



Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church

17 November 2013 - Ordinary 33



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

Today – 17 November 2013

9.30 St Marks -Holy Communion
Preacher – Revd Canon Charles Royden
Leadership Team – Mrs Margaret Appleton
Intercessions – Mr Ian Farthing
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

11.00 am Putnoe – Holy Communion
Preacher – Revd Canon Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mrs Veta Hudson-Rae
Intercessions —Mrs Claire Peck
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

24 November Ordinary 34

9.30 St Marks – Morning Worship
Preacher – Mrs Claire Peck
Leadership Team – Mrs Jean Bank
Intercessions –Mr Warwick Holden
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

11.00 am Putnoe – Morning Worship
Preacher – Mrs Claire Peck
Leadership Team - Mrs Sue Allen
Intercessions — Dr Tim Wilkes
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

Readings 1 Jeremiah 23: 1-6 **2** Colossians 1: 11-20
3.Luke 23:33-43

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



What a Christmas !

Sunday 8 December Christingle Service

9.30am St Mark's & 11.00am Putnoe
A favourite Advent Service with children and adults alike as we decorate oranges

Friday December 13

7.30pm Christmas Voices at Putnoe Heights

Seasonal celebration readings around the Christmas tree + mulled wine and mince pies

Saturday 21 December at St Mark's Church

6.30pm Carols in the Car Park
Free mulled wine and mince pies to warm us up as we sing carols accompanied by Bedford Town Band

Sunday 22 December

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight at Putnoe Heights
A traditional service of nine lessons and carols in a candlelit setting with musical accompaniment by organ

Tuesday 24 December - Christmas Eve

3.00pm Children's crib Service at St Mark's
4.00pm Children's Crib Service at Putnoe Heights
6.30pm Carols by Candlelight at St Mark's, with Bedford Town Brass band
11.30pm Midnight Mass by Candlelight at St Mark's
11.30pm Midnight Mass at Putnoe Heights

Wednesday 25 December - Christmas Day

9.30am Family morning worship at St Mark's
11.00am Family Morning Worship at Putnoe Heights

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a Vice President for Hewlett Packard)

Deacon Jane Mills

c/o Putnoe Heights Church Centre
Tel. 348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator

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.

Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Geoff Gypps 365630 mob 07947 902846
Leadership Team Mrs Jenny Snelson 344417
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

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mr Michael Ovenden 826738
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

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.ThisChurch.com

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

8.30-5.30pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's

9.-3.45pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

(See website for more details)

9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights

Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mrs Berry 211955

10.30am U3A Play reading Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)

2.00pm U3A Calligraphy at St Mark's 2nd week (see contact details below)

12.00 noon 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. Contact Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com 365630

1.30-2.45pm Chat & Make St Mark's for babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details email– chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk .

2pm U3A Music Appreciation Putnoe Heights(see contact details below)

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 01767699399 or 07720713738.

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 Boot Camp Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081

7.00pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson 353518

7.00pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst 01908 377020

7.15pm Guides. St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting– 18 November 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

Tuesday

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Charlotte Williams 07968 207442

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart 365507

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's. Helen Skinner 07989080389

10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group. St Mark's. Sally Cripsley 350704

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)

1.15pm U3A Cinema Grp. St Mark's (contacts details below)

1.3pm U3A Choir. St Mark's (contacts details below)

2.00pm U3A Book Group 1 St Mark's (3rd Wk) (see contact details below)

2.00pm U3A Book Group 2 St Mark's (2nd Wk) (see contact details

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins 356895

2pm U3A Photography Group 3 St. Mark's (1st Wk) (contact details below).

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.

4.00pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

7.30-8.30pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 0789187957

7pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390

6.00-7.00pm Zumba at St Mark's. Contact Denise Worker 07900 232648

7.00pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory 328455

7.00pm Laughter Club. St. Mark's Meeting (meets monthly) 12 Nov & 17 Dec. Cheryl Green 354339 or 07729187399

7.30pm Ladies Tuesday Club at Putnoe Heights (Meets fortnightly). 26 November Jaffa Orchard/Hand Bells. Details Janet King 313946

Wednesday

9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430.

