

Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

23 January 2011

Epiphany 3



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

### 16 January - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman

Leadership – Mrs. Jean Bank

Intercessions – Mrs. Mary Stubbs

### 11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Preacher - Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman

Leadership - Mr. Gordon Evans

Intercessions - Mrs. Sylvia Cohen

### 30 January - Epiphany 4

#### 9.30 am St. Mark's - Holy Communion with PCH

Preacher – Mr Michael Carr

Leadership – Mrs Avril Williams

Intercessions – Mrs Margaret Appleton

#### 11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion with PCH

Preacher - Mr Michael Carr

Leadership - Mr Lawrence Wyatt

Intercessions - Mrs Claire Peck

**Readings** 1. Micah 6: 1-8, 2.1 Corinthians 1: 18-31  
3. Matthew 5: 1-12

**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 Norma Taylor and family in loving memory of their mother and sisters, by Dorothy Jacks in loving memory of her husband Fred, and by Pam Crouch in loving memory of her husband Jack and her brothers Alan and Tom.

The flowers at St Mark's Church this week have been given by Valerie Edwards in memory of her mother.

*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 This Week

My dearest Lord,  
be thou a bright flame before me  
be thou a guiding star above me  
be thou a smooth path beneath me  
be thou a kindly shepherd behind me  
today and evermore. Amen  
*St Columba*

### 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.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 Geoff Gypps 365630

**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 - 07593266091

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

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

**9.15 –3.45 am Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school.** See website for more details [www.ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com)  
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  
**12.15pm Story box** Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12.15 and 1.15 for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Emma Gorden ☎07593266091  
**2pm U3A Music Appreciation** - Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting Contact Linda Reed ☎ 216623  
**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 ☎01767699399 or 07720713738.  
**6.15 Pilates** at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859  
**7.15pm Fit for Life Yoga** - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher ☎07891879571  
**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  
**7.30pm Whist Drive.** St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting—31 January Judith Stanton. ☎823313  
**7.30pm House group** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.  
**9.15pm '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. Pat McCart ☎365507  
**9.15 –3.45 am Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school**365507 ☎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** for the less mobile. Sally Banks ☎ 870357  
**1.15pm Toddlers Playtime/Sing & Stomp** - Putnoe Heights for toddlers and their carers. Run by Putnoe Childre's Centre Trudy Hamilton ☎340552

**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. Contact John Farish ☎ 824984  
**2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship.** Next meeting 25 January. 'Tea and Chat' For more details contact 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  
**7pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Sacha Ojo ☎07590597891 or [www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk](http://www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk)  
**7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting January 25 'Memories' For more details call 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 U3A Card Making,** St Mark's Church. 4th week in the month. Janet Fitch 838689  
**12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - 2 February 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  
**3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church.** St Mark's for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. 3rd Wednesday in the month.. Wendy Waters 401834  
**4.15pm Kumon Maths.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha

Mistry ☎01908 392698

**6.00 pm Brownies.** St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden  
☎219731

**6.00pm Shooting Stars.** Youth Group for 9-13yrs at  
Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 26 January.

**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 will be  
February 2 2011 Everyone welcome. All dances called,  
only £1 including refreshments. Ring 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. Valerie Capon ☎356306 .

*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. Jo Garner 40007112354rrrr7651

**11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau** 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

**2-4pm U3A Indoor Games** St Mark's Contact Radmila  
Dancer ☎404811

**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 **7.00pm  
Club 2000** Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden  
☎825059

**7pm U3A Folk & Poetry** 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. Pauline Lynham ☎01525 714517

**8 -10pm Bedford Folk dancers** (formerly Barn dancers)  
Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights . Different guest callers  
each week. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments.  
More details Ron Law 825574.

