

St Thomas à Becket, Ramsey

e-Bulletin 9 November 2025

Hello!

You might have noticed something different about our building in recent days...

As we approach Remembrance Sunday, a stunning display of 8000+ knitted poppies has been draped from the roof, like a river flowing down and leading towards the War Memorial. An enormous thank you to all who have knitted tirelessly over the course of the year, and to those who made the effort to put the display in place, connecting in with the various other beautiful and poignant displays in Ramsey.

I'm always struck by the imagery of the poppy. A wildflower, free and eager to bloom wherever it finds itself. Thousands upon thousands grew in fields bringing colour and life to a place once marred with death and decay. Nature's own protest against the horrors of war.

Our display reflects those fields of Flanders. Step back and we see a vibrant red river flowing. Look closer, and see each and every poppy, handmade with care and commitment, representing the individuals, the ones and twos who we never knew, but who gave everything for you and us.

A reminder that every person matters.

This has been one of our core values as a nation and Church, and long may it continue. But as we navigate what feel like turbulent times, where division, fear and anger seem to be rising (perhaps for legitimate reasons), let's take the time to pause and reflect on the truth, that every person matters. Look closer. Spend time with different people, have conversations with people you don't know, make an effort to learn, notice differences whilst celebrating friendship. Those poppies look the same at a distance, but look closer, and you'll see: each one is unique. Every person matters.

We believe this as a church. Quite recently we commissioned Val Molloy as an Anna Chaplain to work specifically with the elderly in Ramsey, and she has written this short piece which offers us a practical way of living out this truth:

Do you remember playing Kim's game as a child? A number of items on a tray which was then covered by a cloth, one item taken away, and then you had to guess what was missing when you looked at the tray again?

Well, guessing who might be missing from our congregation is a bit like that game, particularly at the 10.30 am service on Sunday when there are a large number present. We are a caring church, but it can be difficult to spot an individual who may be missing and in need of contact with us.

Most of us sit in the same area of church week by week, and we get used to seeing those around us, and perhaps exchanging the peace with them. What would be helpful to us is if you would intentionally notice anyone who may be missing. They may have told you they will be on holiday, or visiting relatives, or caring for grandchildren, but it may just be that this is an unplanned absence. If you know someone well you might want to contact them yourself, to just check they are OK, but if not please do speak to me so that either the clergy or myself can make a contact with them.

Those who attend the Becker Seniors' lunches have been asked if they would like to give us Next of Kin details in case someone is taken ill, but this can apply equally to anyone in the congregation who wishes to do so; either speak to myself or Jackie Southwell to supply this information. This is not about keeping a register of your attendance, but ensuring no-one 'slips through the net and feels none of their church family cares.

We're hugely grateful to Val and the work she does. Do be in touch if you'd like to know more about Anna Chaplaincy or becoming an Anna Friend.

And in this Remembrance season, let's remember that every person matters.

Joe Magill & Val Molloy

Services

Sunday 9 November 8am Holy Communion
10.30am Family worship with breakfast 10.10am
3pm Remembrance Service (Parade from 2.30pm)

Sunday 16 November 10.30am Holy Communion (Sunday Fun)
4.30pm Evensong

Sunday 23 November Family Worship

Sunday 30 November **10am** Benefice Holy Communion at St Peter's,
Upwood

**Please note that Evensong has reverted to winter hours
beginning at 4.30pm**

Youth Space :

Youth Space continues to be an exciting new venture. Several people have been asking how they can best donate. As part of our Safeguarding Service on 16 November, we will be holding a "Gift Day" for Youth Space as this is one of our safe spaces in church. If you would like to donate, you can do this in the following ways by:

- using the payment machine at the back of church
- making an online transfer with the reference YOUTH SPACE
Account name: Ramsey PCC General a/c
Sort code: 20-43-63 (Barclays)
Account number: 20740659
- putting cash or a cheque in an envelope which will be available in church

Please remember, we can claim an extra 25% through Gift Aid if you are a UK tax payer.

Please remember to vote for us with your tokens when shopping in Tesco. We are still looking for donations of snacks and drinks on an ongoing basis. Please see our website for more information about how and what to donate:

[Donations to Youth Space](#) Thank you so much for your support in this exciting new venture.

Remembrance Concert: Saturday 8 November 7pm. A concert by Bury and Ramsey Concert Band in aid of church and band funds. Tickets £10 available from Richard Hyde, Jackie Southwell or on the door.

Church Coffee Morning: Wednesday 12 November 10 -12 at Jones Court, Great Whyte, Ramsey. Come and join us for a drink and cake. Raffle, Tombola and Bring and Buy. £3 in aid of Church funds. All welcome.

Becket Seniors Lunch: our next lunch is on Wednesday 19 November at 12.30pm. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church or contact Val Molloy on 01487 710583.

Becket Seniors Christmas Lunch: We are now looking ahead to our Christmas Lunch, which will once again be held at the Old Nene Golf Club. This will take place on Wednesday 17th December at 12.30, our usual time. There is a lovely choice which can be seen on a laminated menu on the back table.

The cost is £23 for 2 courses and £28 for 3 courses, and we will be asking for the full cost to be paid in advance when you book your place please. Lists will be available at the next Seniors Lunch in November, or at the back of church, so you can give us your selection and payment. If anyone else in the congregation would like to join us please speak to Val or Judith. (Val Molloy: 01487 710583)

Christmas Craft Holiday Club: Saturday 6 December 9.30 with a short service at 12. Book with Hayley: hayley@ramseysandupwood.org or 07935549947.

Uganda Christmas Hampers We are once again hoping to provide hampers for those in great need in Uganda. Last year your response was brilliant and our church was able to provide 34 hampers. With the help of our support there were no deaths from hunger this year, very good news indeed. Remember, there are no food banks in Uganda! The cost of a hamper is £42. If you individually or with a group of friends would like to provide a hamper the money can be given in the following ways:

By bank transfer to The Friends of North Kigezi Diocese, sort code 20-02-62, a/c 33294587

By cheque made out to The Friends of North Kigezi Diocese

By cash which can be placed in an envelope and clearly marked Uganda hamper or given to either Martin Muir or Lesley Barker.

Love in a Box: We have one more week until our boxes need to be sent away. Covered boxes are available at the back of church, along with leaflets explaining all about what can be sent.

The boxes need to be brought to church by **November 16th** ready for transporting onwards. Thank you in advance. *Cathy Moulton*

Christmas Leaflet Drop: we are planning a Christmas Leaflet drop around the new housing estates this year as we did last year. Please do look at the sign up sheet at the back of the church to see if you can help. Leaflets are bundled up by road. Thank you. *Jackie*

INEQE Safeguarding Group: if you have not yet completed the survey with regard to Safeguarding within our Diocese, please visit: <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/Ely/> the survey is open until 2 December 2025. (For further information, see the poster at the back of the church.)

Community Coffee Morning, weekly on Wednesdays, 10-12 at Upwood Village Hall. Come on your own or with a friend, adults and children welcome. Drinks available: £2-£3 each. Help yourself to cakes, donations welcome. We have a café area for adults to sit and chat, and a designated play area for babies and preschool children. The session ends with singing and story time.

Clergy days off: as a general rule, Joe's day off is a Saturday and Maggie's day off is a Friday. Please take note of this if you wish to speak to clergy on either of these days.

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; Fay; Janet; Vicki; Oonagh and her parents Matthew and Jade; Alan; Jill; Jennifer and Simon, Pauline Cook, Glen Dawkins and Helen Hewett

Names can be added to the list by notifying Jan Bowd 01487 822418
janbowd298@btinternet.com