



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

24 June 2007

12th in Ordinary Time



Church of  
England

## Partnership Church Services Today

**8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday** on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights Church. On the 2nd & 4th Sunday at St Mark's Chapel.

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

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

### 11am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership Team - Mrs Sam Ware  
Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

## 13th in Ordinary - 1st July

### 9.30am St Mark's - Family Worship with baptism of Marena Tamika D'Aniello

Preacher – Rev Dr Joan Crossley  
Leadership Team - Mrs Avril Williams  
Intercessions - Mrs Alison Holden

### 11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley  
Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley  
Intercessions - Mrs Claire Peck

### Readings

- 1: 1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-21
- 2: Gal. 5:1,13-25
- 3: Luke 9: 51-62

## 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.

We are always grateful for any donations for flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion, an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St Mark's) or Miss Jennie Cooper 404950 (Putnoe Heights)

## Prayer for Sunday

Grant to us, O Lord, fullness of faith,  
firmness of hope and fervency of love.  
For the sake of the gospel  
may we sit loosely to our wealth and daily  
embrace you in the poor of the world.  
As we rejoice in your generosity  
so may we give ourselves  
in the service of others;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thomas More, 1478-1535

## 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 Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.  
Home 344536 Crossley@thisischurch.com

### The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

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.

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 9am—5pm Monday to Friday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com  
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417  
Leadership Team Mr Alan Cooper 365302 Mob 07989367604  
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com  
Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186  
Youth & children's worker - Mrs Liz 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 Linda Parry 216724  
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com  
Gift Aid Administrator Mr 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 Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school**

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.

**10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group.** St Mark's

Mr Kellie ☎721063

**12.00-1.00pm Story box** Putnoe Heights church 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

**2.30-4.30pm Bedford Arts Society** at Putnoe Heights

Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741 (weekly from 25 September 2006)

**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. Miriam Adcock ☎01908 565044

**4.15-6.00pm Kumon Maths** Putnoe Heights.

Ms Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

**6.00pm Brownies** St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew ☎826190

**6.15 pm Brownies** Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎364710

**7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs Pauline Parrott ☎768419

**7.15 m Guides.** St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091

**7.15pm Yoga.** Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

**7.30pm Creative Needles.** Putnoe Heights.

Jacky Hayward ☎307648.

**7.30pm Whist Drive.** St Mark's each month next 18 June Judith Stanton. ☎823313

**7.30pm Housegroup** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.

**8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit'** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

## Tuesday

**9.30am Candlewicking** (Needlework). Putnoe Heights.

Judi Staughton ☎341821

**9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's.

Helen Folbigg ☎351223

**10.00am Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman

☎822230

**1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime.** Putnoe Heights.

Andrea ☎210177 or Majella ☎325293.

**1.30pm U3A Cinema Group.** St Mark's. Last Tuesday of the month. Mr Austin ☎365184

**2.00pm U3A Book Group.** St Mark's (3rd Tuesday only)

Mrs Burman ☎364723

**2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Mrs C Allen ☎363878

**2-5pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer.

**2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship** - Next meeting 26 June The Kings Arms Project. Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

**2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** St Mark's Meets fortnightly. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225

**2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** St Mark's Meets fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

**3.45-5.30pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 0582468.

**6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga** Putnoe Heights.

Rachel Leontyne ☎783129

**7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group** at St Mark's, ( 1st Tuesday ) Contact Kate Parsons 351150

**7-8pm Keep Fit.** St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎214107.

**7-9pm MT Karate** [all ages] Putnoe Heights.

Karen King ☎07941 264885

**7- 10pm Card Makers Club** meets fortnightly at St Mark's. Carol Houghton ☎346718

**7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** at Putnoe. Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr ☎360188 or 07866775515

**7.30-10.30pm Chartered Management Institute** St Mks

**7.45pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets

fortnightly. Next meeting 3 July "A Village in Kenya"

Audrey Wilkins ☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

## Wednesday

**9.00am Paint Tots** at St Mark's Jacqui Harrahan ☎824475

**9.30am Childminding Support Group.** Putnoe Heights.

Mrs S Longman ☎313949

**9.30am - Body Control Pilates.** Putnoe Heights.

Stephanie Smith ☎357787.

**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

**10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation** Putnoe Heights

Fortnightly. Audrey Hancock ☎365915.

**Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 27 June 2007 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

**1.00-3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights .

**1.30-4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired.** St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811

**2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights

Mrs Webster ☎856966

**4.15-6pm Kumon Maths.** Putnoe Heights

Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

**6.00 pm Brownies.** St Mark's.

Mrs Carol Warden ☎219731

**6.15-7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation** Putnoe Heights

Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138

**6.30-7.30pm Karate.** St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

**7.00pm Bunyan Bridge.** St. Mark's

Brian Sallows ☎407725

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

**7.00pm Yoga** St Mark's Dorothy Turner ☎721763

**7.00pm Putnoe Guild** meets monthly. Putnoe Heights.

Janice ☎Loxley 347073

**7.45pm Badminton Club.** Putnoe Heights

All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867

**8.00-10.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club** St Mark's, 1st ,3rd & 5th Wednesday. More details Graham ☎406359 or Danny ☎401668.

**8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club** St Mark's (1st week) 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.*

**9.30am-12.30 Jo Jingles.** St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips ☎01582 485333

**9.45am Yoga** Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

**9.45am-11.30am Chat and Play** St. Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.50 for first child + 50p for each extra child over 2 years. More details from St. Marks Office ☎342613 or Emma Strangwick ☎211070

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

**12pm Storybox.** St Mark's Church 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

**1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime.** Putnoe Andrea ☎210177 or Magella ☎325293.

**2- 4.30pm Putnoe Bridge Club.** Gerald Palmer ☎345991

**5.30-7.30pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer.

**6.15 pm Weightwatchers.** St. Mark's.

Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.

**6.15pm Brownies.** Putnoe Heights Helga Nash ☎218521

**6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club.** St. Mark's

Mr & Mrs Pike ☎823795

**7.00pm Club 2000** Putnoe Heights

Sheila Jakeman ☎261935

**7-9pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group.** St Mark's (Fortnightly starting from 26th April) Contact Doug Ovenden ☎825059

**7.30pm-11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club** St Mark's Mr P Housden ☎376597

**7.30-9.30pm Embroiderers' Guild** St Mark's

3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby ☎344442

**7.30-9.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible Studies every 2 Thursday- Pastor Tarr ☎360188

**7.45pm Housegroup** meets fortnightly

Betty Wyatt ☎350188

**8.00-10pm Bedford Writers Circle.** St Mark's 1st Thursday each month. Mr Broadhouse ☎740271

**8.00-10.00pm Magpies Women's Group** St Mark's (2nd & 4th weeks) Mrs Cotchin ☎402089

**8.00pm Brickhill Wives** St Mark's (1st and 3rd weeks) Mrs Woods ☎404702

## Friday

**9.30am & 12.30pm U3A Photography Group** (4th week) Joyce Fildes ☎353086

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

**1.30-2pm Stars School of Dance** Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

**2.00pm U3A Gardening Group** Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

**6.30-9.00pm Line Dancing.** St Mark's A night of fun Christine Rushton ☎782360

**7-10pm Bedford Arts Society** fortnightly Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

**7.30pm Youth Club for age 10-15.** St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey ☎349179

## Saturday

**9.00- 12.00pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

**10.00am - 1.00pm Theatretrain** St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Randle ☎01234 782414

**7.15-10.30pm Duplicate Bridge.** St Mark's Ann or Peter ☎212066

## Sunday

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

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

**1 - 3pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515

**6-7.30pm T.N.T.** Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. Liz ☎302349.

**6 -7.30pm T.X.T** Putnoe. for 13 + fortnightly, join us for fellowship, debate & discussion. Liz ☎302349

## Diary Dates

**St Mark's Church Council** – 12 November

**St Mark's Leadership Team** – 26 June Linda's

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** –25 June at Lawrence Wyatt's.

**St Mark's Church Management Meeting - Putnoe Heights Centre Management** - 16 July

**Putnoe Church Council** -

**Pastoral Group Meeting** –

**Churchyard Committee** - 5 September 11am

**Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting.**12 September. 7.30pm at 14 Flint Way

**Partnership Council** -

**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings** on 6 July

**Deanery Meeting** - 13 September St Paul's

**Circuit Meeting**

**Woodland Burial Trustees** - 3 September 7pm

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth**–

**Calendar dates appear on our church website [www.ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com). Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.**



## Telecare

It is extremely helpful to the Ministers to be able to have feed back, especially if somebody is poorly or in hospital. If you have not yet put your name down on the

Telecare scheme, please do

so. Additional members of the Pastoral Team are sharing the task of making telephone calls. Please do not be concerned if a new person calls.

## 12th in Ordinary

### Opening Verse - Psalm 43 v 3

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.

### Collect Prayer for the Day

God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

### First Bible Reading—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.

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.

