



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

21 June 2009

Ordinary 12



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 - Mr. Michael Ovenden  
Intercessions - Mr. John Tatman

### 11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman  
Leadership - Mr. Lawrence Wyatt  
Intercessions - Mrs. Sylvia Cohen

## Sunday 28 June - Ordinary 13

### 9.30am St. Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Richard Ledger  
Leadership - Mrs Delia Shephard  
Intercessions - Mrs Margaret Appleton

### 11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Richard Ledger  
Leadership - Mrs Wendy Nash  
Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

**Readings** , Lamentations 3; 22-33,  
2 Cor; 8; 7-15, Mark 5; 21-43

## Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Doreen Denny in loving memory of her husband Len on his birthday.

The flowers at St. Mark's have been given by Iris Perry in memory of Cyril on the occasion of their Wedding Anniversary.

*We are always grateful for any donations for 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 Jennie Cooper 404950(Putnoe Heights) or add your name to the rota in the foyers.*

## Prayer for Sunday

O Holy Spirit, giver of light and life: impart to us thoughts higher than our own thoughts, and prayers better than our own prayers, and powers beyond our own powers; that we may spend and be spent in the ways of love and goodness, after the perfect image of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Eric Milner-White, 1884-63*

## 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](http://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 273628  
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com  
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

# 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 29 June 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** 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 June 23 Geoffrey Willets 'Travellers Tales'. 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
- 7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or 07866775515
- 7.30pm Chartered Management Institute** St Marks 3rd week. Mrs Dimmock ☎01525 862374
- 7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Meeting June 30 Visit To The Mayors Parlour. 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 - 1 July 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 ☎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** St Mark's, 1st ,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next Meeting 1 July Everyone welcome. 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 . 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

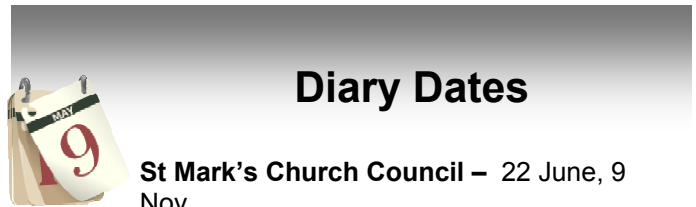
week in month. Sue Butler ☎354183  
**5pm Stars School of Dance** Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468  
**2.00pm U3A Gardening Group** Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875  
**6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation** Putnoe Heights. Racheall Monton 297138 or 07910835994  
**6.30pm Line 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 – 22 June, 9 Nov

**St Mark's Leadership Team –**  
**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** – 12 Oct, 8 Feb 2010  
**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting** 20 July  
**St Mark's Church Forum Meeting** - 15 July, 8 Sept , 11 Nov, 12 Jan 2010  
**Putnoe Church Council** - 5 Oct  
**Pastoral Group Meeting** -  
**Churchyard Committee** -  
**Putnoe Heights Mission Group** -  
**Partnership Council - September 6th**  
**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -**  
**Deanery Meeting** 17 Sep, 19 Nov,  
**Circuit/Deanery Meeting**  
**Woodland Burial Trustees –**  
**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –**

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

# Ordinary 12

## Opening Verses of Scripture Ps 133 v 1

How good and pleasant it is when people live together in unity.

**Collect Prayer for the Day** - *Before we read we pray*  
Creator God, in the beginning your word subdued the chaos and in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, your Son, to rebuke the forces of evil and to make all things new. By that same power transform our fear into faith that we might have courage to follow in the way of your Kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

## First Bible Reading –Job 38: 1-11

Then the LORD answered Job out of the storm. He said: "Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me. "Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone-- while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy? "Who shut up the sea behind doors when it burst forth from the womb, when I made the clouds its garment and wrapped it in thick darkness, when I fixed limits for it and set its doors and bars in place, when I said, 'This far you may come and no farther; here is where your proud waves halt'? (Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)



## Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13

As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. For he says, "In the time of my favour I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation. We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; through glory and dishonour, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything. We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you. We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us. As a fair exchange--I speak as to my children--open wide your hearts also.

