern worship, prayer and community in Ramsey and Warboys. Come as you are to worship through music, artistic expression and creative prayer activities, with space to be alone or with others. On **Sunday 3rd November** we will be exploring ‘God is Peace’ with a **Creative Café at 6pm** and worship led by a band at 7pm. To find out more, contact Maggie: [maggie@ramseysandupwood.org](mailto:maggie@ramseysandupwood.org) or go to [www.encounteruk.org](http://www.encounteruk.org)

We are hoping to welcome people with baked goods at our Creative Cafe at Encounter on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. If you are able to donate something (home baked or shop bought!) please let Maggie know!

**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, along with 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. Please bring your box or donation to the morning service on Sunday ( 3<sup>rd</sup>) when they will be blessed before their final journey begins. Thank you

**Coffee morning:** Wednesday 6 November 10 – 12 at Jones Court, Great Whyte, Ramsey. Coffee and refreshments £2. Raffle, bring an d buy and tombola.

**Becket Seniors Lunch:** Wednesday 20 November 12.30pm. £5. Please sign up at the back of church or ring Val 01487 710583 to book.

**Uganda Hampers:** Our friends at FNKD are once again hoping to distribute as many hampers as possible to the families in their area. These hampers can be a lifeline for many families who can find themselves with literally nothing to eat and no foodbank or social services to fall back on. Each hamper consists of posho, rice, groundnuts, a chicken and a large stalk of matoke. Unfortunately, just as in this country, prices have risen and, despite the best efforts of FNKD staff to source items as cheaply as possible, it has been necessary to increase the price of a hamper to £42. We realise that £42 can be a lot of money so if you are unable to provide a hamper yourself perhaps you'd like to get together with friends or family to supply a hamper. Hampers can be bought as follows:

- By bank transfer to The Friends of North Kigezi Diocese, sort code 20-02-62 a/c no 33294587
- By cheque made payable to The Friends of North Kigezi Diocese
- By cash placed in an envelope marked Uganda Hamper Appeal

Cheques and cash can be handed to either Martin Muir or Lesley Barker or placed in the plate. Thank You!

**Ramsey Foodbank:** On behalf of Ramsey Foodbank, I would like to thank you all so much for the wonderful collection of food collected at the Harvest Festival this year which was donated to the Foodbank. It was very much appreciated and I know it will help so many people.

Looking ahead, the Foodbank will be doing a Christmas Collection in Tesco again on Thursday 28th to 30th November. If you are able to spare a couple

of hours to be on the stand, please let me know. Your help would be greatly appreciated! *Judith Hyde*

**Afternoon Tea:** Come along for fellowship and food at "The George Inn" Ramsey Forty Foot on Wednesday 4th December 2 to 4pm. It will consist of sandwiches, cake and tea/coffee, £7.95 per person. There are limited places so please sign the sheet at the back of the church if you would like to attend.  
*Judith Hyde*

**Spring Clean** – yes, I know it's autumn but it's when we do the big clean! This will be in 2 sessions. **On Thursday, 31 October 1.30-3.30pm** we will be doing the high-level work such as cobwebs, lights, windows and window-sills. **On Friday, 1 November 9.30am** we will be doing the floors, pews etc – for this session extra vacuum cleaners, particularly hand-held ones, would be useful. Do come and help at either or both of these sessions if you can – refreshments will be provided!  
*Lesley Barker*

**Ramsey Christmas Lights:** Saturday 23 November. We hope to be involved in this as a Church in some way. Please pop the date in your diary whilst we find out more information.

**Quiet Morning** - Saturday 26th October, 10am-12noon at Ramsey Quiet Garden, behind the Sacred Heart Church, on Newtown Road. Quiet Mornings are structured with time spent indoors and outside. They allow participants to deepen their connection to nature through silence and stillness. For further details and to book a place, please contact Eilish Storey on 01487 710363 or email: [ggrproject@gmail.com](mailto:ggrproject@gmail.com)

**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](mailto:valmolloy@hotmail.com)

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

**Prayer list.** Please pray for:

Dilys	Ian	David and Jane
Doug and Maureen	Kay	Juliet and Philip
Julie	Barbara	Fay
Tamara		Janet
		Vicki

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