



Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church

26 May 2013

Trinity Sunday



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

Trinity Sunday

9.30 St Marks – Morning Worship
Preacher – Revd Canon Charles Royden
Leadership – Mrs Wendy Waters
Intercessions – Mr Warwick Holden
11.00 am Putnoe – Morning Worship
Preacher – Revd Canon Charles Royden
Leadership – Mr Gordon Evans
Intercessions – Dr Tim Wilkes

First Sunday after Trinity

9.30 St Marks – Morning Worship
Preacher – Deacon Jane Mills
Leadership – Mrs Margaret Appleton
Intercessions – Mrs. Wendy Waters
11.00 am Putnoe – Morning Worship
Preacher – Deacon Jane Mills
Leadership – Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions – YPG

Readings 1.1 Kings 18:20-21, 30-39 2.Galatians 1:1-12 3. Luke 7: 11-17

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

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Barry and Jenny Snelson in memory of their parents.

The flowers at St. Mark's Church this week have been given by Mary Stubbs

Welcome

We welcome you all to our worship today. we especially welcome the family and friends of Phoebe Amy Moore who has been brought for Christian baptism.

Prayer for Sunday

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love. Hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons in one God, now and forever. Amen.
(Church of S. India)

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

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

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

Partnership News is sent out by email every Saturday in a colour edition. If you would like to receive a copy please send an email entitled 'Partnership News' to vicar@thisischurch.com. Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website and may appear in other local media sources.

Partnership News is also archived on our church website
www.ThisIsChurch.com

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator
Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com
Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved, housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services. Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.

Churchyards Administrator
Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

Putnoe Heights Church Centre
Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Geoff Gypps 365630 mob 07947 902846
Leadership Team Mrs Jenny Snelson 344417
Treasurer Mr John Hitt 404186 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Youth Team Leader Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre
Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mr Michael Ovenden 826738
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
treasurer@thisischurch.com

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.15 –3.45 pm Mon and Wed/ 9.15-12.15pm Tues/ Thurs/Fri. Hazeldene Heights Pre-school. See website for more details www.ThisChurch.com
Head teacher Mrs Laura Leggett 326685
8.30-5.30pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's
9.-3.45pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634**
(See website for more details)
.9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights
Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430
10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mrs Berry 211955
10.30am U3A Play reading St Mark's (see contact details below)
2.00pm U3A Calligraphy at St Mark's 2nd week (see contact details below)
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 Carolyn Morris youth@thischurch.com 365630
1.30-2.45pm Chat & Make For babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details email– chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk .
2pm U3A Music Appreciation (see contact details below)
4.15pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 826190
6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner 01767699399 or 07720713738.
6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859
6.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher 07891879571
6.30pm Boot Camp Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081
7.00pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson 353518
7.00pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst 01908 377020
7.15pm Guides. St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting– 3 June Judith Stanton. 823313
7.30pm House group 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567

Tuesday

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston 07790206016
9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart 365507
9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's. Helen Skinner 07989080389
10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group. St Mark's. Sally Cripsley 350704
11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)
1pm –2.30pm Drop in Wiggles and Jiggles 0-5 years, Putnoe Children's Centre. Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552
1.15pm U3A Cinema Grp. St Mark's (contacts details below)
1–3pm U3A Choir. St Mark's (contacts details below)
2.00pm U3A Book Group 1 St Mark's (3rd Wk) (see

contact details below)

2.00pm U3A Book Group 2 St Mark's (2nd Wk) (see contact details)
2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins 356895
2pm U3A Photography Group 3 St. Mark's (1st Wk) (contact details below).
2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's Fortnightly . Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225
2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs 406784.
4.00pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights.. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468
6.15pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 0789187957
7pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390
6.00-7.00pm Zumba at St Mark's. Contact Denise Worker 07900 232648
6.30pm MT Karate (all ages) Karen King 07941264885
7pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory 328455
7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club (Meets fortnightly). Next meeting 28 May - Afternoon Tea 2.30pm Eileen Marriott Details Janet King 313946