(This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

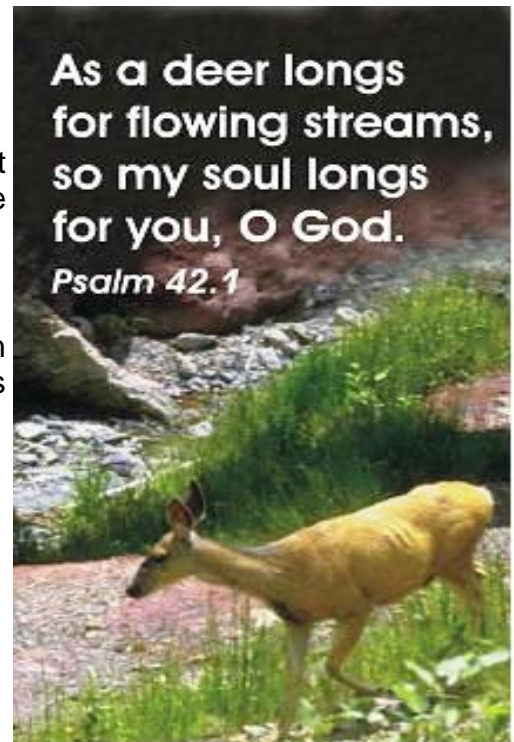
### Second Bible Reading — Galatians 3: 23-29

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.

(This is the word of the Lord- **Thanks be to God**)

### Third Bible Reading – Luke 1: 57-66,80

When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbours and



relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy.

On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah, but his mother spoke up and said, "No! He is to be called John." They said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who has that name." Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child. He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone's astonishment he wrote, "His name is John." Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue was loosed, and he began to speak, praising God. The neighbors were all filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, "What then is this child going to be?" For the Lord's hand was with him. And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the desert until he appeared publicly to Israel.

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

### **Commentary**

Our journeys sometimes take us to destinations we don't always expect. The further Elijah tries to travel from trouble the closer he journeys towards God. When we feel under pressure or in times of trouble or distress we often feel as if we need to get away from the anxiety that has come our way. Sometimes this is exactly the right thing to do. Other times we may need to face up to what is troubling us and deal with it 'head on'. Whatever our course of action we need to use the opportunity to allow ourselves to be drawn in the direction of God's loving and caring presence, a presence that Elijah came to realise was with him wherever he went. God was not just concerned with the Elijah who won the victory at Carmel, he was concerned with the desperate Elijah who had fled to the wilderness, petrified by his powerful enemies, not knowing where to turn and in real fear of his life. Fortunately it is often in our sloughs of despond, as Bunyan would have expressed it, rather than in our mountain top victory experiences, that we find God,

Given the bonfire competition with the prophets of Baal at Carmel, where God came down in a consuming fire, we may have expected God to speak to Elijah from the fire. Elijah himself may have expected a meeting with God to involve the three symbols of His presence during the Exodus: wind, earthquake and fire, all of which are present in this encounter. But instead of revealing himself in the fire, God chose the whisper. Not the fire, not the wind, not the earthquake but the whisper, the 'sound of sheer silence' as it is translated in the New Standard Revised Version of the Bible. The omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent God chose to reveal himself in the paradox of the quiet silence, a concept that the mystics throughout the ages have pondered through the years, as they wrestle with trying to comprehend the enormity of God and His presence pervading every atom of the creation, including us.

God is indeed so great that, like Elijah, we experience Him when we least expect him to appear. He reveals himself to us. We do not demand or expect him to answer on our terms. Even when we are under pressure, if we wait on God, He will answer. Although God's voice may have been quiet, when God answered Elijah, the message was loud and clear. Elijah was to return from where he had come from and anoint Hazael as king, continuing his ministry under the divine protection of God Himself. Not only was the manner of God's speaking a surprise to Elijah, the message itself was not what he was expecting to hear.

However God chooses to speak to us, through the great noise and tumult of life or through the 'sound of sheer silence', like Elijah, we should follow His command and allow God himself leads us on and through our times of trouble, protected by His mighty presence, into the times of peace and glory which lie beyond. Sam Cappleman

### **Meditation**

In the Elijah narrative, people are in the habit of making vows. Elijah said in chapter 17: "As the Lord the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word" Now it is Queen Jezebel's time to make a vow: "So may the gods to do me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them (i.e. the dismembered prophets of Baal) by this time tomorrow". Elijah swore by Yahweh, God of Israel; Jezebel by the unnamed "gods." Nevertheless, her vow sparked fear in Elijah. He was terrified and ran for his

life. So fearful was he that he not only left the area of Jezreel, in the Northern Kingdom of Israel, but he ran until he came to Beersheba, the southernmost settlement in the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Fear often sparks an overreaction. Instead of just locking the door, we bolt it with a double lock, carve a moat around the home, put alligators in the moat and drop the portcullis in front of the door. We will make ourselves so secure that even friends, who may want to help, have no means of entering.