**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

**7-9pm Tae Kwon Do** St Mark's Contact Adrian Felice  
07964 356355☎

**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

## Diary Dates



**St Mark's Church Council** – 16 February

**Annual General Meeting** 10 April 2011

**St Mark's Leadership Team** 31 January

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** - 7 February

**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting** - .26 May

**St Mark's Forum Meeting** -

**Putnoe Church Council** - 14 February

**Pastoral Group Meeting** - 8 February 4.15pm

**Churchyard Committee** - 26 January at 11.00am

**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings** - 3rd February

**Circuit meeting** - 15 March at Clapham

**Deanery Meeting** - .

**Woodland Burial Trustees** – 13 February 2011

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth** –

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

## Epiphany 3

### Opening Sentence from Scripture

The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid? **Psalm 27 v 1**

### Collect Prayer (*Before we read we pray*)

Almighty God, who's Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**



Immediately they  
left their nets  
and followed him

### Old Testament Reading –Isaiah 9: 1-4

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. (This is the word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God**)

### Second Reading –1 Corinthians 1: 10-18

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul,' or 'I belong to Apollos,' or 'I belong to Cephas,' or 'I belong to Christ.' Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God (This is the word of the Lord — **All: Thanks be to God**)

### Gospel Reading -Matthew 4:12-23

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: 'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles – the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.' From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake – for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people  
(Reader: This is the Word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God**)

**Post Communion Prayer** Almighty Father, whose Son Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of His glory, that he may be known, worshipped and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for He is alive and reigns, now and for ever

**Hymns** (*Please distribute Mission Praise and morning worship*)

1. Christ is made the sure foundation, 73 (*Tune Westminster Abbey*)
2. For I'm building a people of power, 151
3. Will you come and follow me, *On Partnership News*
4. May the mind of Christ my saviour, 463 (*Tune St Leonard*)
5. All my hope on God is founded, 16 (*Tune Michael*)

### **Meditation**

Jesus' act of calling disciples would have been a common event in the Middle East. Usually, a person with a cause or grievance invites people to join him in promoting the cause or resolving the grievance. The disciples didn't quite understand Jesus' cause but they certainly followed Him. They must have believed it too, because they dropped everything to follow him. In unified groups there is strength. When people look at the Church and Christians today, how united do they see the people of God and Christ's disciples?

### **Unity in Christ**

The Old Testament reading from Isaiah is very similar to the Christmas reading from this chapter. The verses about the birth of the Davidic king are dropped at the end, but the reading starts with the reference to "the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali" and "Galilee of the Gentiles. This passage is echoed in the gospel reading, where Matthew introduces it to mark the beginning of the Galilean ministry. Read on Christmas night, it relates to the nativity of Christ; it was then that light dawned in the darkness. Read now, it refers to the beginning of Jesus' ministry. His nativity and His ministry are intertwined; both are aspects of the single Christ-event, the coming of light into the darkness of the world. It is with His coming to Galilee and the launching of His proclamation that people began to become aware of the light that was shining.

As He went throughout Galilee, that light touched every aspect of people's lives and every aspect of society, He went through the region, 'teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people'. One of the aspects of the Bishop's initiative, 'Living God's Love', is about making disciples. As Jesus starts out in His ministry, He calls His disciples. From what we can tell, it would appear that there was not a great flurry of activity or multiple signs or miracles to attract attention to Himself or prove His credentials before Jesus called His disciples to follow Him. They did not seem to choose to follow Jesus because they were 'wowed' by witnessing acts of His supernatural activity or power, they followed Jesus merely because He called them and there was something in that call which was deeply attractive, attractive enough for men who had regular jobs and employment to drop everything and follow Him. At the most, all the disciples would have experienced of Jesus would be to have heard Him preach a few times. And yet, they chose to follow Him and become a group of people who would be united with Him in spreading the good news. People such as Simon-Peter, Andrew, James and John. Fishermen, not individuals known as great speakers or charismatic leaders, but everyday people who heard the call of Jesus and responded.

At this early stage of ministry they were probably very unclear what following Jesus would mean, but they stepped out in faith, left their security behind and followed Him. And throughout his ministry we know that the disciples often talked to each other, trying to work out what a particular parable or action of Jesus signified. Frequently this is portrayed by commentators as a negative

thing, as if the disciples were grumbling about what they had got themselves into, wondering why people didn't see things the way they did, and even questioning the concept of Jesus as the Messiah and His authority. But this isn't the case. Often they were more concerned with understanding the significance of something Jesus had said, trying to work out the implications of some of His actions and radical approach and access to His Father God.