10am-2pm Open House at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.

10am U3A Gardening Group 3 St Marks. (contact below)

10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.

10am U3A Card Making, St Marks (see contact details below)

10am U3A Diet and Nutrition- Putnoe (contact below)

11.15am U3A Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights

12.30pm –4pm St Mark's Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 20 November Putnoe Heights Office 365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights (Fortnightly)

1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes 261811

2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft at St Marks.(see contact details below)

2pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan Putnoe Heights

2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster 856966

3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's (3rd Wk). for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 20 November Wendy Waters 401834

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs C Warden 219731

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

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Yvonne Blain 350241 or Brian Sallows 407725

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

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every month except August Mrs Jo Street 344600

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Mike Del-Boyer 348378

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
20 November 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 1st
week in the month. Jean Ross 771870

Thursday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

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

9.30am Spanish for total beginners.at Putnoe Heights.
Elena 01234 266968

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A term time group for
Mums & toddlers.0-5 Jo Garner 400071 or 07932616468

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. Contact Jaana Swaby 342613

1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic at St Mark's 1st and 3rd
Contact 267444

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

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. St.Mark's (contact below)

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society St Mark's Mary Rich
272470

5.45pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Clare Martin
07805408811.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins .

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Nina Ovenden 825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Marks (2nd and 4th week)
(see contact details below)

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

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

7.30pm Gentle Birthing St Mark's. Pat Wood 07946
847231

8 -10pm Bedford Folk Dancers (formerly Barn
dancers)

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers
each week.Except August. Next meeting 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. Mr Newton 01525 378193

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th
week Pat Cass 294220

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd
week in month Kay Logan 01234 309105.

Friday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

9am -1pm Machine Knitting group at Putnoe Heights,
fortnightly . Contact Marion Sutton 217647

10am -12.00 U3A Photography St Marks.(4th week)
(see contact details below)

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St.
Marks (see contact details below)

2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist St Marks. (contact details

below)

2pm U3A Italian-Putnoe Heights (contact details below)

2pm U3A Gardening - Putnoe Heights

4.50pm-8.15pm Stars School of Dance Esther
Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

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

7.00pm Meditation St Mark's.Cheryl Green
07729187399

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

Saturday

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. 1st Sunday Feb/
Apr/Jun/Aug /Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

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.

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's Adrian Felice
www.bedfordtkd.com 07964356355

Messy Church Dates Weds 20 Nov, 15th Jan., 12th
Feb., 19th March, 16th April, 21st May, 18th June.

Please always shop through
www.thisischurch.com



If you use Amazon and Easyfundraising on our
website then every purchase you make will
provide a commission to www.thisischurch.com

U3A For information on the U3A groups meeting at St Mark's and
Putnoe Heights Church please contact Yvonne Francis ☎405119



Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council –

St Mark's Leadership Team - 21 January 2014

Annual Congregational Meetings

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting

Putnoe Church Council -

Pastoral Group Meeting - 10 January at 10.00am

Churchyard Committee -

Commemoration Service Sunday 3 November 3 pm

Circuit meeting - Deanery Meeting -

Woodland Burial Trustees–

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting –10th

February 2014 1.30pm

New Year Lunch 19 January at Putnoe

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

Ordinary 33

Sentence of Scripture - 2 Thessalonians

And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.

Collect Prayer for the Day - Before we read we pray

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope,

may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great

glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



First Bible Reading - Malachi 4:1-2a

"Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more. Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; he who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere youth; he who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed. They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the works of their hands. They will not toil in vain or bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the LORD, they and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, but dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says the LORD

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

Second Reading - 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, labouring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat." We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat. And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.

