



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

30 October 2011 - All Saints



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

30 October – All Saints

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

Preacher - Mr Chris Izzard
Leadership – Mrs Margaret Appleton
Intercessions – Mrs Margaret Appleton

11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion with PCH

Preacher – Mr Chris Izzard
Leadership -Mrs Linda Hoar
Intercessions – Mrs Sylvia Cohen

6 November - Ordinary 32

9.30 am St. Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership – Mrs Laura Farthing
Intercessions - Mrs Wendy Waters

11.00 am Putnoe -Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions – YPG

Bible Readings 1.Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25
2 I Thessalonians 4: 13-18 3 **Matthew 25: 1-13**

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

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Margaret and Eddy Peck to celebrate birthdays and also in memory of Margaret's Mum, Edna Turner.

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 the Week

For all the saints who went before us,
Who have spoken to our hearts
and touched us with your fire,
We praise you, O God

For all the saints who live beside us,
Whose weaknesses and
strengths are woven into our own,
We praise you, O God

Who challenge us to change
the world with them,
We praise you, O God

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
266952 Fax- 402624 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a Vice President 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

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 mob 07947 902846
Leadership Team Mrs. Linda Hoare 782717
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 - Laura Farthing 210892
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.15 –3.45 pm Mon and Wed/ 9.15-12.15pm Tues/Thurs/ Fri. Putnoe Heights Pre-school. See website for more details 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)

.9.45am - 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 (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 Emma Gordon ☎07593266091

2pm U3A Music Appreciation - (see contact details below)**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. Emma Gordon 07593266091 or 365630

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 6.15 - 8.15pm

6.15pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's Sam Thompson ☎07766421000

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 October. Judith Stanton. ☎823313

7.30pm House group 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.

8pm '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 ☎07790206016

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart ☎365507

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 (see contact details below)

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. (see contact details below)

2.00pm U3A Book Group. (see contact details below)

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins ☎356895

2.00pm U3A (see contact details below)

2pm U3A Photography St. Mark's (see contact details below)

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting 8 November Mr. P. Jarret 'The Fisherman's Mission' 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

6.15pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher ☎07891879571

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

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting November 1 AGM 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.

10am-2pm Open House at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters ☎342613.

10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.

10am U3A Card Making, (see contact details below)

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 9 November 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 (see contact details below)

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. Contact Emma Gordon 365630.

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 November 2 2011 Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Valmai 219555 Rosemary 405594 or Graham 406359 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. 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 400071 or 07719670624 Restarts on 8 September.

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

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293

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

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games (see contact details below)

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society at St Mark's. Malcolm Smith ☎400741

2- 4pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎275229

6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Clare Martin 857850 or 07919402797 .

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry (see contact details below)

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. Pauline Hooper ☎350079

Friday

9.30-12.30pm U3A Photography ((see contact details below)

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

5-8pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Richardson ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

5.50-7.05pm Zumba at St Mark's. Contact Laura Harrow ☎07834529833

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

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St. Mark's. Carol Brown ☎01438 233385

Saturday

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

Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher ☎357198

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

7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

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

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

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

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's Contact Adrian Felice www.bedfordtkd.com or bedfordtkd@googlemail.com.

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 – 21 February 2012
St Mark's Leadership Team - 16 February 2012
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 25th Jan 2012
7.30pm at 24 Loring Rd. Sharnbrook.
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting - Mon. 23rd Jan 2012 7.30 Putnoe Meeting Room
St Mark's Forum Meeting - Wednesday 9th November
Putnoe Church Council - 13 February 2012
Pastoral Group Meeting -
Churchyard Committee -
Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -
Circuit meeting - 8 February 2012 @ Kempston East Deanery Meeting
Woodland Burial Trustees – 27 November
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth – 16 January 2012

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

Ordinary 31– All Saints

Opening Verse of Scripture -Psalm 90:14

he angel of the Lord encamps around those who ear Him, and he delivers them.

Collect Prayer (Before we read we pray)

Holy God you have called witnesses from every nation and revealed your glory in their lives. Grant us the same faith and love that, following their example, we may be sustained by their fellowship and rejoice in their triumph; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Methodist Worship*

First Bible Reading - Revelation Chapter 7: 9-17

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!" Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Second Reading -1 John 3: 1-3

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

(This is the Word of the Lord — **All: Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading - Luke 15: 11-31

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him:



"They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still. The world is bright with the joyous saints who love to Jesus' will. You can meet them in school, on the street, in a store, in church, by the sea, in the house next door; they are saints of God, whether rich or poor, and I mean to be one too."

