



Partnership News

**Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church
11 October 2015
Ordinary 28**



Sunday Services

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights
2nd and 4th Sunday at St. Mark's Church

11 October– Ordinary 28

9.30am St Mark's – Morning Worship

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mr. Mike Cooper
Intercessions - Mr Warwick Holden
Organist - Mr Martin Thompson

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs. Jenny Snelson
Intercessions - Mr. Alan Bayliss
Organist - Mr. Peter Twitchin

18 October - Ordinary 28

9.30am St Mark's – Holy Communion

Preacher - Rev Canon Charles Royden
Leadership - Mr. Jim Williams
Intercessions - Ministers
Organist - Mr. John Mower

11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion

Preacher - Rev Canon Charles Royden
Leadership - Mr. Barry Southam
Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes
Organist - Mr. John Mower

Readings 1. Isaiah 53: 4-12 2. Hebrews 5: 1-10
3. Mark 10: 35-45

Mid Week Holy Communion at 10.00am at St Mark's
Chapel every Wednesday and at Sir William Harpur
House on first Monday of every month.

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

Assistant Rural Dean of Bedford
107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com

Deacon Jane Mills

c/o Putnoe Heights Church Centre
Tel. 348091 Mobile 07807 146535
itsjanemills@gmail.com

The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
309175 Mobile 07973 113861 vicar@thisischurch.com

Partnership News is sent out by email every Saturday in a
colour edition. If you would like to receive a copy please send an
email entitled 'Partnership News' to vicar@thisischurch.com.
Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership
News will automatically be posted on our website and may
appear in other local media sources.

**Partnership News is also archived on our church
website www.ThisIsChurch.com**

Music Copyright CCL1501

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights this week have been
given by Christina Halsey in loving memory of her hus-
band Maurice.

*We are grateful when people make donations towards
flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion such as
an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please
contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St. Mark's) or Ann
Hitt 404186 (Putnoe Heights) or add your name to the
rota in the Foyers.*

Prayer for Sunday

Today, O God,
let us know your power
to make us strong,
your counsel
to make us wise,
your grace to make us holy
and your glory
to bring us into your presence. Amen.
Martin Luther (1483-1546)

Banns of Marriage

We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of Lisa-
Marie Ellis and Shaun Colin Brennan to be married at
St. Mark's Church on 24 October. (3rd time)

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator

Mrs Wendy Waters 342613 office@thisischurch.com
*Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved,
housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services.
Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.*

Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Mon-Thur 9–5.30pm, Friday 9-1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Geoff Gypps 365630
Leadership Team Mr Barry Southam 219714
barrysoutham@aol.com
Treasurer Mr John Hitt 404186 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Youth Team Leader Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre Charity No 1160981.

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mrs Margaret Appleton 354708
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

Hazeldene Heights Pre-school. Sessional and Full Day care available—open Mon.—Fri. Full Day Care 8.30am to 5pm Sessional times 9am—12noon and 12.45pm - **3.45pm** For more info please contact Laura Leggett 01234 326685 or www.hazeldeneheights.com
8.00am-5.30pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's
8.00am-5.30pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's Manager Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634
(See website for more details)
9.00am-12noon St Mark's Pre-School Nursery Manager Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634
9.30-10.30am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430
10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mrs M. Berry 211955
10.00am-12 U3A Play reading Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946
9.45am - 10.45am & 11.00am-12noon Pilates St. Mark's Liz Mason 07816522200
12.00 noon Storybox Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com 365630
1.30pm Chat & Make. Term time for babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details contact St Mark's Church Office on 01234 342613 or Janine 01234 297481 Restarts on 14 September
2.00pm U3A Music Appreciation Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946
2.00pm U3A Italian Putnoe Heights– fortnightly
4.15pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
5.30 - 8.30 NHS Eat Smart Think Active at Putnoe Heights. For more details contact Zoe Wilcox 07767311424
6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 826190
6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner 07928483418 email firstputnoebrownies@hotmail.co.uk
6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859
6.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher 07891879571
6.30pm-8pm Cubs at Putnoe Ages 8 –10.5 Email:phxg.enquiries@gmail.com Tel Tom 07974566509
6.30pm Fit For All Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081
7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's (1st week in month) Mary Daly 217127
7.00pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. (1st week in month) Mr J Dewhurst 01908 377020.
7.00-8.00pm Laughter Club at St. Mark's 2nd week each month) Cheryl Green 07729187399
7.15pm Guides. St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's (Weeks 3 & 5 in the month).. Next meeting–21 September Judith Stanton. 823313
7.30pm No Fear Bridge Club St. Mark's Mrs. Susan Ford 300218.
7.30pm House group 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567
7.45-9.15 Get Fit Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights Diane Field 01234 404976

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart 365507
9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's.