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

Gospel Reading - Luke 21:5-19

(Please stand when the reading is announced— **Glory to Christ our Saviour**)

Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, "As for what you see here, the time will come when not

one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down." "Teacher," they asked, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?" He replied: "Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not follow them. When you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away." Then he said to them: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven. "But before all this, they will lay hands on you and persecute you. They will deliver you to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. This will result in your being witnesses to them. But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. All men will hate you because of me. But not a hair of your head will perish. By standing firm you will gain life.

(This is the Gospel of Christ — **Praise to Christ our Lord**)

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of heaven, in this Eucharist you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of the saints made perfect: as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared their fellowship, so may we come to share their joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymns (Please distribute Holy Communion and Hymns Sheets)

1. Come and see the shining hope
2. May the love of Christ enfold us
3. Shout for joy! The Lord has let us feast;
4. Lo, he comes with clouds descending,

Commentary

It's a strange place Rome, as you walk around you are walking with history all around you, like being in a living museum. sadly, as is typical of Italian historical monuments, they are often marked with graffiti, exposed to the elements and seemingly uncared for. I always wonder what Italy would like if the National Trust and English Heritage got their hands on some of these wonderful places? As you wander through the Forum and past columns and monuments you come to a splendid arch, The Arch of Titus. It was built in AD82 by the Emperor Domitian following the death of his older brother Titus. It was a triumphal arch, used as the model for the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, to celebrate the achievements in war accomplished by Titus, including the Siege of Jerusalem in AD70. See the Golden Candelabra or Menorah lifted high, with other seized sacred objects such as the golden trumpets.

The first Jewish-Roman war or The Great Revolt had started in AD66. The occupation by Rome brought heavy taxation and initial rebellion was punished by Rome with the killing of 6,000 Jews in Jerusalem. The Jewish rebels struck back and a full scale war erupted which continued for the next four years. The fortress of Jerusalem remained until Titus brought about its fall in AD70 and the last bastion of Masada fell three years later. The fall of Jerusalem was catastrophic, the historian Josephus tells us that so many were killed their blood flowed through the streets and extinguished the fires, a graphic picture. Josephus claims that 1,100,000 people were killed during the siege, of which a majority were Jewish, and that 97,000 were captured and enslaved.

"The slaughter within was even more dreadful than the spectacle from without. Men and women, old and young, insurgents and priests, those who fought and those who entreated mercy, were hewn down in indiscriminate carnage. The number of the slain exceeded that of the slayers. The legionaries had to clamber over heaps of dead to carry on the work of extermination"

It is important to remember these events because they help us to understand the apocalyptic words in the Gospels. The Gospel of Luke which we read today was written a decade or so after these most horrific events. The Gospel was written for a community of Christians who had lived through these terrible events which had led to this conquest.

It is against that background that we read the Gospel of Luke and try to understand how Luke told the people of the words of Jesus, words which should have encouraged them in this time of trial. It was

written for a persecuted Christian minority under the subjugation of Rome. They were told not lose hope, trust in Jesus, and see how his life prepared them for the situation in which they found themselves.

Sometimes Christians use these words of Jesus to refer to events at the end of time, *"Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven."* This is in spite of the fact that Luke makes it clear that Jesus said these words in direct response to a question from the disciples as to when the temple would fall ! These words are not meant to help us interpret our future, they were spoken by Jesus to help the disciples prepare for the future catastrophe they would see in their lifetime. They were written down by Luke after the event itself to help his readers understand what had already taken place. Indeed Jesus warns his disciples not to use his words to guess or engage in predictions about when he will come again saying that, *"no one knows the day or hour."* He tells us that we should not be alarmed about chaos, we should be ready. Trials in life are an opportunity to know his presence and he promises to equip us to speak and respond when such occasions arise. Jesus is telling his followers that things are going to be bad, but they must endure. There is assurance from Jesus that just as surely as evil will come, so will he be present at the side of his followers to help them to endure.