(Reader: This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

## Gospel Reading –Mark 4: 35-41 (When announced All: Glory to Christ our Saviour)

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

(*This is the Gospel of Christ, All: Praise to Christ our Lord*)



## **Hymns (Mission Praise)**

Eternal Father, strong to save, 122; Lord of the Dance, (Partnership News); Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us, 400; Thou, whose almighty word, 699

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Eternal God, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in our faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## **Mediation**

Job and the disciples, as have many people through the ages, asked 'Where is God in my suffering and hardship?', 'Where is He when I need Him most?', 'Doesn't God care that I'm in danger and everything's going wrong?'. Sometimes it can be difficult to see God or understand His actions, or lack of it as it sometimes seems. Busy as He is, I sometimes suspect God feels a lonely God as He waits for our prayers and our engagement with Him so He can bring peace and calm out of our storms. God does care about the situations each one of us finds ourselves in, however difficult or trying they are. He also wants us to share in His cosmic purpose for the world and understand more about how we fit into bringing His Kingdom to completion on earth. God is not a vindictive God, He does not wish bad things to happen to anyone, that not a part of His loving and forgiving nature. Similarly, our tough times are not part of some kind of divine retribution because we have done wrong or disobeyed Him. Suffering, hardship and pain happen because we are part of a fallen and imperfect world to which God sent His Son to bring redemption and salvation. Sometimes as part of that redeeming work we share in His pain.

## **Commentary**

The book of Job is often seen as one of the greatest poetical literary pieces of writing in the world. It was probably written around the 5th century BC and seems to reflect a time before the organised priesthood; Job himself reminds us of Abraham and the patriarchs. It's perhaps an ancient story that has been used by a later wisdom writer to explore the place of pain and suffering in the world. Unfortunately the book of Job is also often widely misunderstood. The book gives us a structured dialogue between Job and his well meaning but wrong friends and comforters named Bildad, Zophar and Eliphaz. Elihu, who comes along later, is a little better and defends God's superior knowledge and ways but still way off the mark regarding Job's suffering and the work and wisdom of God. All of Job's friends have the view that everything that happens to a person in life, good or bad, is a direct result of whether that individual has pleased God or not. Some people still think like this today. The friends can't understand when Job, who we know to be an upright and righteous man, protests his innocence with great eloquence and states that he has done nothing to deserve the miseries that have been inflicted on him. Job's trials include bereavement, prolonged physical suffering and illness, and acute financial hardship, quite a testing for anyone, but especially for someone who is described in the first chapter of the book as 'the richest man in the East'. In line with the prevailing thinking and orthodox theology of the time, the friends insist that Job must have seriously sinned against God and done wrong for all these things to happen to him. They argue that if Job the person he makes himself out to be then God would have continued to richly bless him, constantly rewarding him for doing good by giving him the benefits of long life, children and material rewards, all of which now seem to have been taken away from him. On the contrary, if Job is suffering he must be a wicked man. They urge Job to make a clean breast of it, confess his sin and admit that God does indeed administer a just and fair world and one in which we all get what we deserve. But Job shows that his faith is not so superficially thin and counters their arguments time and time again and puts forward the perspective that life is not always fair and that the world is not always how God wants it to be. Through his trials and suffering, even though he clearly felt abandoned by God at times, Job's faith deepens as he begins to understand more about who God really is.

The central issue of the book of Job still challenges us today. If God is all powerful and good, why do evil and natural disasters happen and why does God allow good and innocent people to suffer? Why isn't the world how God wants it to be? As we have seen, the arguments go back and forth between Job and his friends going nowhere. It's not until the climax of the book and God Himself intervenes in the debate, the passage we have in today's reading, that a resolution to this impasse is revealed. God, who speaks to Job and His friends out of 'the tempest' and the turmoil, rather than answer Job's questions directly simply reveals His glory and His nature to them, telling them of the wonders of the universe and His creation. He corrects the friends' misconceptions and puts the situation into perspective. As God speaks Job realises that even if the theology and philosophy of life held by his friends is too narrow and presents too a restrictive picture of God, his own concept of God has been far too small. The world's wisdom is

seemingly very logical but incorrect. There are many things in life which will never be understood. God works on a different plane to human beings, a plane that we only glimpse occasionally and never fully comprehend. Through the words that God speaks He vindicates Job's position against the perceived wisdom of the world as articulated by his so called friends.