9.30, 11.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30. Lorrie Pearson 340473

11-12.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946
1.15pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's Contact Janet King 313946
1.30pm U3A Choir. St Mark's Contact Janet King 313946
2.00pm U3A Book Group 1 St Mark's (3rd Week in month) Contact Janet King 313946
2.00pm U3A Book Group 2 St Mark's (2nd Week in month) Contact Janet King 313946
2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins 356895
2.00pm U3A Photography Group 3 St. Mark's (1st Week in month) Contact Janet King 313946
2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's (Alternate Tuesdays) Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225
2.00-3.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's. A social and Bible Study group. Meets alternate Tuesdays. Mrs Jean Bank 355698
3.30-6.30pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468
6-7pm Supple Strength Yoga St Mark's Amanda Alcock 07769747393
7.15-8.15pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 07891879571
7.00pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390
7.30pm Ladies Tuesday Club at Putnoe Heights (Meets monthly Next meeting 13 October - Shoe Boxes. Details Diane Bayliss 268101
8.00pm Hearts in Beds Committee St Mark's (week 4 in month) Mrs N Aspey 309816

Wednesday

9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430.
10.00-2pm Open House at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.
10.00am U3A Gardening Group 3 St Marks. Contact Janet King 313946
10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
10am U3A Card Making, St Marks Contact Janet King 313946
11.15am U3A Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights
12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 21 October Contact Putnoe Office 365630
1.15pm Social Bridge Club St. Mark's. Mr Barnes 261811
2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft at St Marks. 1st week of the month. Contact Janet King 313946
2.00pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946
2.00pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster 856966
3.45- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's (3rd Week in month). for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 21 October Wendy Waters 401834 Jean Bank 355698
4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
5.00–6.00pm Rainbows at Putnoe Heights Mrs Gill Lake 218091
6.00pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs C Warden 219731

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton 01234 297138 or 07910835994

6.00-7.00pm ATSK Karate at Putnoe Height Kevin Stark Tel.01234 353865

7.00pm-9.00pm Scouts at Putnoe ages 10.5-14; Email:phxg.enquiries@gmail.com Tel Tom 07974566509

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Colin Jackson 363398 or Brian Sallows 407725.

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Sylvia Woods 365095

7.15pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every month except August Mrs Jo Street 344600

8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club at St Mark's (1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month). Next meeting will be 21 October. Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Rosemary 405594 or Graham 406359 for more details.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's (Week 1 in the month) Jill Cooper 357960

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon 356306. Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

10.30pm Spanish Holiday Survival at Putnoe Heights. Elena 01234 266968

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Restarts 17 September Contact St Mark's Church Office 01234 342613 or Janine 01234 297481

12pm Storybox . St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Lots of fun.Restarts 10 September Contact Jaana Swaby 342613

1.00-2.30pm Wriggles & Jiggles Putnoe Heights. Drop in.

1pm-2.30pm Drop in (small hall) Next Steps 9-24months Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552. 2pm - **Friendly Chicago Bridge** at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

2pm U3A Current Affairs - Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. St.Mark's Contact Janet King 313946

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society St Mark's Jean Paterson 307210

3.15-5.15pm Social Care Solutions Drama Group Claire Creek 262650

5.45pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Clare Martin 07768481499

6-7pm Supple Strength Yoga St Mark's Amanda Alcock 07769747393

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Brenna. 07919402797.

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Audrey Halford 407284

7.00pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Marks (2nd and 4th week in month)Contact Janet King 313946

7.00pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's (3rd week in month). Carol Plant 01832710504

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

7.30pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's (2nd & 4th week in month) Rosemary McNeilage 405594

7.30pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's (1st and 3rd week in month) Linda Stephen 409493

8.00pm Bedford Folk Dancers (formerly Barn dancers)

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers each week.Except August. All welcome, cost £2.50 Including refreshments. More details Ron 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's (1st week in month). John Broadhouse 01525 404014

Friday

9.30am -3.30pm Machine Knitting group at Putnoe Heights, 2nd week per month.. Contact Marion Sutton 217647

10am -12.00 U3A Photography St Marks.(4th week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St. Marks Contact Janet King 313946

