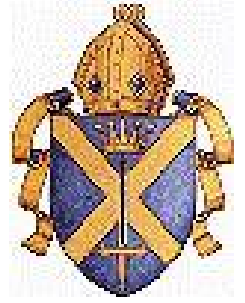




Partnership News

20 June 2010
Ordinary 12



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 Charles Royden
Leadership – Mrs Jean Bank
Intercessions – Mrs Pat Leusby

11.00am Putnoe Heights – Holy Communion

Preacher – Revd Charles Royden
Leadership - Mrs Jean Kirk
Intercessions -Mrs Sylvia Cohen

27 June – Ordinary 13

9.30am St. Mark's – Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership – Mrs Laura Farthing
Intercessions – Mr Richard Ledger

11.00am – Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions - Ministers

Readings 1 Kings 19: 5-16, 19-21

2.Gal 5: 1, 13-25

3.Luke 9: 51-end

Midweek Worship

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

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Christina and Maurice Halsey on their 65th wedding anniversary.

The flowers at St Mark's Church this week have been given to celebrate the birthdays in June and July of the Standley family members, Margaret, Bruce, Richard, Issobel(5yrs) and John (3yrs)

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

Grant to us, O Lord, purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no passion may hinder us from doing your will, and no weakness from doing it; that in your light we may see light clearly, and in your service find perfect freedom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

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)

Deacon Jane Mason

12 Hartop Close, Bedford MK41 8HE
348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden

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

For Data Protection Purposes

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

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 Mrs Samantha Ware 304058
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator John Hitt 404186
Youth Worker Emma Gordon email - 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 - Avril Williams 360605
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.15 -11.45 am Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school

Head teacher 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 Mrs Berry

☎211955

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.

3.30pm Storybox Plus Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year olds. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then until 5pm stories, drama, singing & craft activities.

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 June 21 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

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎07790296016

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg ☎351223

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

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights Sally Banks ☎ 870357

1.15pm Sing and Stomp. For toddlers & their carers. Run by the Putnoe Children's Centre. 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 June 22. Mr Mick Whelan speaking on Community Resettlement. 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-6.15pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson ☎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 in Beds. Cardiac Support Group 1st Tuesday in the month at St Mark's. 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 June 29 Charity Beetle Drive for Anjulita Court. Janet King ☎313946

8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

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

10am U3A Card Making, St Mark's Church. 4th week in the month. Janet King ☎313946

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - June 23 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 or 07910835994.

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 30 June Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Alan ☎ 345312.Graham 406359 or Rosemary 405594 for more details.

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

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.

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

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

11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau at Putnoe Heights.

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 ☎ 363283

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. Malcolm Smith ☎400741

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 Lou Watkins 07919402797

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Mark's 2nd & 2th 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. Pauline Lynham ☎01525 714517

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. Julia Nicholson ☎353642

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

5-8pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Richardson ☎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

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St. Mark's. 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

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.

We need to find God, and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature--trees, flowers, grass--grows in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence....We need silence to be able to touch souls.

Mother Teresa, 20th century



Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council – 22 June, 8 November.

St Mark's Leadership Team –

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 18 October

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting ; 27 Sept.

St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - 12 noon, 13 July, 15 September, 16th November

Putnoe Church Council - 21 June, 25 October.

Pastoral Group Meeting - 13 July 4pm

Churchyard Committee - 29 September

Putnoe Heights Mission Group

Partnership Council—TBA

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings

Deanery Meeting - .

Circuit Property/Treasurers Meeting

Circuit Meeting 13 Sept.

Woodland Burial Trustees –

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth – 12 July at 1.15pm

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

Ordinary 12

Opening Sentence from Scripture

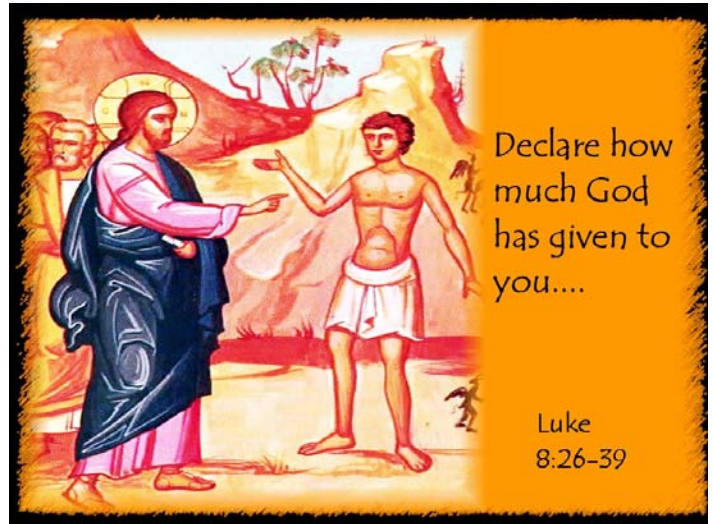
Send forth your light and your truth, let them guide me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell.

