



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

16 August 2009

Ordinary 20



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

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

9.30am St. Mark's - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Delia Shephard
Intercessions - Mr Chris Izzard

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Jean Kirk
Intercessions - Ministers

Sunday 23 August - Ordinary 20

9.30am St. Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd. Charles Royden
Leadership - Mr. Ian Farthing
Intercessions -

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd. Charles Royden
Leadership - Mr. Lawrence Wyatt
Intercessions - Nash Family

Readings 1. Josh. 24:1-2a 14-18 2. Ephesians
6:10-20 3. John 6: 56-69

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Christina and Maurice Halsey in loving memory of their granddaughter Davine Stuart, and by Gwen Benson in loving memory of her husband Derick.

The flowers at St Mark's have been given by Mary Stubbs in thanksgiving for John's life.

Prayer for Sunday

Receive, O Lord,
all my liberty.

Take my memory, my understanding,
and my entire will.

Whatsoever I have or hold,
You have given me;

I give it all back to You and surrender it
wholly to be governed by your will.

Give me only your love and your grace,
with these I will be rich enough,
and ask for nothing more.

ignatius' suscipe - st. ignatius loyola - 16th century

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
266952 Fax- 402624 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

The Reverend Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
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For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website.

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@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.

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417
Leadership Team Mr. Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186
Youth & children's worker - Mrs Spavins 302349
youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5.00pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mrs Delia Shephard 275628
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

- 9.30-12.00pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school**
Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685
- 8.30-5.30pm Pre-school** Mon-Fri St Mark's
- 9.30-3.15pm Top Marks** Mon-Fri St Mark's
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634
(See website for more details)
- 9.00am Clubhouse** at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.
- 9.45am - Body Control Pilates** –Putnoe Heights
Stephanie Smith ☎ 357787 or 07973174430
- 10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group.** St Mark's Mr Kellie ☎ 721063
- 10.30am U3A Play reading** St Mark's J Birks ☎219607
- 12.00pm Story box 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. ☎Liz 302349
- 1.30pm U3A History Group** St Mark's ☎ David Fowler 824474
- 2pm U3A Drama** St Mark's 1st & 2nd week. Mr Ovenden ☎ 825059
- 4.00pm Storybox Plus** Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. ☎Liz Spavins 302349
- 4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness.** Putnoe Heights. Margo Needham 843747 or 07881730747
- 4.15pm Kumon Maths** Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698
- 6.00pm Brownies** St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew ☎826190
- 6.15 pm Brownies** Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎ 07720713738.
- 6.15 Pilates** at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859
- 7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson ☎353518
- 7.30pm Cancer Care Society.** St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst ☎01908 377020
- 7.15pm Guides.** St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091
- 7.15pm Yoga.** Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970
- 7.30pm Whist Drive.** St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting 17 August Judith Stanton. ☎823313
- 7.30pm House group** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.
- 8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit'** Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

- 9.30 12.30 Jo Jingles.** St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎01908 587299
- 9.30am Candlewicking** (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821
- 9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg ☎351223
- 10am -Bedford Arts Society** starting at St Mark's Mrs Brown☎771676
- 10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group.** St Mark's. Sally Cripsley ☎350704
- 11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights** Sally Banks ☎ 870357
- 1.30pm Toddlers Playtime.** Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

- 1.30pm U3A Cinema Group.** St Mark's 4th Week in month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461
- 2.00pm U3A Book Group.** St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs Forrest ☎344043
- 2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins ☎356895
- 2pm U3A Photography** (Group 3) St Mark's 1st Week. Janet King ☎313946
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship.** Next meeting August 18 Cream Tea Betty Wyatt ☎350188.
- 2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** St Mark's Fortnightly . Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225
- 2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.
- 3.45pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎295862 or 07917582468.
- 6.30pm Creative Card making.** Putnoe Heights Church. Carol Houghton 346718
- 6.30pm Yoga** Putnoe Heights Veronica Lafferty ☎781466 or 07788750360
- 7pm Keep Fit.** St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455
- 7pm MT Karate** [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎ 07941 264885
- 7.30pm Hearts & Beds. Cardiac Support Group** 1st Tuesday in the month. Brian Ibberson ☎403497
- 7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or 07866775515
- 7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 8 September Fire Service. Details from Audrey Wilkins☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