2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist St Marks. (2nd week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

2pm U3A Gardening - Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

4.50pm-7.00pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

6.30pm-8.00pm Beavers at Putnoe Ages 6-8 Email: phxg.enquiries@gmail.com Tel Tom 07974566509

7.00pm-9.00pm Meditation St Mark's.Cheryl Green 07729187399

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St Marks(2nd week in month)Carol Brown 01438 233385

Saturday

9.00am Faith Temple Ministries St Mark's (1st week in month) Dawn Kelly 07863762593

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard 01234 782414

Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher 357198

2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry 01462 674792

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School at St Mark's with crèche for under 3's

10 - 5.30pm Bedford Stamp Fayre at St. Mark's. 1st Sunday Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's . A crèche is also available.

2- 4.30pm Indoor Bowls at St. Mark's 2nd & 4th Sunday. Ray Seymour 305695 or church office.



Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council -
St Mark's Leadership Team -
Annual Congregational Meetings -
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting - Putnoe Church Council - 15 October 2015
Pastoral Group Meeting-
Churchyard Committee - TBA
Circuit meeting -
Deanery meeting -
Woodland Burial Trustees -
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting -
Messy Church Wednesday 21 October, Wednesday 18 November, Wednesday 9 December 3.45pm

Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.

Ordinary 28

Sentence of Scripture

Seek the Lord and live.

Amos 5 v 6

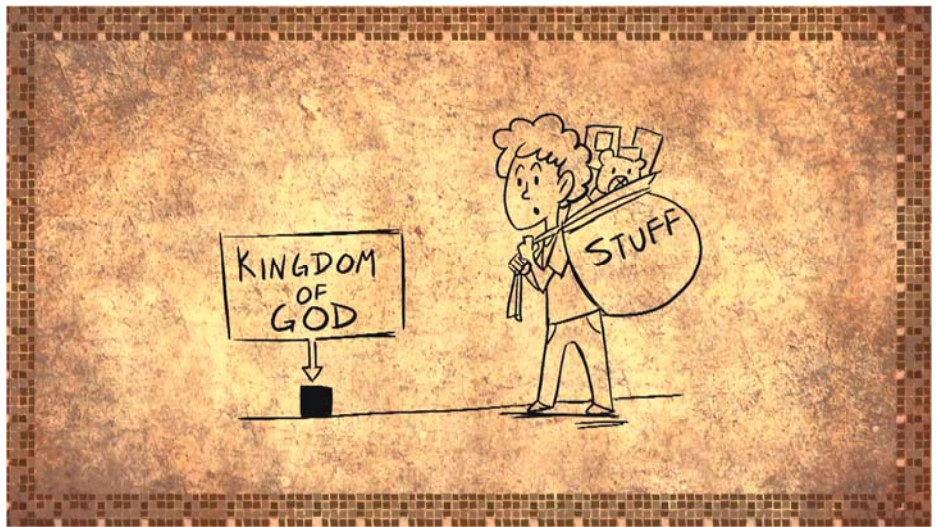
Collect Prayer for the Day

Before we read we pray

Almighty God, you have made us for yourselves and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: Pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last

to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen



First Bible Reading - Amos 5: 6-7,10-15.

Seek the Lord and live, or he will sweep through the tribes of Joseph like a fire; it will devour them, and Bethel will have no one to quench it.

There are those who turn justice into bitterness and cast righteousness to the ground. There are those who hate the one who upholds justice in court and detest the one who tells the truth. You levy a straw tax on the poor and impose a tax on their grain. Therefore, though you have built stone mansions, you will not live in them;

though you have planted lush vineyards, you will not drink their wine. For I know how many are your offences and how great your sins. There are those who oppress the innocent and take bribes and deprive the poor of justice in the courts. Therefore the prudent keep quiet in such times, for the times are evil. Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Then the Lord God Almighty will be with you, just as you say he is. Hate evil, love good; maintain justice in the courts.

Perhaps the Lord God Almighty will have mercy on the remnant of Joseph.

(This is the word of the Lord —**Thanks be to God**)

Second Bible Reading - Hebrews Chapter 4: 12 –16.

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Jesus the great high priest Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to feel sympathy for our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

(This is the word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading - Mark 10:17-31

As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. 'Good teacher,' he asked, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' 'Why do you call me good?' Jesus answered. 'No one is good – except God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honour your father and mother. 'Teacher,' he declared, 'all these I have kept since I was a boy.' Jesus looked at him and loved him. 'One thing you lack,' he said. 'Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.' At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, 'Children, how hard it is] to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone

who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, 'Who then can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.' Then Peter spoke up, 'We have left everything to follow you!' 'Truly I tell you,' Jesus replied, 'no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields – along with persecutions – and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.'