Ps 43 v 3

Collect *(Before we read we pray)*

Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.

Bless all fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience; support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ our rock and defender. Amen



Bible Readings –1 Kings 19: 1-4, 8-15a

Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them. Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, while he himself went a day's journey into the desert. He came to a broom tree, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. I have had enough, LORD, he said. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.

So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he travelled for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: What are you doing here, Elijah? He replied, I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too. The LORD said, Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by. Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, What are you doing here, Elijah? He replied, I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too. The LORD said to him, Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram
(Reader This is the Word of the Lord, **All: Thanks be to God**)

Galatians 3: 23-29

Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law. You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise
(Reader This is the Word of the Lord, **All: Thanks be to God**)

Luke 8: 26-39 (When announced 'Glory to Christ our Saviour')

They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs.

When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!" For Jesus had commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places. Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "Legion," he replied, because many demons had gone into him.

And they begged him repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss. A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into them, and he gave them permission. When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left.

The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away

Reader –This is the Gospel of Christ **All: Praise to Christ our Lord)**

Post Communion Prayer

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

Hymns

1. All my hope on God is founded 16 (Tune Michael)
2. Blessed assurance 59
3. Speak Lord in the Stillness 608
4. Dear Lord and father of mankind 111 (Tune Repton)

Commentary

The Gospel story today takes place in the region of the Gerasenes, this was mostly a gentile region. When Jesus steps onto gentile territory, he is met immediately by a demon-possessed man. This man is described at considerable length. He is first identified as a "man of the city." This kind of phrase is reminiscent of the "woman of the city" in Luke 7:36 - 8:3. Each of them has this much in common: they were both on the fringes of society, the woman because of her "impurity," this demon-possessed man by his complete separation from others.

The man had neither clothes nor house--he is not only completely exposed, but lives with the dead. His people tried to shackle him, to bring him under control, but could not do so. The man was completely out-of-control, living in completely uncharted territory. Cut off in every way from positive human contact, he is utterly on the fringe, if not beyond it entirely.

The man sees Jesus, and seems forced into a posture of submission while at the same time howling in protest--"...he cried out (and) fell down before him (and with) a loud voice..." The demons are being brought--to heel. The man says literally "What to me and to you, Jesus, son of the Most High God?" The expression means something like "leave me alone!"

It turns out to have been a feeble protest. Jesus had already commanded the demons to leave the man. The man, incidentally, had been introduced as a "man of the city," but is now called a "human being." ("For Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out from the human being.") For Jesus, a person may be at the very extreme of marginalization, but they are still a human being.

Immediately after their howl of protest, the demons then start to negotiate. "I beg you, do not torment me," say the demons. In response, Jesus asks for a name. In middle-eastern culture of that time, and earlier, knowing someone's name supposedly meant have a certain power over that person. That is not the case here. Jesus has already demonstrated that he has power over the demons and the situation.

Jesus' asking for a name elicits a curious response: "Legion." The word legion is taken from the Latin legio where it referred to a Roman Legion. The Legions of the time constituted about 5-6,000 men. With this response, the demons indicate that a massive concentration of demonic power had seized the man. This point is expanded: "because many demons had entered into him." If someone wanted to associate that demonic power with Roman political oppression, such an association would not be unreasonable.

The demons are trying to avoid being sent into the "abyss." Abussos means "bottomless, immeasurable depth, the deep." It was a place for the "imprisonment and punishment of demons," The demons recognise that Jesus has power to send them there.

The demons, still begging, think they might be better off in pigs than in the abyss. The pigs hurl themselves into a lake and "were suffocated."

The ones taking care of the pigs went into the city and told what had happened. The people of the city go out to see for themselves. They go to Jesus and find the man "from whom demons had gone out sitting, clothed and in right mind, at the feet of Jesus." Sitting at Jesus' feet is a posture of respect and reception.