When we are following Christ, God does not mind if we have questions, does not mind if we don't always understand what is happening and why things are the way they are in the world. He wants us, as spiritual descendants of those first disciples, to follow in their footsteps, faithfully following Him as best as we are able with our imperfect understanding of Him and His ways. The uniqueness of the Christian faith is that it is dependent on the uniqueness of Christ, not on a perfect knowledge or understanding of God. And in that uniqueness there is absolute unity, based on the unshakable truths of the gospel message. A unity that Paul was keen to stress to the Corinthian Church. We may express our Christian faith in different ways, but as Christians we are all uniquely united in Christ. Our challenge is to live out that unity every day. *Sam Cappleman*

### **Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead**

As the beautiful, dew covered rose rises from amongst its thorns, so may my heart be so full of love for you my God, that I may rise above the storms and evils that assail me, and stand fast in trust and freedom of spirit. **Amen.** *Hadewijch of Brabant - 13th Century*

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit, that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the broken hearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

God of dawning light, hear our prayers today and give us the strength to put aside all cares and follow you in your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Christ the Son of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

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**But now, this is what the LORD says—he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. Isaiah 43:1**

The ship called "The Queen Mary" was one of the finest of British ships. Shortly before the ship's launch in 1934, Sir Thomas Royden, one of the directors of the shipping company, Cunard, met King George V (the 5th), intending to ask his permission to name the new ship "The Queen Victoria". Royden asked the king if the ship could be named "after the greatest queen this country has ever known." King George, presuming the words were being said of his wife (Queen Mary), said: "That is the greatest compliment ever paid to my wife. I'll ask her if your ship may be named after her." It was only years later that the shipping company mentioned that it had been intending to call the ship "The Queen Victoria" ! There is always a great ceremony when ships are named, and a bottle is broken on the bow of the ship. We celebrate when people are given their name at the time of baptism (christening). If someone is not bothered to call people by their name, it might reflect a lack of care and respect. We know that Adolf Hitler's father never called him by his name, but whistled for him (like for a dog) whenever he wanted him. In some countries, prisoners are called by numbers rather than by their names as a way of de-humanising them, of taking away their individuality.

***God our Father, you call each of us by name, and you treasure each of us individually as though no-one else exists. Inspire us to respect and value each person who comes into our lives this day. Amen***

**A Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration** will take place at Biddenham International School, at 6pm, on 27 January 2011. This year's moving event will carry the theme of 'Untold Stories' from this period. The date, 27 January, was chosen for the Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) as it was on this date in 1945 that the largest Nazi killing camp Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated.

**Flower Donors.** Anyone wishing to contribute towards the cost of flowers at Putnoe for any Sunday in the first six months of 2011, is invited to enter their name on the rota on the board in the welcome area. Anyone wishing to contribute towards flowers at St Mark's should please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254.

**The New Year Lunch at Putnoe Heights** on 9th January raised a profit of £200.00 for Church Funds. Thanks to all the team and helpers who contributed to a happy occasion. NB As we laid tables for the lunch we discovered that the number of our cream tablecloths is reduced from 12 to 11. Please search your laundry cupboard - it must have been missing since Harvest 2010.

**Footprints** The next walk will be on Sunday 6th February 2011. Meet at 2.00pm on the bridge over the By-pass (Paula Radcliffe Way) in Oakley Road Clapham. Suggested parking in the culdesacs on both sides of the bridge in the old Oakley Road. A circular walk of about 3 and a 1/2 miles around Oakley. No stiles but tarmac and grass paths Further details from Margaret or Alan.

**Bedford Borough Council** are holding a Green Borough Fair at St Mark's Church Community Centre on Sunday 6 February 12 - 4.00pm. Refreshments, demonstrations, displays and talks Come and find out about creating community gardens, water projects, community environmental projects, funding green projects, grown your own flower meadow, woodland crafts, small scale poultry keeping, recycling in your garden.