(This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Lord we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymns for Sunday

(Please distribute Morning Worship booklet, hymn sheets where required)

1. When Morning Gilds the Skies 756 (Tune Laudes Domini)
2. May the Mind of Christ my Saviour. 463 (Tune St Leonards Barham- Gould)
3. Fill thou my life, O Lord my God. 146 (Tune Richmond)
4. Father, hear the prayer we offer. 132 (Tune Sussex)
5. O Praise ye the Lord! 518 (Tune Laudate Dominum (Parry)

Commentary Getting through the eye of a needle

The gospel story describes a seemingly impossible situation. How could a camel pass through the eye of a needle? How could a rich man enter the Kingdom of Heaven? Through our own efforts it would be impossible, but with God, nothing is impossible.

In the gospel readings over the past few weeks Jesus has spoken several times about the need to come to Him as a child. To come to Him not as a rich person who, through power and money can exert influence, can make things happen, can be in control, but come to Him as a child who is totally dependent on the Father. To rest in His love and favour, to allow Him to make the impossible happen.

Psalm 90 speaks about being contained in God's love, about being secure in God's presence, and implores us to measure our days so that we might gain a heart of wisdom, a theme which has also pervaded many of our recent bible readings, so that we can rest in His love and let His favour and grace touch us, to allow Him to make the seemingly impossible happen for each one of us. To trust to Him as a child trusts their parents. For us, just as it was for the rich man in the gospel, the more riches we have, the harder it is for us to hold on to them lightly and trust in the Father alone. Indeed, for some it will be as hard as getting a large camel through the eye of a small sewing needle. For others, the camel becomes so small that the eye of the needle becomes a gaping hole through which it is possible to walk with comparative ease. Raymond Chapman puts it like this,
'Although material comfort may not be evil in itself, it can all too easily lead to indifference to the needs of others and to the real values in life. We must continually be on our guard against the temptations it brings'.

He writes,

'It is possible to be a Christian in any condition of life, if it is taken as the will of God and offered in His service. We may rightly seek to improve our condition, more importantly try to improve the condition of others. The danger of being rich is its power becomes and insulation against reality, a false assurance that being at ease in this world is all that there is'.

When the rich young man comes to Jesus to ask what he must do to inherit eternal life, Jesus knows exactly where to insert the two edged sword that the writer of Hebrews speaks about. It does indeed challenge the thoughts and attitudes of the man's heart. There is also a sense of the immediate and the present as Jesus speaks to the man; go and sell your possessions now, today, not next week or when you get round to it, do it now. Don't put it off.

Jesus does this with profound love for the man, He's not criticising him for his wealth and possessions, and in one sense merely asking the question He was asked. Perhaps Jesus knows that if the man does not act straight away he will never act and the chance for God to work in His life potentially lost. He also understands how hard it is for many to comply with what He is asking. Sometimes we need to work out what it is that God is asking us to do now, not to put off but to take action that our lives may be changed.

The writer of Hebrews encourages us to do so with boldness, so that we can receive all that God has in store for us through Christ and the power of His Holy Spirit. It's interesting too that for many of the hearers of the gospel story the Jewish model is more of following God resulting in inheritance, taking possession of what is seen to be theirs, and of being special and chosen in some way for God's particular blessing. The story of the rich young man seems to be the exact opposite. Sell what you have, inheritance or otherwise, give it all away, and then come and follow me. But perhaps they are saying the same? It is only by emptying ourselves of our own security and self-assurance that we are truly able to inherit the real riches that God has in store for us and possess the eternal life He offers for all. To let go of what we have so that He can give us even more. To let the two edged sword of the gospel penetrate the areas of our lives so that we can receive the mercy and grace that God has for each one of us as we walk with Him. *Sam Cappleman*

Meditation Psalm 90 v 1 – 4, 12, 13 - 17

Lord, you have been our home, our shelter from generation to generation. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting. You are God. You return human beings to the dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals." For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or a passing hour in the night. So teach us to measure our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Relent, O Lord! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble. May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendour to their children. May the favour of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us— yes, establish the work of our hands.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Lord, when I thank you for the comfort and security in my life, let me never hide behind it as a denial of what matters most. Grant me contentment with what I have, generosity to those who have less, and love without envy to those who have more. Bring me through the narrow way that leads to your Kingdom where the differences of the world pass into one equal glory. **Amen**
Raymond Chapman, Following the Gospel Through the Year.