The man had first been identified as naked, living in the tombs, out of control, without a home. By the end of the story, each of these conditions has been overturned. He is now clothed and in his right mind --no longer out of control, but now being taught by Jesus. Soon he will be back in his home. The man's social and spiritual isolation is reversed. The man had been "saved"

Fear breaks out. We have been told that this is gentile territory, there are pigs and tombs, both "unclean" in Judaism of the time, as well as "unclean spirits" themselves. This first and only foray into gentile territory has resulted in both a demonstration of Jesus' remarkable power over the demonic and a markedly cool reception by the locals. They were "afraid." (This is mentioned twice--first "afraid" then "held fast to a great fear.") They ask Jesus to "depart," which he does.

But the man from whom the demons had gone out prayed of him to be with him, but Jesus released him, saying, "Return into your house and tell how much God has done for you." And he went through all the city proclaiming how much Jesus had done for him.

We are not told why Jesus did not let the man be "with him." Instead, Jesus tells the now-healed man, who was once homeless, to go his home. He is to "tell how much God has done for you," which he then does, "proclaiming how much Jesus had done for him." "Proclaim" is what you did with the "good news." Thus, though the man may not accompany Jesus, he is given an important gospel-proclaiming mission in his own context, that of his gentile city, his relationship to which has been healed and restored.

Meditation

King John had succeeded to the English throne on the death of his brother, King Richard the Lionheart. John was not a good king, and he abused his powerful position. A group of barons produced a charter, listing what their rights should be, laying down that the king was not to abuse his power and authority in future. The "Magna Carta", as it was called, was signed in 1215. Although King John was reluctant to sign it, the Magna Carta was confirmed by later kings and parliaments. One of its main points is that rulers themselves must live within the law - they are not above it. One of the phrases in the Magna Carta, the 'Great Charter', reads: "To no-one will we sell or deny or delay right or justice." People were only to be condemned on clear evidence and through a proper trial - things we now take for granted. The Magna Carta also stated that taxes were not to be raised without the consent of those who represent the people, and the Church was to be free from government control.

Let us think and pray:

Let us pray for individuals who suffer under those who abuse power and people. Let us pray for the defenceless who are treated unfairly and who do not receive justice.

Let us pray for all rulers, that they appreciate that they are called to serve for the benefit of others.

Let us pray for our own members of parliament and the government elected by the nation. We pray that they may be people of integrity who govern justly and responsibly.

Let us pray for ourselves, that we may clearly distinguish good from evil, growing in integrity of character, developing a true sense of values.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

God of all Holiness and hope, cleanse the church from all that is selfish, complacent and worldly, that we might reflect your glory and bring hope to those who seek direction and meaning to their lives. Amen

God of all wisdom and honour, give our leaders integrity and our world the openness to listen and the courage to forgive. We pray for fair and free democracy to grow, remembering especially those countries where oppression and persecution remain. Amen

God of all healing and wholeness, give to those who are in pain or suffering all that they need both physically and spiritually. We pray for those in the caring professions, Heavenly Father, whose Son came not to be served but to serve; bless all who follow in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience and courage, they may minister in His name to the suffering, the friendless and the needy; for the love of Him who laid down His life for us all. Amen

God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, may the gifts of your Spirit be our goal and our strength, now and always. Amen The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of the God; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen

No shadow darkens the friendship which you offer to us, Lord Jesus Christ.

No trivial mood or passing fancy alters the constancy of your compassion.

No wind of change blows first hot and then cold, to blight the love which you offer.

You call us your friends and you are faithful and true to your word.

Give us grace to follow in your ways, to be unashamed to own your name Lord Jesus Christ and speak that name to those whom we meet. Amen *Louisa H M Soulsby, 1856-1927*

TNT We look forward to meeting again on Sunday 27 June at 2.00pm for our annual bicycle ride to the Danish Camp. All Welcome. -Carolyn Morris

Children and Youth group meeting, Putnoe
Our next meeting will now be on Monday 12 July 2010, at 1.15 p.m. in the meeting room, instead of Monday 14th June 2010.

Anjulita Court, Woodlands Park, Bramley Way Brickhill, is holding a Summer Fete on Saturday 3 July from 11am until 3pm. You are invited to join everyone there for their first Summer Fete. Attractions include a Plant Stall, Cake Stall, Face Painting, a Tombola. Raffle and many more things.