- 9.30am** Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎357787 or 07973174430.
- 9.00am Clubhouse** at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.
- 10.00am Holy Communion.** St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
- 10am Sewing & Chat.** Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966
- 12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - September 2009 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630
- 1.00-3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights .
- 1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired.** St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811
- 1.45 Scots Society Whist** Putnoe monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr 268147
- 2-5pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179
- 1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft St Mark's** 1st & 3rd week. Pat Holland ☎ 262823
- 2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster ☎856966
- 4.15pm Kumon Maths.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698
- 6.00 pm Brownies.** St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden ☎219731
- 6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation** Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138
- 6-8pm Karate.** St Mark's Karen King ☎079412 64885
- 7.00pm Bunyan Bridge.** St. Mark's Brian Sallows ☎407725

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Vanessa Aykac 268098 or 07917385987
7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice Loxley ☎ 347073

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Heights Mike Del-Boyer ☎348378

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

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club meet at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next Meeting 2 September Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments.. Ring Graham ☎406359 or Alan 345312. or Rosemary 405594 for more details

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

7.45 for 8pm God talk - women's group monthly meeting for worship and friendly chat at Wendy Nash's Contact Majella Atkinson ☎325293

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen ☎343424

Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table. (No meeting on 9th April)

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. Emma Strangwick ☎211070

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 . Next meeting 10 September Lots of fun. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic St.Mark's ☎267444

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society at St Mark's. Mary Rich ☎272470 Next meeting 24 September

4 - 7.00pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179

6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Caroline Morgan ☎07786508351

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden☎825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's 2nd & 4th week in month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale ☎406094

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Nadeen Salmon ☎301550

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week in month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Jean Birks ☎219607

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Pat Foulks ☎346505

Friday

9.30-12.30pm U3A Photography (Group 1) St Marks 4th week in month Val Scrivener ☎346397

9.00am Clubhouse St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St Mark's Joyce Fields ☎353086

12.15pm U3A Photography (Group 2). St Mark's 4th

week in month. Sue Butler ☎354183

5pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

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

6.30pm Line Dancing. St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360

7pm Bedford Art Society monthly Putnoe Heights. Next meeting 1st May Mary Rich ☎272470

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St. Mark's. Carol Brown ☎01438 233385

Saturday

9.45am Bedford Stamp Auction at Putnoe Heights Next Auction 30th May. Contact Stuart or Anne 01327 876438

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

Young Embroiders bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher Tel 357198

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

7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

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

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for our young adults. A crèche is also available.

1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515

6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship & fun. Please see Liz ☎302349 .



Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 9 Nov

St Mark's Leadership Team –

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – 12 Oct, 8 Feb 2010

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting

St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - 8 Sept , 11 Nov, 12 Jan 2010

Putnoe Church Council - 5 Oct

Pastoral Group Meeting -

Churchyard Committee - 19 August

Putnoe Heights Mission Group—Wed.16th September 7.30pm at 14 Flint Way

Partnership Council - September 6th

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Deanery Meeting 17 Sep, 19 Nov,

Circuit/Treasurers Revue meeting at St. Mark's 15 September 7.30pm

Circuit Meeting at Sharnbrook Methodist Church 16 September at 7.30pm

Woodland Burial Trustees –Sept

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –

Ordinary 20

Opening Verses of Scripture

Fear the Lord, you His saints, for those who fear Him lack nothing.

Psalm 34 v 9

Collect Prayer for the Day

Before we read we pray

To set the earth ablaze, O God, your Son submitted to death on the cross, and from his cup of suffering you call the church to drink. When we are tempted give us strength to run the race that lies before us, and to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. *Methodist Worship*



First Bible Reading- Proverbs 9 v 1 – 6

Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn out its seven pillars. She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine; she has also set her table. She has sent out her maids, and she calls from the highest point of the city. Let all who are simple come in here! she says to those who lack judgment. Come, eat my food and drink the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of understanding (Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading - Ephesians .5:15-20

Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Reader: This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading – John 6:51- 58 (When announced ‘Glory to Christ our Saviour’)

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever." (Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ All: **Praise to Christ our Lord**)

Hymns (Please distribute Holy Communion booklet and Hymns and Praise)

1. All people that on earth do dwell 1
2. Colours of Day (On Partnership News)
3. Break thou the bread of life 467
4. Angel voices ever singing 484

Post Communion Prayer God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Commentary

Today's Old Testament reading from Proverbs is one of the few times we have a reading from what have become known as the wisdom writings. The reading from chapter 9 is at the end of the general introduction to wisdom (long introduction!) and is followed by 6 collections of sayings, and finally and acrostic poem on the perfect wife. The process of assembling the book of Proverbs probably took more than 2 centuries, Hezekiah, who is mentioned in the book as having some of the proverbs transcribed in his court, lived some 250 years after Solomon, whose name often appears in the title of the book. In the Bible, wisdom can be defined as the ability to make the right (Godly) choices in our lives. Wisdom is not therefore something which is unattainable or an abstract concept, wisdom is open to all who think and act according to the truth in their lives, even today.

