

St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey Bulletin 1 November 2026



Dear Friends,

I wonder if you have ever read the 'footprints' poem? It's quite well-known - widely attributed to Mary Stevenson - a short story about walking alongside Jesus, and when looking back at the footprints in the sand (a reflection of one's life), during the tough times, when there is (troublingly) only one set of footprints, Jesus reassures the person walking alongside ***"it was then that I carried you."***

We have spent the last few weeks following in the footsteps of some wonderful women of faith, saints and influencers from scripture and history, learning about them and from them on their respective journeys of faith. I wonder if anyone in particular has stood out for you?

On the feast of All Saints, we remember the faithful who have gone before us, searching for their footprints in the hope that they will help us to find the footsteps of Christ whose steps we are called to follow. But when else are footprints significant? Awkwardly, in the world of criminal investigation...a person's footprints are sometimes used to identify a person! In our last home, we woke one morning to find garden furniture moved so someone could climb a wall, with clear evidence that a person had moved it: footprints! Maybe a more friendly image would be finding the footprints of a particular creature to try and identify it (much more fun!).

The point is that footprints are a bit like our fingerprints, unique to us. As we walk through life, we will each leave our own footprints in the sand, whoever we choose to follow. We can be inspired by the Saints, but the goal is always Jesus. Even then though, our footprints always remain our own, we leave our own trail. God calls us to follow just as we are, not as someone else.

So on this feast day, let us celebrate the Saints, but let us also consider our own role in the community of faith, the footprints we leave for those who come after us. Where will they lead?

Revd Joe Magill

P.S. speaking of feast days and festivals, our Worship Team have decided that we want to do more to formally celebrate feast days, so look out for our celebratory procession on Sunday!

Sunday Services:

Sunday 1 November

10.30am Parish Communion with Sunday Fun

4.30pm Evensong

Sunday 8 November

8am Holy Communion (said)

10.30am Worship Together

2.30pm Remembrance on the Green followed by service in Church

Sunday 15 November

10.30am Parish Communion with Sunday Fun

4.30pm Evensong

Readings for Sunday

Revelation 7: 9 – end

Matthew 5: 1 – 12

Love in a Box: If you haven't already done so, please remember to bring your filled shoeboxes to church this Sunday, 1 November. A huge thank you to all those who have taken part and to Cathy for organising.

New music setting for Holy Communion: On Sunday 29 November during our service of Holy Communion, we will be introducing a new music setting by David Thorne: the Mass of St Thomas. This is the setting that was used at Ely Cathedral during Hayley's licencing service and Neville is keen to try it here in Ramsey. The Choir are busy learning it. There will be a small number of music copies available for those people in the congregation who read music. Ask the sides person if you would like to use a copy but please hand it back at the end of each service.

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. Jackie

Faith-based parenting course: an event for parents and grandparents. Monday 2 November 7.30pm to 9pm in The Scout Hut. Contact Hayley@rmseysandupwood.org for more information.

Becket Youth: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month 7.30pm to 8.45pm starting on 17th November for young people from year 6+. Fun, food, friendship and faith. Contact hayley@rmseysandupwood.org for more information.

Uganda Hampers: it's that time of year again when we make our appeal for Christmas hampers for our friends in Uganda. The cost of each hamper is £42.50, a slight increase of 50p. We realise that this 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. Thanks to the support of yourselves and others in 2024, for the first time over, there were no deaths from starvation during the lean winter months. 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.

Autumn Deep Clean: as is our custom we are planning to carry out a deep clean in readiness for the winter. In the past this has proved very successful and supports the work of those that are on the week-by-week rota.

On Thursday 12 November in the afternoon Lesley Barker is leading the high level clean of de-cobwebbing higher levels, sweeping windowsills, pillars etc. If you are able to help please let Lesley know.

On Friday 13 November from 9.30am we will be tackling the main body of the church and the vestries. I will be leading that team, so let me know if you are able to help out. The tasks are broken down into manageable bites.

We all benefit from the church being well looked after and clean, so please consider giving one hour of your time to help out. Coffee and tea breaks are facilitated too, and good fellowship guaranteed.

Becket Seniors: our next Becket Seniors lunch is on Wednesday 18 November at 12.15pm followed by Holy Communion for those who wish. Please sign up at the back of Church or contact Val Molloy 01487 710583. At that meeting, we will be collecting payment for the...

Becket Seniors Christmas Lunch:

Wednesday 16th December 12 noon for 12.30 at Ramsey Golf Club, Hollow Lane. Cost £24

Christmas Turkey Roast Dinner

Christmas pudding

Coffee and mince pie

Payment is required beforehand. Please put your cash in a named envelope and either bring to Becket Seniors or hand to Judith, Val or Jackie by the beginning of December. Please write any dietary requirements on your envelope.

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 Variety of crafts and fellowship. craft@ramseysandupwood.org

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.