Wednesday

9am -1pm Machine Knitting group at Putnoe Heights, fortnightly Changing to Fridays from 5 April (Same time an place.. Contact Marion Sutton 217647
9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430.
9.30am Discover & Do (Childminders) St. Mark's. Clare Simmons 328380 or 07788824666
10am-2pm Open House at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.
10am U3A Gardening Group 3 St Marks. (contact below)
10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
10am U3A Card Making, St Marks (see contact details below)
10am U3A Diet and Nutrition- Putnoe (contact below)
11.15am U3A Keep Fit
12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting June 5th at Putnoe Heights Office 365630
1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights (Fortnightly)
1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes 261811
2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft St Marks.(see contact details below)
2pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan Putnoe Heights
2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster 856966
3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's (3rd Wk). for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 19th June Wendy Waters 401834
4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs C Warden 219731
6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton 01234 297138 or 07910835994.
6-8pm Karate. St Mark's Karen King 079412 64885
7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Yvonne Blain 350241

or Brian Sallows 407725

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

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe monthly Mrs O Holt 266004

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Mike Del-Boyer 348378

8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be 29 May Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Rosemary 405594 or Graham 406359 for more details.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Jean Ross 771870

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon 356306

Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green 244970

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Jo Garner 400071 or 07719670624

110-11.30am Gentle Yoga For more details contact Helen Nicholson Tel.03003004305

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 1st and 3rd Thursdays St. Mark's 267444

1pm—2.30pm Drop in (small hall) Next Steps 9-24months Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552.

2pm -Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

2pm U3A Current Affairs - Putnoe Heights

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

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

5.00pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Clare Martin 07805408811.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins .

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Nina Ovenden 825059

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

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

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

7.30pm Gentle Birthing St Mark's. Pat Wood 07946 847231 (as from 4th April)

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 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week in month. Mr Newton 01525 378193

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

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

Friday

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

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

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

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

2pm U3A Gardening - Putnoe Heights

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

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

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

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

Saturday

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard 01234 782414

Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher 357198

2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry 01462 674792

6.45pm 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

10 - 5.30pm Bedford Stamp Fayre. 1st Sunday Feb/Apr/ Jun/Aug/Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

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

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

Messy Church Dates

Weds 17 April; Weds 17 May; Weds 19 June; Weds 18 Sept; Weds 16 Oct; Weds 20 Nov,

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

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council –11 June, 8 October

St Mark's Leadership Team -

Annual Congregational Meetings

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 3 June

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting

Putnoe Church Council - 10 June, 24 Oct

Pastoral Group Meeting -

Churchyard Committee -

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Commemoration Service Sunday 3 November 3 pm

Circuit meeting -

Deanery Meeting -

Woodland Burial Trustees– AGM –Sunday 9 June

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting –

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

Trinity Sunday

Introductory Sentence—

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come
Revelations Chapter 4 Verse 8

Collect Prayer for the Day—

Before we read we pray

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Common Worship

First Reading — Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Does not wisdom call out? Does not understanding raise her voice? On the heights along the way, where the paths meet, she takes her stand; beside the gates leading into the city, at the entrances, she cries aloud: "To you, O men, I call out; I raise my voice to all mankind.

"The LORD brought me forth as the first of his works, before his deeds of old; I was appointed from eternity, from the beginning, before the world began. When there were no oceans, I was given birth, when there were no springs abounding with water; before the mountains were settled in place, before the hills, I was given birth, before he made the earth or its fields or any of the dust of the world. I was there when he set the heavens in place, when he marked out the horizon on the face of the deep, when he established the clouds above and fixed securely the fountains of the deep, when he gave the sea its boundary so the waters would not overstep his command, and when he marked out the foundations of the earth. Then I was the craftsman at his side. I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in his presence, rejoicing in his whole world and delighting in mankind.

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

Second Reading — Romans Chapter 5:1-5

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

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

Gospel Reading – John 16:12-15

I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

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

Post Communion Prayer

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



According to legend, Saint Patrick used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to the Irish.

Hymns *(Please distribute Trinity Sunday Worship, hymns sheets, also baptism at St Mark's)*

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
2. All I once held dear,
3. Angel voices ever singing
4. Thou whose almighty word
5. God is our strength and refuge

Commentary Extra Ordinary Time

We are now moving into my favourite time in the church liturgical calendar. The weeks after Pentecost and Trinity Sunday are called "ordinary time." Easter festivities are over and there are no more razzle dazzle festivals until Advent when we prepare for Christmas. From now on we go liturgical green and I feel that this is the beginning of summer. But Ordinary Time is a strange word, for there is nothing ordinary about it. From now on we will hear the teachings of Jesus week after week telling us how to live in what could become for us extraordinary time!

There is no such thing as an ordinary time or place for Christians? In fact, all time and every place is sacred to God and we must learn to live in it.