In the Old Testament, those who have dedicated their lives to gaining wisdom are called wise. Wisdom then is nothing to do with being clever or having a high IQ, it's about an orientation and openness to God and making God inspired choices in our everyday lives. Wisdom is about practical living not about theoretical choices. And because wisdom is about openness and our orientation towards God, listening to Him, it's not surprising that a few verses after today's reading the writer says, 'The first principle of wisdom is the fear of Yahweh' (Jerusalem Bible) which is often translated as 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom', a concept which frequently reoccurs in the Psalms.

The first step in becoming wise is knowing God; without knowing God it's obvious that it's difficult to make Godly choices. In the New Testament, James writes that God gives wisdom to all who ask for it, all those who want to make Godly choices in their lives. Wisdom is not about seeking advantage or becoming smarter and cleverer than everyone else so we can get ahead of them, its about applying God's truth to our everyday experiences, the choices we make and how we learn from our experience.

True wisdom therefore leads not to intellectual or philosophical superiority or the ability to win an argument by clever logic, but to responsible living, care for the world, servant hood and service. In that context we all have a responsibility to continually seek to be wise in everything we do. The book of Proverbs contains a number of sayings and maxims that would have been memorable, such as 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.' These outline basic values and focus on helping everyone make the right choices in their lives. And just as Jesus told parables, proverbs can be parabolic, pointing beyond themselves to a deeper understanding.

Parts of the book of Proverbs are specifically focused on the younger generation so that they will develop the attitudes and behaviour that will lead to responsible adulthood, underlining the importance of Godly based Christian teaching for our young and youth. And throughout the book of Proverbs, a stark contrast is drawn between choosing the life of wisdom and the life of folly, often personified as two different women with vastly different characteristics. Our reading from chapter 9 shows the wise woman as a hostess inviting all to come her way and to leave the ways of foolishness behind. It's reminiscent of the Wedding Banquet that Jesus describes, where all too are invited, often those we least expect. Indeed, Proverbs chapter 9 distils much of the wisdom of early chapters of the book: the women of Wisdom and Folly both invite a man to a feast: Wisdom sets before him life, but the menu Folly offers leads only to death.

Paul in his letter to the Ephesians picks up the theme of wisdom in today's reading. He too makes the link between wisdom and making the most of every opportunity by being immersed in God and knowing His will and ways. He shows that for Christians we have the Holy Spirit within us to help us make God oriented choices in our lives.

Over the last few weeks in the Gospel readings we've been reading about Jesus as the Bread of Life. We started with the feeding of the 5000, where Jesus provided physical bread for the multitude and they followed Him for what He had done. It was followed by Jesus walking on the water, demonstrating who He was, the one who is over all creation and the need to accept him not just as observers who are fed but people who are prepared to have their lives changed by Him eternally by inviting Him into their lives and inner beings. Those passages were then followed by a long discourse in the synagogue at Capernaum where the supposed wise of the day try to work out what this all means. Ultimately too, they have a choice to make, the way of Wisdom or of Folly.

The choice is stark. If we and they eat and drink of Christ then we live in Christ and Christ lives in us. 'As the living Father sent me and I draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will also draw life from me' Jn 6 v 57, (Jerusalem Bible). If we choose not to live the life of Christ then we will die, just as the ancients ate manna and died. In a world where we have so much data and information, literally at our fingertips, true wisdom continues to be at a premium. Many seek after knowledge to better themselves, which in itself is not necessarily wrong, but lack the orientation towards God which turns this knowledge and experience into true wisdom. Similarly many are seeking after a deeper meaning in life, acknowledging that all our increased learning and knowledge has not led to a world which is more fair, equitable and peaceful. Sadly many are deluded by false teachings and shallow spiritualities which lack the truth, depth and holiness of worshiping

the one true God. God's desire is that we all are wise, earnestly seeking after Him and His truths, continually opening our lives to have Christ at the centre of our very beings, that we can have life in all its freedom and abundance. Through the bread the Israelites ate in the desert they caught a glimpse of that freedom and life. Through the living bread which Christ continually offers to each one of us we have the invitation to the real thing. Day by day we too have a choice to make, a choice to be wise, a choice to be more oriented towards God and to grow in His wisdom; a choice which then underpins all the choices we ever make everyday of our lives, week by week and year by year into eternity. Sam Cappleman

You cannot find wisdom if you look only through your human eyes... you must look through God's eyes..." Gibran

Meditation

John 15:13: Jesus said: "No greater love can anyone have than to lay down their life for their friends."