The disciples too were capable of thinking like Job's friends when they were in the boat together with Jesus. Didn't Jesus care that they were in danger? Just as God did not answer Job's questions neither does Jesus reply directly to the disciples. But just like God, Jesus demonstrates His glory and authority over the natural world in response to the unfathomable situation. It seemed natural to the disciples that if God is in control of the world then everything that happens in it must be according to His will and everything would be fine for them from here to eternity. The reality, which not just the book of Job and the gospel of Mark but the whole bible teaches, is that many things happen in life which are not as God wishes them to be. Paul in his epistle to the Romans is very clear that suffering is not the result of sin. He stresses that 'All that we suffer in this life is nothing in comparison with the glory which is destined to be disclosed for us' (Rom 8 v 18). The crucifixion of Christ on the cross is the ultimate outworking of this as we see the suffering to death of the only truly righteous person who ever lived. The cross more importantly shows that whatever the suffering, God does prevail. When all seemed lost, Christ arose from the dead, ascended back into heaven to be with His Father whilst leaving His Spirit with us to comfort and strengthen us in all our circumstances. Things that we can never understand do happen in our broken and fallen world. Life can be full of uncertainty, apparently meaningless suffering, hardships and all kinds of contradictions. Ultimately Job accepts this, admitting that he had spoken of things he did not understand. We too sometimes need to turn our thoughts away from ourselves and this world to reflect on God's character and personality and respond in trust and worship as Job eventually did on his knees. *Sam Cappleman*

### **Hymns** (*Please distribute Mission Praise and Holy Communion*)

1. Eternal Father, strong to save 122
2. Lord of the Dance, (Partnership News);
3. Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us, 400;
4. Thou, whose almighty word, 699

### **Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead**

Lord, teach me to trust you in whatever situations I may find myself. Help me to pray, not just when my boat is sinking, but in all the times and places of my life where you can make a real difference. Help me with my family and friends to establish better relationships, in my place of work to allow you to inform the way I behave. Forgive me when I make you a stranger and walk with me always.  
**Amen.**

Lord, lead me from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead me from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.  
**Amen**

We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; stuck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may be revealed. We fix our eyes not on what is seen: but what is unseen and eternal. **Amen** 2 Cor 4 v 8 - 10

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**

God of Glory, present in all places and filling all things, treasury of blessings and source of life: come and dwell with us, cleanse us from all sin and grant us your salvation. Amen.

*Liturgy of St John Chrysostom, 4th century*

## Youth, children and friends summer diary dates

**Sunday 12th July TNT and friends** "Cycle ride to Danish Camp" meet 2.00 by recycling area at Priory. All welcome to join us or meet for refreshments at the camp about 3.00. The young people remain the responsibility of their parent/guardian during the above two events.

**Thursday 16th July** St Mark's last Storybox and Chat and Play. Restart Thursday 10th September.

**Monday 20th July** Putnoe Holiday Storybox 12.00 till 1.00 followed by Storybox plus until 2.45.

Monday 27th July at Putnoe The Cheeky Dog Children's Entertainer and sandwich lunch 12.00 till 2.00. Tickets £2.50 from Liz or £3.00 on the door/office, accompanying adults £1.00, under 1 year free. This will be the last Storybox and Storybox plus until Monday 7th September

**Monday 24th August** under 5's summer workshop 2.00 till 4.00 and Tuesday 25th and Wednesday

**26th August** 5 years plus summer workshop 10.00 till 3.00

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.

**The 1st Putnoe Brownies** will be holding a bring and buy cake stall on Sunday the 21st June.

**Deanery Eucharist at St Peter's** on Monday 22 June at 7.30pm to help us all celebrate St Alban's

Day! Adrian Quarry is keen that the choir, which we are bringing together for this occasion, should representative of churches within the deanery and embrace those who are members of formal church choirs and those who are not but who enjoy singing choral music! He would be delighted for people from the Partnership to come along. Rehearsals are at St Peter's on Monday 15 June at 7.30pm

**Singing Together at Priory.** Saturday 4 July 10.30am - 1.30pm. Open to all, from the experienced singer to the novice. Please bring a packed lunch. Donations to the Cameroon Project welcome. For more information and to book please contact John Ayres 843827.

**What is Tiddler Emergency Relief Fund?** The Putnoe Heights Mission Group collects your 5ps and other small change saved at the church door each Sunday. This creates a fund enabling a quick response to major emergencies. The small sums mount very usefully. From 2000 - 2009 £4680, averaging £540 per year has been sent in times of natural disaster, famine and the disruptions of war. Can you save your small change, if you do not already do so? Every little helps. Sylvia Cohen.