There are no ordinary people either, " writes CS Lewis in *The Weight of Glory*.

"You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, arts, civilizations — these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat. But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit — immortal horrors or everlasting splendours."

Quaker spirituality honours the simple and the ordinary. With no creed, no liturgy, no sacred place defined by special architecture, no observance of holy days, no sacraments, and no professional clergy, Quaker simplicity emphasizes quietude, both in personal spirituality and in corporate worship. In the inner solitude of the human heart we meet the Creator of all time and space — God infinite, God intimate.

Celtic traditions speak of "thin places." These are places where the sacred and the profane intersect, times when the spiritual permeates the material. In "thin places" we experience God's extraordinary presence in our ordinary lives.

One of the gifts of Celtic spirituality was that it was a practice in which ordinary people in their daily lives took the tasks that lay to hand but treated them sacramentally, as pointing to a greater reality which lay beyond them. It is an approach to life which we have been in danger of losing, this sense of allowing the extraordinary to break in on the ordinary.

In her book *Mujerista Theology* (1996), the Latina theologian Ada María Isasi-Díaz described this intersection of the sacred and the mundane, the unexpected and the unexceptional, as *lo cotidiano*, "the daily thing" or "sacred ordinariness."

This morning we are looking at some of the teachings of Jesus which have been passed through the centuries. "I have much more to say to you," Jesus told his disciples (John 16:12). It's precisely in our ordinary times and places that we experience this "much more" promised by Jesus. And the "more" that he promised is often found in the "less" of our lives. When we don't get what we want or expect, God gives us something different, something unexpected, something sacred in the ordinary.

"Sacred ordinariness" requires a counter-intuitive and counter-cultural way of seeing the world and our lives. The Apostle Paul in Romans 8 wrote

'We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.'

Here was a man who endured shipwrecks, torture and imprisonment, yet he saw that when he trusted God, then God was at work co-operating with him in all these circumstances to bring about good.

"Pray not to this end, that your own desires be fulfilled," advised Evagrius of Ponticus (345–399) in his *Chapters on Prayer*. "Once you have learned to accept this point, pray instead that 'Thy will be done' in me. In every matter ask him in this way for what is good and for what confers profit on your soul, for you yourself do not seek this so completely as he does." Evagrius learned this lesson the hard way. Palladius (c. 400) describes how in his younger years Evagrius fell in love with the wife of an imperial official in Constantinople. The woman loved him in return and when Evagrius wished to break off with the woman, who became eager and frantic, he could not do so, so caught up was he in the affair. After a disturbing dream, the next day Evagrius boarded a ship for Jerusalem. There he met the famous Melania, one of the wealthiest women of her time, who was also deeply committed to the monastic movement. After a severe sickness that lasted six months, Evagrius "confessed the whole story" to Melania. She advised him to flee to the desert. So that's what Evagrius did. For the last sixteen years of his life one of the greatest and most refined Christian intellectuals of his day submitted himself to the Coptic peasants of the harsh Egyptian desert. Today Evagrius is recognized as one of the most distinguished practitioners and guides of the early desert dwellers. He learned to love the love of God more than his own desires and it all



The Trinity by Andrei Rublev

started in that most ordinary of human experiences — a broken love affair.

So we must all learn to listen to God in the ordinary stuff of our lives, because it is through the mundane events of the daily routine that God speaks. Jesus has much more to teach each one of us.

Charles Royden

Meditation

Most find the figure of the left to be the Father figure, the Son with his head turned to look at the Father in the middle with the Holy Spirit, the figure on the right.

Both the middle angel and the one on the right have their hands extended to bless the chalice which holds the head of the calf — the blood of the calf reminds us of the Eucharistic sacrifice where we receive the blood of the lamb who was slain, the blood of Christ, and the head of the sacrifice, the body of the Lord. Each of the figures is of equal size and importance—no member of the Trinity is greater than another but all are coequal. The manner is gentle and inviting, a special challenge to anti-Trinitarians that is not authoritarian or dogmatic but softly tries to bring them to an understanding of the comforting doctrine of the Holy Trinity.

What binds the three figures together is their love. God is love and love is of the nature of God. The three persons of the Trinity love each other. Look again at the icon. The angels are facing us as well as each other. The fourth side of the table is open to the viewer. We are invited to come and join them, to be one with God as God is one with us through Christ. We are welcome to come and dine, come and love, come and be one with God.