It was 1941, and one of the prisoners had escaped from Auschwitz, the Nazi Concentration Camp in southern Poland. The punishment on the whole camp was that ten other prisoners would die. The camp commandant walked up and down between rows of prisoners. The tenth man he selected was a Polish soldier. The sergeant broke down and begged for mercy because of his wife and young family who would have no support without him. A thin figure moved forward, took off his cap, and asked if he might take that man's place in the death cell. "Who are you?" he was asked. "I am a Catholic priest," he replied. He was Prisoner 16670, Maximilian Kolbe, a Franciscan priest. The exchange was agreed. Now that the group was 10 in number, they were marched off to Block 13 - the deathblock. They were not to be shot or gassed. They were to die very slowly by being starved of even the very little food that the prisoners were normally given. Their very slow death was designed to put others off from trying to escape. In the following days, the guards observed the condemned men dying slowly. They also saw that the men were gathered round Father Maximilian, laughing together, praying and singing hymns. One by one the men died - a slow death over 14 days. The last one alive was Maximilian Kolbe and on August 14th - in 1941, a guard injected him with phenol into his left arm. He died almost immediately. The Polish sergeant - Franz Gajowniczek - survived Auschwitz and the war itself. Each year he visited that dreadful place and laid a wreath beside Block 13 where Maximilian Kolbe died instead of himself.

Kolbe was aged 47 at his death. Fellow-Pole, John Paul II, canonised him on 10th October 1982. - Franz Gajowniczek later said: "At first I felt terrible that another man was dying in my place. But then I realised that he had done this not just to save my life, but to be with the other nine in their terrible agony of dying. His nearness to them in those dreadful last hours was worth more than a lifetime of preaching."

Prayer Lord Jesus, you said that no-one could have greater love than to give up their life for someone else. Remind us in our personal circumstances today that care and compassion and love and sacrifice can change everything. Amen.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead.

God our Father, may we love you in all things and above all things and reach the joy you have prepared for us beyond all our imagining. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead. Lord, you hide your face when we trust in ourselves; strip us of false security and re-clothe us in your praise, that we may know you as the one who raises us from death, as you raised your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen** *Daily Prayer, Refrain from Psalm 30*

Loving God, who chose to send your Son into our world, be with us today as we make our daily choices. Help us keep our eyes fixed on you, that in your eyes we may be wise, that we may grow in wisdom and reflect the glory of your incarnation, Jesus Christ who is with us always in the power of your Spirit. **Amen**

Risen Christ, whose absence leaves us paralysed, but whose presence is overwhelming, breathe on us with your abundant life; that where we cannot see we may have courage to believe that we may be raised with you. **Amen**

The God of all grace who called you to His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Bedford Citizen Advice are offering free benefits advice talks to community groups. If you would like a visit the please contact Chantel Southerland 01234 346543 email chantel@bedfordcab.org.uk

Are you aware that the Citizens Advice Bureau have a great online advice service which you can access. Go to <http://www.adviceguide.org.uk/index.htm>

Youth, children and friends summer diary dates

Monday 24 August under 5's summer workshop 2.00 till 4.00 and Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26 August 5 years plus summer workshop 10.00 till 3.00pm Join us to "Travel God's world." Both these events celebrate the United Nations Year of the Child and will include stories of Children in the Bible, stories from around the world, music, games, crafts and Fun! Small charge. There will be no Junior Church or YPF at Putnoe during August. If you are able to help any of these groups in anyway over the summer or at the new term start in September please speak to Liz or Emma. Thank you for all your support. See Liz for further details on all the above events.

Action for Children -House to House Collection

Action for Children (formally NCH) works with disadvantaged and disabled children and their families, through its family centres located throughout the country. It is an independent charity working with other groups in partnership including the Methodist Church. Her Majesty the Queen is its patron. The annual house to house Collection to support the vital work of the NCH will take place as usual in the first 2 weeks in September. St Mark's Church has the responsibility for covering most of Brickhill and last year we raised over £950. If you could spare a few hours during early September to put out and collect envelopes in the Brickhill area, perhaps near to where you live, or you would like some more information, then please contact me. Mike Elliott (Tel: 342507)

Sponsored Bike 'n' Hike on Saturday 12

September 2009 10am—6pm—an opportunity to visit churches all over our region in towns and villages either walking or cycling. Half the money raised will be given to Church Funds and half to Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust. For more details and ideas of routes etc. please see Wendy Nash at Putnoe.