*After Bill Long*

### **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 (Please distribute Mission Praise and Morning Worship)**

1. All my hope on God is founded, **16**
2. Come on and celebrate, **99**
3. Blessed assurance, **59**
4. I heard the voice of Jesus say, **275**
5. Lord for the years, **428**

### **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 eternity, as you welcome into your Kingdom those who have endured to the end, we thank you for the example of their lives. Jesus Christ is the light of the world, a light which no darkness can quench. We remember before God those who have died and light a candle to symbolise the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope. We remember any known to us who we no longer see. You turn our darkness into light, in your light shall we see light. **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**

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Our church website [www.thisischurch.com](http://www.thisischurch.com) provides an outstanding ministry across the world. We provide a massive range of Christian resources including prayers, sermons, and Christian teaching. Every week we respond individually to prayer requests sent from many different countries. Money raised from purchases made through our website at Amazon helps support the cost of the web site. Please use Amazon whenever you can to buy books, electronic goods, CD's, computer supplies etc. Amazon is always one of the cheapest places to shop and delivery is free with orders over £15. We are always happy to receive your goods during the day at St Mark's Church office. It is important that you only visit Amazon by clicking on the link on our church website—that way we get the commission, which is generally about 5% of the total cost of the item. This year so far we have raised £46.75 but it could be so much more if we all used Amazon!

**TNT** Sunday 24th June focusing on prayer. Sunday 8 & 22 July cooking/ rounders depending on weather.

**Two Day Summer Special**—'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'. We invite all our young adults (under 100yrs!) and children (over 5 years) throughout the Partnership, to join us at Putnoe Heights on Tuesday 21 & Wednesday 22 August between 9.30 and 3.30 for two days of fun. We will learn about Joseph and his family relationships through story, discussion, games, crafts and under the direction of Clive Simmonds put together the 20 minute musical performance. More details will follow. Liz  
We would very much appreciate any adult help for either part of day.

**Storybox plus** now meets at Putnoe on a Monday afternoon between 3.30 and 5.00. If any children aged between 4 and 9 years old within the Partnership would like to join us as we "Follow the Year" please contact Liz

**"The Great Gappo"** children's entertainer at Putnoe Heights on Monday 23 July 12 -3pm. Sandwich lunch, games and crafts. Tickets £1 at Story Box & Story Box Plus or Junior church. £2 on the door. All welcome. See Liz or Emma.

**Putnoe Heights flowers.** Anyone who wishes to donate flowers for Sundays during the next few months is invited to enter their name(s) on the rota on the notice board in the welcome area at Putnoe.

**Belief Courses** A Day Retreat at Turvey Abbey on Saturday 24th November 2007. The suggested Fee will be £30.00. For information contact Stephen Heap 01234 216181. Cheques payable to BELIEF. Getting to grips with Matthew's Gospel. Speaker - Dr Jeffrey John at St Andrew's Church, Kimbolton Road.. 23rd February. 2008 Forms available from St Mark's Church Office

**The Methodist Circuit** are considering an extension of Rev. Dr. Joan Crossley's Ministry at Putnoe Heights Church for 3 years from August 2008-2011. The Leadership at both St.Marks & Putnoe Heights would welcome your consideration on this matter. Please talk to us before 4 July, many thanks, Leadership Teams of Putnoe & St. Marks.

**Thank You to everybody who has helped with the 50th Anniversary Weekend at Putnoe.** This has been a marvellous celebration which has evoked so many happy and special memories of the past. We are grateful to all of those who have contributed to our weekend. We are also mindful and full of gratitude to those people who gave many



years of Christian service to make Putnoe the very special Church that it is today.

### **Bedford Cricketing Saints & Warthogs.**

Interested in playing? There is a busy fixture list of matches both home and away, on Sunday afternoons and mid-week, plus a tour in July. Contact Adrian Quarry on 409612 or Mike Cooper at St. Mark's.

**Leslie Griffiths** will be preaching at Clapham, at a circuit service, on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. This is likely to be a popular service and may attract worshippers from outside our usual fellowship. Please let Linda or one of the Leadership team know if you are going to attend.

**St Mark's Coffee Shop.** There will be a tea and coffee shop open at St Mark's every Sunday 2pm - 5.00pm afternoon, starting from 1st July. This will last at least until October, and depending upon the success of the venture it may be extended throughout the year and cover weekends. It will be held in the WREN room in the new centre. Initially we would like to try and cover every Sunday afternoon with volunteers. We would therefore be grateful for volunteers who would be willing to give a Sunday afternoon. Please sign your name on the rota in the foyer. We would like to have two volunteers on duty if possible each Sunday. And don't forget to come along and enjoy great teas, coffee's and cakes!