**Calvary Roadshow** a new presentation of the Gospel story for our times in song. We need musicians, singing actors, technicians, costumes, chorus and extras. The plan is to present this show next June/July in St. Mary's Goldington and Priory Methodist churches. If you are interested, and can help in any capacity at all, or need to enquire further, please contact Richard Tysoe on: 01234 261960 or e-mail richardtysoepoet@btinternet.com.

**Thank you** to Judith Stanton and her supporters for their generous donation of £142 following their recent Whist Drive.

**Grass Cutting** We are looking for people to cut the grass and tend the front garden borders at Putnoe Heights once a month. If you can help with this please talk to a member of the Leadership Team.

## A Hymn for Sunday

- 1 Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown,  
in you and you in me?
- 2 Will you leave yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
in you and you in me?
- 3 Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean  
in you and you in me?
- 4 Will you love the 'you' you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you and you in me?
- 5 Lord, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** We are very privileged indeed this year in Bedford, for we have managed to get the General Secretary of the Methodist Church, the Rev. Dr Martyn Atkins as our preacher at the Bedford-Wide United Service. It will be held at the Salvation Army Citadel in Commercial Road on Sunday 23 January at 6.30pm. This service provides a wonderful opportunity to meet and worship with Christians from other denominations from all over the town. In addition, short lunchtime services are being held during the week at the following venues;  
 24 January - St. John's, St John's Street  
 25 January - University of Bedfordshire, Polhill Ave  
 All the services start at 12.30pm, and last about 20 minutes. Tea/coffee will be provided after each of the services and you are encouraged to stay, bringing your own sandwiches if you wish. These services, too, provide an excellent opportunity to have a chat with other Bedford Christians.

**Putnoe Heights has a new youth group** up and running! TNT has been reformed and renamed as Shooting Stars! It runs fortnightly, on Wednesday night from 6-7.30pm, for ages 9-13. The circuit youth worker, Anna Price, is joining the leaders team. We have a full program up till Easter 2011 (which is up on the youth notice board) all nights include games, activities and Christian content connected to the theme. If you know of any young people that would like to come, please contact Emma Gordon (Putnoe Heights children's and youth worker) at [youth@thisischurch.com](mailto:youth@thisischurch.com), or call on 07593266091.

**Storybox at Putnoe Heights** has a few gaps in our catering and tidying teams. If you, or anybody you know, are interested in helping out for no more than 2 hours a week, joining a friendly team in the kitchen or helping with the setting up and tidying contact:- Emma Gordon [youth@thisischurch.com](mailto:youth@thisischurch.com)

or call on 07593266091

**Partnership Quiz Night.** There will be a quiz night with a Fish and Chip supper at St Mark's Church on Saturday 12 February at 7.30pm. Tickets £6 and £3 for children B.Y.O.drinks. Please could last years winner return the Trophy to St Mark's office as soon as possible. Many thanks Avril Williams

**Secondhand Book Sale** at Putnoe Heights Church on Saturday March 12, 10am to 2pm. Please look out your unwanted books and let us have them on Friday March 11th between 6-7.30pm. Further details from Linda Hoar.

**Songs of Praise** are recording their programme at St Paul's Bedford on Sunday 30 January. Please collect application forms from the church offices or visit the Songs of Praise website. Tickets are allocated by ballot after the deadline for receipt.

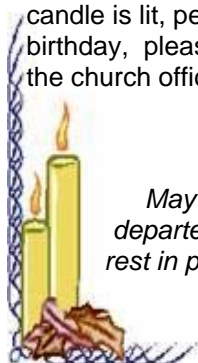


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## Rest In Peace

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.'*

## Forthcoming Funerals

**The funeral of Brian Joseph Perry** will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 1:45pm on Monday 31 January 2011

**The funeral of Norman Holden** will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 10.00am on Monday 31 January 2011

**The funeral of Brian Joseph Perry** will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 1.45pm on Monday 31 January 2011