Gathering on the Green Waveney Green, Brickhill Thursday 27 August 11am-3pm. Free activities including climbing tower, 5 a-side football, kick boxing, rave bus and bouncy castles. Plus have your say on the new natural play area at Waveney Avenue. Organised by Brickhill Parish Council.

Welcome to Deacon Jane. This just a reminder to put into your diaries the welcome service for Deacon

Jane Mason. The service will be held at Putnoe Heights Church on Wednesday 9 September at 7.30pm. All are invited to attend.

Do you have any memories of Brickhill in the 60s and 70s?

Brickhill Parish Council is planning to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Brickhill over a 12 month period from late 2009 to late 2010 which coincides with the 50th anniversary of the time when the first houses were occupied and when Brickhill Lower School was first opened as a new infants school. The Council is looking for photographs and press cuttings of Brickhill during the 1960s and 1970s to copy and use to illustrate a display to develop interest in this project. If you can help please contact Delia Shephard, Clerk to the Council on 01234 271703 or email clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk.

House Group September 2009 Wendy Waters will be holding a house group at 13 Farnham Way, Putnoe at 7.45 pm on Tuesday 1; Monday 7 and 28 September; Monday 5 and 12 October. We will use a 'York Course' entitled 'Where is God ...?'. The course comprises of a CD which provides thought provoking input from Christians such as, Archbishop Rowan Williams and Patricia Routledge and a booklet which forms the basis of informal exploration and discussion. If you are interested in being part of the group or for more details please contact Wendy Waters on 401834.

Scot's Society of St Andrew, Bedford will be holding their Annual Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale in aid of St. John's Hospice, Moggerhanger at Putnoe Heights on SATURDAY 29th August from 10am to 12.30pm.

Offertory Envelopes (Putnoe) -

Sets of offertory envelopes for the next twelve months are available for collection from a table in the welcome area at Putnoe Heights Church. Anyone interested in joining the envelope scheme, or who would like further information, is invited to contact John Hitt (tel. 404186).



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You can now also buy gift vouchers !

Thursford Christmas Spectacular

Priory has some tickets available for their trip on 15 November leaving at 2.30 and stopping for tea with Neil Harper at Kings Lynn Methodist Church.

The producer and director, John Cushing indulges his own belief in creating a magical Christmas of yesteryear – a time of love, hope and giving. And in his opinion, the one element that encapsulates the spirit of Christmas more than any other is music. The ultimate Christmas musical experience is simply one of the most exciting Christmas Spectacular shows ever. It is the most popular Christmas show of all time in England and is a blend of exciting Christmas entertainment, with Christmas songs, carols, dazzling dancers, beautiful costumes, outstanding music and singing from a cast of over one hundred. Each show is a pageant of spectacle and colour – the music a seamless transition from an up-beat dance routine to a choral rendition of a Christmas carol, a show which would not be out of place in any London's west end theatres.

It is a night to remember.

If anyone is interested in joining the trip please speak to Eileen Davis 01234 215057 who can give details of the cost and availability.

Community Police Surgery has restarted at Putnoe Heights. The police will be in attendance [subject to operational requirements] on the following times and dates: 1pm-3pm Wednesday 19th/26th August - 9th/16th September 2009.

Putnoe Community Police Forum The next meeting will be held at Putnoe Heights on Thursday 27 August from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. The Forum Panel, consisting of Councillors and representatives from a number of departments including Highway Agency will discuss and answer questions on Community Issues.

Opening the book of bible stories in lower schools. That is what over 100 people in Kempston and Bedford have been doing for the past ten years through Open the Book Project. Now we need some new story tellers to join existing teams or go into more schools. For more information email Ruth Robbins, rrobbins545@hotmail.com mentioning Open the Book in the subject line

A Hymn for Sunday

Colours of day dawn into the mind,
The sun has come up, the night is behind.
Go down in the city, into the street,
And let's give the message to the people we meet.

*So light up the fire and let the flame burn.
Open the door, let Jesus return.
Take the seeds of his Spirit, let the fruit grow.
Tell the people of Jesus, let his love show.*

Go through the park, on into the town;
The sun still shines on, it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
The people of darkness are needing our friend.

So light up the fire

Open your eyes, look into the sky,
The darkness has come, the sun came to die.
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
But Jesus is living, his Spirit is near.

So light up the fire....

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.

**Tony Allen
John Stubbs**

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

Forthcoming Funerals



The funeral of Mr Stanley George Nagus will take place at 12-15 pm on Friday 21 August at Bedford Crematorium