**Rotas**—Please take or check the new rotas which are available this morning

**Need a cleaner?** Highly efficient, trustworthy cleaner, has own car. Excellent references. Telephone: Naseem 363189

**We would be grateful** for any help in stacking the chairs at St Mark's after morning service each Sunday. Many thanks

**We are now serving 'Taidcraft' coffee and tea** on Sunday mornings. There is a catalogue in the foyer if you should wish to purchase items. Please see Linda Parry.

**Sunday morning coffee makers.** The coffee and tea is now kept in the large cupboard in the kitchen.

**Luncheon Club.** Seats still available on the coach for Luncheon Club's summer outing on 25th July to Town and Country Garden Centre, Shepreth for afternoon tea. Cost £5. Starting time 12.45pm from pick ups at Avon Drive, St. Mark's Church, Putnoe Heights Church and Madenbury House. Please contact St. Mark's Church office 342613 or Margaret Standley 305352.

**Footprints.** The next date for a walk will be Sunday 1st July at 2.30pm. We do not have a venue or a leader arranged for that day but it will be possible to arrange a walk at short notice if required. Please let Sue know (tel 407264) if you are interested. A walk in memory of Peter Beswick will be organised later in the year after the holiday period. The summer party will be held on Saturday 21st July (new date) at the home of Claire and Richard Peck (tel 266408).

**Putnoe Heights Mission Group** are looking for new helpers to spur on our work and contribute new ideas for fundraising. Date for your diary Saturday 4 August 10 - 12 noon coffee morning with Pam & Bob Burn at 1 Slater Close, Kempston. Offers of transport needed. If you can help please sign list at Church entrance on Sunday or contact Sylvia Cohen 343424.

**Colin Craig**, ex-director of the Corrymeela Community, Director of TIDES, and international diversity consultant who has worked in many situations including Bosnia, Afghanistan, Ghana and, currently, Zimbabwe will give a public lecture at the University of Bedfordshire, Polhill Ave, Bedford on the evening (probably 7.00p.m. or 7.30) of Monday December 3rd 2007 - so this really is advanced notice! The exact title is to be decided but Colin will talk about some of the principles of good practice in handling diversity. He is a man of huge experience and a great communicator, so I am sure this will be a very profitable evening. All welcome. Further details in due course or contact Stephen Heap, Chaplaincy co-ordinator at the Bedford campus on 01234 793177, on [stephen.heap@beds.ac.uk](mailto:stephen.heap@beds.ac.uk), or at University of Bedfordshire, Polhill Ave, Bedford MK41 9EA

**The Rt Revd Christopher Herbert**, Bishop of St Albans, recently spoke in the House of Lords in support of a bill on the advertising of junk food on television. The Bishop, who is one of 26 Church of England Bishops who sit in the House of Lords, said, "we bombard them in supermarkets and on billboards, the internet and TV with suggestions that what they need is to learn how to consume. 'Open your mouth and we will fill it', we say." The Bishop argued that the UK should follow the Swedish example of banning everywhere all advertising with anything aimed at the under-12s. Emphasizing the importance of spirituality for children, the Bishop said, "Surely, childhood is a place where things of the spirit need to be given room to grow, because at that stage children are spiritually delicate. If we do not enable virtues relating to truth, gentleness, compassion and care for others to take root, we treat them simply as dustbins." comments are part of a wider debate about the effect of consumerism on children. Today the pressure group, Compass, said that all advertising to children under 7 should be banned, that product placement in children's films and television programmes should also end, and is calling for a speed limit of 20 miles per hour in residential areas to encourage children to play outside.

St Mark's Noticeboard. The main noticeboard at St Mark's is now missing, having been destroyed by a windy night. A new board has been ordered and will be fitted soon.

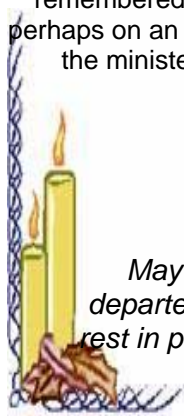
**St Mark's Leadership Team** - Meets this Tuesday at 7.30pm at the home of Linda Parry.

### 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.

**Irene Maxfield  
Marcia Lester  
Jack Laxton**

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



### Wedding

We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of Claire Eley and Donald Joseph Phillips. Both of this parish. This is for the third time of asking.

### Rest in Peace



**The funeral of Mr Albert Oliver Ormerod** will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 29 June at 1.45pm