Arthritis Research UK Annual Appeal. As we are short of volunteers for our annual house to house collection, there will be a basket containing donation envelopes in the welcome area this week & next where you can place any donations or they can be handed into the office. Any donations would be greatly appreciated for this important medical research into a disease that affects people of all ages. Thank you Marian Goddard. Hon. Sec.

Tuesday Club Charity Beetle Drive Tuesday 29 June at 7.30pm at Putnoe Heights Church. Tickets £5 inc. refreshments and raffle. In aid of Anjulita Court MHA Care Home.

Joyful Noise Putnoe Heights Church on Saturday 16th October 2010 1.30 to 5pm, entry £2 per child.

Come and explore the theme of Creation through music and singing, drama, dance and craft. Open to children aged 7 to 13 yrs on 1st September 2010. Please can you let Emma know at email Youth@thisischurch.com or telephone Julia on Tel: 295964 by 1st July 2010 if you wish to take part.

Sunday morning Taxi Service St Mark's is now providing a taxi service for the 9.30am service. This service is free of charge for those who have difficulty transporting themselves to Church. To book this service all that you have to do is to telephone St Mark's Church Office during the week before 1.00pm on Friday. We will then arrange to have you collected by our driver, it is as simple as that! If you require any more information please speak with Avril Williams 360605

Bedford Borough Council's Rent Deposit Scheme. The scheme's main aim is to provide for people with a housing need, helping them to avoid temporary accommodation at times when they may not have a deposit to begin a new tenancy. At present, we have a higher list of tenants requiring placement than properties available, and as such this email and the poster attached are part of a drive to attract landlords with empty or soon to be vacated properties to the scheme. If you have any queries, or are aware of any properties currently vacant please contact Mr Dominic Stanton or Mr Barry Garner (Empty Homes Officer) on 01234 221936

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Let us pray to God, our heavenly Father.
Father of all hear your children's prayer.

Sovereign Lord, your Son has revealed you as our heavenly Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. Father of all hear your children's prayer. You have made your Church a spiritual family, a household of faith. Through baptism we are reborn as the brothers and sisters of Christ. Deepen our unity and fellowship in him.

Father of all hear your children's prayer.

You sent your Son to give his life as a ransom for the whole human family. Give justice, peace and racial harmony to the world he died to save. Father of all hear your children's prayer.

You gave your Son a share in the life of a family in Nazareth. Help us to value our families, to be thankful for them, and to live sensitively within them.

Father of all hear your children's prayer.

Your Son drew around him a company of friends. Bring love and joy to all who are alone. Help us all to find in the brothers and sisters of Christ a loving family.

Father of all hear your Children's prayer.

You are the God of the dead as well as of the living. In confidence we remember those of the household of faith who have gone before us. Bring us with them to the joy of your home in heaven.

Father of all hear your children's prayer.



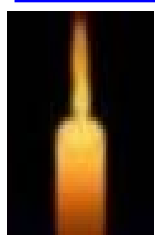
Chaplaincy

Ladyslaude Court, Bedford

15 hours per week • £8.95 p/h • £6,981 per annum (actual)

MHA is a charity providing care homes, housing and support services for older people. We are looking for a Chaplain (a lay person or an ordained minister) who will take the lead on pastoral care, and the spiritual and worship aspects of life within our new Housing with Care scheme, Ladyslaude Court, Bedford which is being built next door to our Care Home, Anjulita Court. As a key member of the staff team, you will also be responsible for building good working relationships with local faith communities. The person appointed will work alongside an established chaplain at Anjulita Court. For an application pack and an informal discussion, please contact 01332 221831 or email spirituality@mha.org.uk Closing date: 2nd July 2010

**In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**



Visit our online chapel, Light a Candle of Remembrance. We have now provided the opportunity to visit our online chapel and light a prayer candle. Please visit www.thischurch.com and click on the candle.



Please don't forget to buy what you need at Amazon. Free delivery. Remember, never click on Amazon direct, always click on Amazon via the link at thischurch.com, then we obtain 5%

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.'

We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of

Adam Gold and Rebecca Louise Perry, both single and of this parish. *Second time of asking.*

Forthcoming Funerals



The funeral of Jill Linda Connor will take place at Putnoe Heights Church on Thursday 24 June 2010 at 3.30pm