**Bedford Town Band**, directed by Kevin Nicholls invite you to join them on 4 July at Putnoe Heights Church for an 'Evening of American Music'. Broadway Show Tunes, Marches and other music with an American accent. Concert begins 7.30 - refreshments available and raffle prizes.

**Arthritis Research Campaign** There was a big drop in donations due to a shortage of volunteers for the House to House Collection in June. If you missed the collectors and would like to contribute envelopes will be available in the entrances at both St Mark's & Putnoe Heights today & next Sunday, & can be placed in the basket or returned to the Church Office. *Marion Goddard*

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The Archbishop of Canterbury is urging churches to pray for the planet and campaign for climate change in the run up to the important UN talks later this year in Copenhagen. Dr Williams said it was vital for Christians and people of all faiths to take a lead in praying and campaigning for action. A new deal at the UN summit could directly improve the lives of the world's poor whose living conditions are affected by climate change. World Environment Day marks the third anniversary of the Church of England's environmental campaign Shrinking the Footprint, helping churches, cathedrals and other buildings reduce their energy footprint. The next phase of the campaign focusing on water and biodiversity will also be unveiled. Nearly all dioceses now have an environment officer with many promoting their own green policies to cut the carbon in every parish. The Archbishop will commend a range of green projects already supported by local churches from a bicycle and rickshaw scheme to solar panels on a medieval church building. The Bishop of London the Rt Revd Richard Chartres Chair of Shrinking the Footprint said: "Climate change is a global challenge, the impact of which is being felt first by some of the most vulnerable communities on our planet. Loving our neighbour in the 21st Century demands that we should be involved in the effort to mitigate climate change and to help our neighbours to adapt. "Environment Sunday is a time for us to reflect on the challenges ahead and to look forward to the Shrinking the Footprint event on the 11th June 2009. This will both provide an opportunity to deepen our own commitment and to engage with our politicians".

**Footprints Summer Party** All who enjoy our walks and weekends are welcome to the Summer Party at Margaret and Eddy's house, 30 The Ridgeway on Saturday 27th June from 7.00 pm. If you are able to come, please phone Margaret Peck or Sue Allen to discuss buffet food.

**Footprints Walk** on Sunday 5 July 2009. Park at either the River Street or Riverside car parks in Bedford, amble down to the river and meet with us at County Bridge/ Prebend Street at 14.00 hours. We will then meander up the river through Queen's Park towards Kempston Mill before crossing the river at two bridges and wandering back through attractive woodland and open parks. There are no stiles and paths are accessible : all welcome. Contact Pam or Ray on 305695 for further details



**Woodland Burial Trust** St Albans Woodland Burial Ground Open Day Come and visit the woodland on Saturday 27 June from 2.00pm—5.00pm Refreshments served throughout. We

would welcome offers of help with providing refreshments throughout the afternoon. If you are able to offer any help then please contact Janet Day 295592

### We publish the banns and pray for the marriages of

**Paul Mark Nigro** Single of this parish and on the electoral roll of Elstow Abbey and **Carmelina Di Lorenzo** single of All Saints

**Mark James Hurst and Emily Frances Laura Scott**, both single of this parish and electoral roll of Elstow Abbey

**Thomas Joseph Wooley**, single of Charlbury Chipping Norton and **Joanne Elizabeth Appleton** Single of this parish (*All for first time of asking*)

### 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.'*



### Hymn for Sunday

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;  
at Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Dance then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the dance said he.  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
and I'll lead you all in the dance said he.*

I danced for the Scribe and the Pharisee  
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.

I danced for the fishermen for James and John,  
they came with me and the dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame,  
the holy people said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,  
and they left me there on a cross to die.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black,  
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
but I am the dance and I still go on.

They cut me down and I leapt up high,  
I am the life that'll never, never die.  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me.  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

"All that Christians do,  
even in eating and sleeping,  
is prayer if done in simplicity,  
according to the order of God.  
Prayer continues in the desire of the heart,  
though the understanding be employed  
on outward things. "  
*John Wesley*

### Forthcoming Funerals



**The funeral of Florence Ellen Davies** will take place at St Mark's Church Chapel on Tuesday 23 June at 1.30pm