God and Father of us all, in Christ you gave us one Lord, one faith, one baptism; look in your love upon the church, the fellowship of the baptized, and renew her life in unity and peace.

Amen

May Almighty God order our days in His peace, and grant us the gift of His Blessing. May He set us free from our anxiety, and firmly establish our minds on the foundation of His peace and tranquility. May He adorn our lives with the jewels of faith, hope, and love; may He keep us from all harm in this present world, and lead us safely into life everlasting. **Amen**

Archbishop Robert ca 1000 AD

May the living waters of Christ cleanse us, may the Spirit descend upon us, and the blessing of God be with us, this day and for evermore. **Amen**

Loving Jesus, we confess that we don't want to help others. We want to help ourselves first. We are tired of working so hard. We have so much to do. We have so little time. We want someone else to do the work. But you continue to call us to the work of justice. You continue to remind us that you came so that we might have life. Your death and resurrection continue to remind us that we must put other's needs above our desires. Call to us to rise, to roll up our sleeves, and to do the work you have given us to do. Amen.

Tuesday Housegroup St. Mark's Church is home to a mid-week social and Bible study group which has been running for many years. A small group of like-minded members of St. Mark's and of Putnoe Heights, meet on alternate Tuesday afternoons from 2.00pm -3.30pm. The group's next meeting is on Tuesday 20 October and we would like to invite a few more people to join us. More information from Jean Bank, St. Mark's and from Sue and Martin Fannon, Putnoe Heights.

The bowls sessions at St. Marks will now continue throughout the winter months on 2nd and 4th Sundays in the month 2pm –4.30pm. Contact Ray Seymour 305695 or church office.

**Messy Church Samaritans
Purse Shoe Box Appeal
2015**

Following the success of previous years, by Messy Church and the wider congregation, we will be packing boxes at our Messy Church session on 18 November. We will be happy to accept donated items from now on. All items must be new. These include Toys, Educational supplies, Hygiene items, Other: Sweets sell by date at least March 2016. Gloves, scarves, sunglasses, hats, bangles, necklaces. Please do not donate: food (especially chocolate), no hand knitted stuffed toys, medicine, no war related items, no clothing other than those above, no fragile items, no liquids. No sharp objects, no novels. We do not need any empty shoeboxes this year. Please see the Messy Church notice board for further details of what can and cannot be put in the boxes. If you require further information please speak to Wendy Waters or Jean Bank.



Partnership Prayer Group meets every Thursday from 9.30 - 10am at Putnoe. We are always pleased to welcome new members. Prayer cards are now available at both churches and we include all prayer requests in our meeting.

Lenten Cathedral Pilgrimage 2016

We are organising an evening pilgrimage to St Albans Cathedral on Wednesday 16 March 2016. Depart Bedford at 5.00pm. Cost is £7.50
Arrival at Cathedral and buffet 7.00pm
Pilgrimage and tour 7.45pm
Compline and procession to shrine 9.00pm
Depart St Albans 9.30pm
Arrive back in Bedford 11.00pm
If you would like to take part then please speak with Charlie so that we can book numbers and arrange transport.

28, November 11 and 25, with the final one this year on December 9.

Putnoe Heights Office If anyone is able to assist working in our Church Office on a Friday morning from 9am to 11am it would be most appreciated. If you are interested please contact Geoff Gypps or Barry Southam. Thank you. Church Office 01234 365630.

Partnership Quiz to be held at St Mark's Church on Saturday 28 November at 7.30pm. Do come and bring/make up a team. Tickets £7 includes Fish and Chip Supper. Please put this date in your diary.

Putnoe Men's Group Our next fellowship meal will be at the Pheasant Public House on Wednesday 21 October at 7:30pm. Details of the menu options will be available shortly. Please let Barry Southam know if you wish to join us.



Remembering the loved ones we have lost There will be a special service at St Mark's Church, Brickhill, Bedford Sunday 1 November 2015 at 3.00pm (Doves of Remembrance will be released from the Church at 2.50pm). Our address this year will be given by Mrs Delia Shephard, Civil

Celebrant. If you know of anybody who would like a special invitation then please let one of the ministers know.