Putting these words of Jesus into their historical context explains their meaning, and that reveals important truths which stand the passage of time. These words were true for those who would be caught up in the apocalypse of Jerusalem, but of course they are true for each one of us. For example, Jesus doesn't pretend that being a follower will in anyway provide protection from the terrible suffering and persecution that will come, he is brutally honest and truthful. Nevertheless Jesus shows complete confidence in the future. Jesus paints a picture for his disciples of chaos, all around them, life and nature

in upheaval, they will not be in control, they will be subject to exactly the same vagaries of life as everybody else, and yet they are to remain calm because this is expected and God is in control. Let's go back to the Arch of Titus, depicting those wonderful achievements of the Roman military commander who later became Emperor. Tests have shown that it was once magnificent with gold and sculptures. However it is now a ruin, as is most of what remains of once great Rome. As Jesus told his disciples, human kingdoms would rise and fall, all passes away, but by enduring and keeping the faith the Christian believer was safe in God's hands. *Charles Royden*

Meditation A Psalm for our meditation this week. I chose it because of that wonderful line, 'Do not put your faith in princes.' We could substitute princes with lots of other words, politicians, bankers, celebrities, doctors etc. The message is clear, trust in God, anything less and you will be disappointed

Psalm 146 Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save. When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing. Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God. He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them - he remains faithful forever. He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked. The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord.

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

"Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Comfort the afflicted. Be patient with all but make no peace with oppression. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always."

Gracious God, in whom we live and move and have our being, open our eyes that we may see your fatherly presence ever about us. Teach us to be anxious for nothing and, having accomplished your holy will and purpose, to leave the outcome of all things in your most wise and loving hands; and this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dementia Support in Bedfordshire: Alzheimer's Society provides a vital confidential network of support services for people with dementia, their families and their carers. If you are affected by dementia, the following services are available to you:

- Peer Support – a support group for people with dementia and their carers
- Singing for the Brain – a singing group for people with dementia and their carers
- Cognitive stimulation Group – specifically for people with dementia
- Dementia support – support and information to people living with dementia, their carers and families
- National Dementia Support line: 0300 222 1122 - Bedford office: Alzheimer's Society, 2a Duke Street, Bedford, MK40 3HR Phone: 01234 327380 email: bedfordshireandluton@alzheimers.org.uk

Creating Safer Space. London Rd Methodist Church, Tuesday 19 November 6.45 for 7.00pm until 10.00pm. Training session available to all churches in the North Beds Circuit. Suitable for church stewards, local preachers, office volunteers and keyholders. Details from Mairi Perks 01525 860797 mairiperks@bopenworld.com or Dave Heseldine 01462 013284 david.heseldine@methodist.org.uk

St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre – 23 November 2013

HELP 1 week to go to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre

Below is the list of items:-

The Raffle tickets are on the table in the Foyer this morning. Please take a few to sell to your friends and family.

Leaflets we would be grateful for any help in distributing them.

New Tombola: Please make sure that donated items are new and unused.

Cake stall : Homemade cakes, please see Milly Rollinson for further details

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

Indoor/Outdoor Plant Stall :Any queries please see Marion Prior or Jean Bank.

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

The Picnic Hamper prize is on again this year and a list of goodies we would like donated is on the table with the raffle tickets.

If you can help on the day in any way with these stalls we would be very grateful. Avril

Mission 2013 Ethiopian Honey Appeal

We are joining with the St Albans Diocese and Christian Aid to help the Ethiopian Honey Appeal. If we help provide farmers in Ethiopia with the equipment they need to keep bees, then they will be able to make honey and enough money to be able to provide for their families and develop a sustainable community. Bees are vital pollinators; flying from flower to flower, they make connections that are fundamental to the life of our planet. The Bishop's Harvest Appeal is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our connected world and to make life

changing, loving and lasting connections with people in Ethiopia. The appeal will end on December 1 - Please take one of Harvest Appeal leaflets with a gift aid form and donation envelope.

- £3.50 can buy a honey knife
- £14 buys a net and gloves
- £85 Pays for a modern hive
- £207 pays for a community honey extractor for harvesting honey from the hives effectively.