Henry Nouwen, the great spiritual writer from Notre Dame, notes:

“Andrei Rublev painted this icon not only to share the fruits of his own meditation on the mystery of the Holy Trinity but also to offer his fellow monks a way to keep their hearts centered on God while living in the midst of political unrest. The more we look at this holy image with the eyes of faith, the more we come to realize that is painted not as a lovely decoration for a convent church, nor as a helpful explanation of a difficult doctrine, but as a holy place to enter and stay within. As we place ourselves in front of the icon in prayer, we come to experience a gentle invitation to participate in an intimate table conversation that is taking place between the three divine angels and to join them at the table. The movement from the Father toward the Son and the movement of both Son and Spirit toward the Father become a movement in which the one who prays is lifted up and held secure. Through the contemplation of this icon we come to see with our own inner eyes that all the engagements in this world can bear fruit only when they take place within the divine circle. We can be involved in struggles for justice and actions for peace. We can be part of the ambiguities of family and community life. We can study, teach, write, and hold a regular job. We can do all of this without ever having to leave the house of love... Rublev's icon gives us a glimpse of the house of perfect love.”

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

I bind unto myself today the strong name of the Trinity, by Invocation of the same, the Three in One, the One in Three. I bind unto myself today, the virtues of the starlit heaven, the glorious sun's life-giving ray, the whiteness of the moon at even, the flashing of the lightning free, the whirling wind's tempestuous shocks, the stable earth, the deep salt sea, around the old appointed rocks. Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger. (*words from St. Patrick's Breastplate*)

Guide us by your Spirit, O God, that we may seek peace and pursue it and follow in the way of righteousness. Increase within us knowledge of the one true light that we may seek the well-being of all, until the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of Christ, for ever and ever. Amen.

George Fox (1624-1691)

Concert at St Andrew's Church on 1 June 2103 at 8.00pm with Dame Felicity Lott, soprano and Joseph Middleton, piano. Pre concert Summer Supper. Concert and Supper tickets £16, £15 concessions, £11 students (available from Church Centre only). Concert tickets £8, £7 concessions, £3 students 16-21. Children free accompanied by an adult. Tickets available from St Andrew's Church Centre Office tel 01234 216881 or Central Box Office 01234 718112.

Telecare

We would like to sign up as many people as possible to Telecare, it is one of our ways of keeping in touch with church members. We are especially keen to sign up people who are elderly and who may from time to time be unable to come to church. Telecare is a non intrusive way of us being able to see if everything is alright or if you would like a visit.

Please sign up by giving your name to one of the ministers, or tell us of anybody that you think might like to be included and we will get in touch.



A Midsummer Night's Dream concert by Manor House String Quartet in the oldest building in Cranfield, St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Court Road, MK43 0DR. Saturday 8th June from 7.30pm. Tickets £10.00 £5.00 students includes a glass of wine or soft drink. For tickets call Andrew 01234 751358, Trevor 01234 751321 or Rev. Hugh 01234 750214.

Personal Assistant to the Superintendent Minister

The South Bedfordshire Circuit of the Methodist Church is looking to appoint a part-time Personal Assistant to the Superintendent Minister. The Personal Assistant will be responsible for providing secretarial and organisational support to the Superintendent Minister including preparing agendas and minutes for meetings, designing and producing posters and other publicity material, as well as dealing with correspondence and telephone messages. As part of the role the Personal Assistant will be required to attend regular meeting in Luton. The salary will be £8.55 per hour for 10 hours per week. The Methodist Church is an equal opportunities employer. If you would like to be considered for this role please contact the Circuit Bursar Mr David Hallworth on 01525 716116 or at david@hallworth.net for an Application Form. The closing date for applications is 1 July.

South Bedfordshire Methodist Circuit -
Registered Charity No: 1134222

Flower Festival commemorating 125 years of the Salvation Army in Bedford. Includes displays from local churches and groups. June 7 10am-8pm, June 8 9am-5pm at the Salvation Army, Commercial Road, Bedford. Entrance £1. Refreshments available.

St Mark's Garden of Remembrance

A new area for interment of ashes has been created at St Mark's in the original garden. If you would like to have first opportunity to reserve a plot in this location then please speak with Avril Williams who would be pleased to make the arrangements.

No Verge Parking Calder Rise now has no verge parking signs erected on Friday 24 May. From then on any person parking on the verge for any period of time may be fined £70. The restriction can be enforced by camera vehicle. Please do not park in this manner!