Footprints Walk Sunday 8 November. Please note change of date A 2.5 mile walk around Thurleigh on field paths and bridleways with a short distance on paved footpaths. The walk takes us by Thurleigh airfield and the reservoir built to take excess water from the runways. Meet at car park for the Playing Field (Thurleigh Club) signposted to right of Keysoe Road, Thurleigh at 2pm. Ray & Pam Seymour 305695

Climate can't wait ! It's time to act

Bedfordshire Climate Change Forum is hosting a free public meeting at the Quarry theatre, St Peters St, Bedford, MK40 2NN on Mon 19 October 7pm There will be a short film about the history and science of climate change, and speakers on: Impacts of climate change on wildlife, on how our council is achieving carbon targets, how the UK could be carbon neutral, and the preparation for world carbon targets at the Paris climate talks in December. Doors open at 6.30pm All welcome

Deanery of Bedford Evensong

Sunday 1 November, 2015 4.00 pm
St Peter de Merton with St Cuthbert, Bedford (MK40 2TE) Followed by Refreshments All Welcome

Coffee Morning

Everyone Welcome



Community Coffee Mornings at Putnoe Heights Church restarts at 10am on Wednesdays October 14 and



Helping Children from the streets and slums in Kenya

Partnership Autumn Mission Project 2015

For our Autumn Harvest Mission project this year we will be supporting Karibuni, which is the project Mike Carr spoke to us about when he preached in the partnership earlier this summer. The aim of the charity is to help the most disadvantaged children in Kenya by providing an education and a future.

The Karibuni Trust is a UK Registered Charity. Karibuni support approximately 1400 children in 14 projects based in and around Nairobi, and to the north and East of the city towards the country's borders. All of these have their own needs and challenges which Karibuni seeks to meet through its mission and ministry. All the schools they support are owned by The Methodist Church of Kenya and to mark their 20th Anniversary this year they have committed in faith to educating an additional 50 children. The Trustees visit the largest projects each year and for all projects ensure proper budgets and management are in place to maximise the impact and benefit from the funding and support given. Look out for further details next week as we give our support to this worthwhile and important work.

'When we stand and look over the massive slums of Nairobi we know that the scale of the need is huge and this could make us question what difference we can make. But we also know that for each and every child we support we can and do make a difference.'

It has also been agreed by the Leadership Teams of both churches that we should donate £250 from each church to the Syrian Refugee crisis.

St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre 21 November 2015

It is hard to believe that our Craft is only 8 weeks away on Saturday 21 November 2015. We will be having the usual Church stalls again and donated items will be greatly appreciated.

New Tombola

New and unused items needed so please look in your cupboards etc.

Homemade cake Stall

Secondhand Bookstall

Books in good condition plus any jigsaws (with all the pieces) please.

Indoor/Outdoor Plant Stall

Now is the time to plant cuttings and bulbs etc.

Refreshments

Donations of tray bakes to sell with our teas and coffees.

And of course the Christmas Prize Draw

Any new items suitable for raffle prizes would be really welcome. Raffle tickets are on sale and will be available from the table in the foyer. Please take a few home to sell to family and friends.

We will need a lot of help nearer the time with leaflet delivering, selling of raffle tickets distributing posters etc. Please let me know of any locations where you think a poster would go.

If you are able to help us with manning a stall, on the 21 November, helping in the kitchen or in any other way, we would love to hear from you. As always your help is very much appreciated and we could not run this large fundraising event without your help. Please contact Avril Williams.

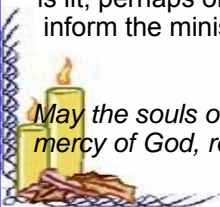


Forthcoming Funerals

There are no funerals this week

Rest In Peace

On the Sunday following a funeral service we remember in church those who have died. We light a candle to symbolise the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope. If you would like a person remembered in our service when the candle is lit, perhaps on an anniversary or birthday, please inform the ministers, or telephone the church office



May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.'

CHURCH LEGACY

A lasting gift to your church

Christian Legacy Week October 2015

Once you have made provision for your loved ones, you have the opportunity to make a lasting gift by leaving a legacy to God's church. Leaving a gift in your will to your local church is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support the mission and ministry in your community.

A gift can be an expression of your gratitude and thanksgiving towards God, and can help keep your local church alive, and help transform its future.

Please speak to Church Treasurers Ian Farthing or John Hitt if you would like to know more. We can also provide a solicitor to help prepare your will and cover the cost if this is difficult for you.