Yamaha Portatone PSR– 3 Keyboard for sale; Only been used 2 or 3 times. Donation to church funds. Please contact St. Mark's church office.

Christmas Voices – Come and enjoy once more a seasonal celebration with a selection of nostalgic & amusing readings around the Christmas tree + mulled wine and mince pies during the interval. Friday December 13th at Putnoe Heights at 7.30pm. Admission free with retiring collection in aid of the Sweeter Deal Appeal.

Back by popular request, Bedford Town Concert Brass has arranged another concert with the choir "Alive & Singing" This was almost a sell out last year and we expect a similar number this year. It is to be held at St Mark's Church, Calder Rise, Bedford MK41 7UY on Friday 29th November at 7.30 - Tickets at the door £8 & £5 with accompanied children under 14 Free - Not To Be Missed - If you didn't come last year, come and see what you missed!



Putnoe Provender Sunday 1st December. Sales of the ever popular Christmas puddings, cakes, mince pies, jam, marmalade, chutney and much more in the Welcome area after morning service. Proceeds in aid of the Ethiopian Honey Appeal. All contributions gratefully received. John & Sally Gunning 305925

Open House raised a staggering £400 for Children in Need on their Coffee morning. Well done to everyone involved.

Footprints Walking Group

Our annual planning meeting to prepare next year's programme will be held on Tuesday 19th November at the home of Sue and Richard Butler, 1 Mitford Close at 7.30pm. Please come with diaries and ideas for walks. Sue Allen

An Invitation from Tuesday Club to a Christmas Celebration on Tuesday 26 November at Putnoe Heights at 7.30pm. Jaffa Orchard will have their Christmas cards and gifts for sale and U3A handbell ringers will entertain us. £2 entrance fee includes tea/coffee and cake. Everyone welcome.



When you start Christmas shopping please shop at www.ThisChurch.com

Thank you for shopping using the link on ThisChurch.com to shop through Amazon. Please be careful to make sure that you never access Amazon direct but always use the link on ThisChurch.com, this ensures we get a donation every time you make a purchase.

Please also remember the Easyfundraising



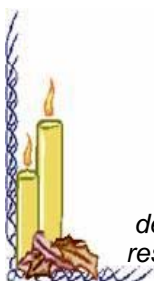
link. This is really a very good way to shop as it has lots of voucher codes which can save you a fortune on purchases and we receive a commission. You can shop at John Lewis, M&S etc - please always shop through www.thischurch.com

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.

**Pamela Margaretha Cullen
Marjorie Nora Fleck
Robert Henderson
Baby Isabel Chloe Thomas
Raymond Alfred James**

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



Paying more than you need to?

ENERGY BEST DEAL

It is now easier than ever to choose the best energy deal. Find out how...



Bedford Citizens Advice would like to invite you to:

Best Energy Deal workshop in The Wren Room at St Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise, Brickhill on

Tuesday 3rd December at 2:00pm

Learn about how you can save money on your Energy Bills.

Learn about any benefits/discounts you can access.

The session is free of charge and open to anyone who would like to reduce their energy costs.



Supported by Brickhill Parish Council as part of the Brickhill Sustainable Community Plan - working for a Greener Brickhill



Bishops Book The magnificent book by Bishop Alan 'Saints and Pilgrims' has arrived and those who ordered signed copies can collect them from Charlie or from St Mark's Office. Please make cheques for £20 payable to St Mark's Church. Having sold out of the first order I have managed to get hold of six signed books at the launch price, first come first served !

Forthcoming Funerals



The funeral of Nicola Sykes will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 10.45am on Wednesday 20 November.

The funeral of Doreen Elizabeth Monico will take place at St. Mark's Church on Friday 22 November at 1.15pm

The funeral of Howard Lawrence will take place on Monday 25 November 2.30pm at Priory Methodist Church.

The funeral of Mrs Sylvia Germano will take place on Wednesday 27 November at 10.45am