St Mark's Defibrillator Training. A public access defibrillator will be fitted at St Mark's in the near future and we want to have as many people as possible trained to use it. Please give your name to the church office if you are willing to be trained. You might help save a life

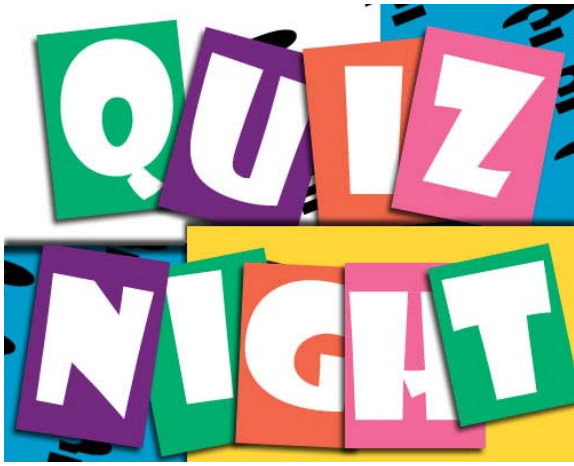
Footprints Walking Group.

Walk on Sunday 2nd June at 2.30pm. Meet in Aspley Guise at junction of Woodside and Wood Lane (map available on request). Gentle 2-3 mile walk through woodland and heath. Further details from Margaret and Eddy.

Circuit service:23 June: Matt Fugill's testimonial and visit of the president of the Methodist conference at Kempston East at 6.00pm

For this occasion Matt has requested that we have a circuit choir to lead the singing as well as singing an introit and an "anthem". Rehearsals will be at Kempston East on Friday 7 and Friday 21 June at 7.30. All singers are welcome. It would be helpful if we had a rough idea of numbers. Please contact either Barbara Tipping (Kempston East-telephone 01234 852101) or Julie Fisher (Shefford-email stjfisher@redborne.beds.sch.co.uk<mailto:stjfisher@redborne.beds.sch.co.uk>)

Summer Fete St. Mary's Church, Goldington
Saturday 29 June 11.30am - 3pm.



the Benefits Office Please ask if you need our help by calling your Community Agent free on 0800 039 1234.

Thank you—I have received a very nice letter from Andrew Harris, Director of Fundraising for action for children to say a very big thank you to all our Home Collecting Box Holders. He sends heartfelt thanks to all involved in the collection at a time when many parents are struggling to feed their families and there are so many vulnerable children. *Margaret Standley*

There will be a church Partnership Quiz at St Mark's Church on Saturday 8 June at 7.30pm Tickets are available this morning from church offices. You can order them by email from office@thisischurch.com or phone 01234 342613

Bedford Show Co Youth Theatre will be performing Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat at The Place Theatre in Bradgate Road, Bedford between Thursday 27th June and Saturday 29th June. Tickets are available online at www.theplacebedford.org.uk/tickets

Christian Aid £582.03 was raised by St. Mark's Church. Many thanks to all those who collected. Thank you too to all the collectors at Putnoe Heights. The counting continues the amount collected will be in Partnership News next week.

New Community Agent Service
Agents are now available to help in some areas of Bedford with free advice, Regarding benefits & allowances, filling in forms, help and advice regarding general wellbeing, arranging for free home safety checks by Bedford Police Trust or to liaise with agencies such as Social Services or

The most beautiful and deepest experience a man can have is the sense of the mysterious. It is the underlying principle of religion as well as all serious endeavour in art and science. He who never had this experience seems to me, if not dead, then at least blind. To sense that behind anything that can be experienced there is a something that our mind cannot grasp and whose beauty and sublimity reaches us only indirectly and as a feeble reflection, this is religiousness. In this sense I am religious. To me it suffices to wonder at these secrets and to attempt humbly to grasp with my mind a mere image of the lofty structure of all that there is.
Albert Einstein wrote: (The World As I See It)

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Thank you for shopping using the link on ThisisChurch.com to shop through Amazon. Please be careful to make sure that you never access Amazon direct but always use the link on ThisisChurch.com, this ensures we get a donation every time you make a purchase. Please also remember the Easyfundraising link. This is really a very good way to shop as it has lots of voucher codes which can save you a fortune on purchases and help raise money.

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.

**Ralph Maurice Little
Betty Muriel Hutchings**

*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 Lily McKay will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 1.45pm on Thursday 30 May

The Funeral of Pamela Ruby Gates will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 10.00am on Thursday 30 May

The Funeral of Jean Olive Panter will take place at 10.45am on Friday 7 June