"I Sing a Song of the Saints of God,"

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

“The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate. “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

“‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’” (This is the Word of the Lord — **All: Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Hymns (*Please distribute Prayer for Christian Healing and Hymns and Psalms*)

1. Come let us join our cheerful songs 810
2. O happy day 702
3. Come let us sing of a wonderful love 691
4. I will sing the wondrous story 223

Commentary

In 835 Pope Gregory IV ordered the Feast of All Saints to be observed today on November 1. The day after All Hallows (saints) Eve, Halloween. The word Hallow means 'Holy', (blessed, consecrated or set apart in a special way) and so 'All-Hallows' or 'All Saints' refers to the Saints—the Holy Ones. October 31 has Celtic origins being originally the feast of Sanhain/Samhain,(pronounced 'sow'inn) the last night of the Celtic year, when all kinds of spirits were thought to be active. The Celts believed that this was a time when the boundary between the spirit world and the earthly world is at its thinnest and when spirits are most likely to be seen on earth. It was a night of danger signifying the change from Autumn to Winter, it was a night when feasts were held for the dead and animals killed for the Winter.

This was one of John Wesley's favourite services of the Christian Year and it is today for many Christians. The church has always celebrated and remembered the lives of great Christians, especially those who have been heroes and martyred for their faith. However it is not just the special Christians with X Factor that we remember, we give thanks for all who have died. Some Christians are cautious about the whole thing, especially the superstitions and relics that have grown up around the lives of some well known saints. Some Christians recoil with horror at the thought of worshipping or praying to the saints, but few would deny that the lives of great Christians can inspire veneration or respect and their memories should be honoured.

Many people know about the saints which are canonised by the Pope of Roman Catholic Church. These are people who conform to specific criteria. They must have theological soundness, extreme holiness, and there must miracles attributed to them. For me this is way too institutionalised and of course the more we look into the lives of saints the more we recognise that they are flawed individuals just like us. It was Martin Luther who said that we are all saint and sinner at the same time. I much prefer to think of all Christians as saints, joined on a pilgrimage of serving God. We do well to honour those whose lives provide a template for our own, whilst recognising that there is good and bad in each of us. (cf. Hebrews 13:7). Hebrews 6:12 commands us to “imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.” These are Christians whose good examples remind us of what we can be at our best. The stories of their lives remind us of what we believe, and what we can become. They give us

courage, strengthen us to do God's will, and lead the way. If we know of their faults then it even more inspire us to know that God works in extraordinary ways even with very ordinary human beings. The Saints also remind us that we are not alone in our Christian journey. The Apostle Paul said that he was surrounded by "a great cloud of witnesses" (Heb 12:1), who cheer me on to "run with endurance the race that is set before me." Many Christians experience a strong sense that the saints are still with us, and that they watch over us and pray to God for us. The Collect Prayer from Methodist Worship today expresses the idea of knowing their fellowship with us. We remember the Church not just as those who are living but also those who have died, they are just as much the church as we are and the Christian Church has two names for this, those who are living are called the church militant, and those who have died are called the church triumphant. Today we celebrate saints known to us as well as those celebrated throughout the ages. These are the great cloud of witnesses whose lives, known to millions or to only a few, became a window through which shone upon us the multi coloured grace and love of God. *Charles Royden*

Meditation

In the world's broad field of battle, In the bivouac of life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle, Be a hero in your strife.
Lives of great people remind us, We can make our lives sublime,
And departing, leave behind us, Footprints on the sands of time.
Let us then be up and doing, With a heart for any fate,
Still achieving, still pursuing, Learn to labor and to wait.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Loving God - meet us here and make your word live in us. Remind us, O Lord, of the cloud of witnesses that surround us and help us to follow their example. Help us to lay aside every weight, and the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race that is set before us. Make us, like all the saints before us - a people who are eager to share your love with those that are far off and those that are near. Guide us, we pray, by the power of your Holy Spirit as we worship and serve you -- both in this hour, and in all the hours to come. We ask it in the name of Christ Jesus - our brother and our Lord.

God of the ages: We praise you for all your servants who have done justice, loved mercy and walked humbly with you. We praise you O God for all apostles and martyrs and saints of every time and place, who in life and death have witnessed to your truth and love. We praise you, O God for all those who answered your call to preach the Good News of the Gospel and to administer your Sacraments of grace and love, and for those who devoted their lives to teaching your Word and sharing the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures with others whether it be at home or in foreign lands..., We praise you, O God for those who showed compassion to the least, feeding the hungry and clothing the naked, welcoming the stranger and offering mercy and forgiveness to those who have gone astray. We praise you, O God for those who were willing to lose their lives in service to others, caring for the sick, comforting the dying, visiting the lonely, consoling those in grief, We praise you, O God, and we especially honour the memory of those individuals of this congregation who have lived among us and shared their faith in personal ways, who have finished the race and now reign on high with you. In addition O God, we honour the memory of those who have graced our lives at other times and in other ways - those whose names we lift up before you in our hearts now. In particular, we lift up before you with gratitude and thanksgiving:

We give you thanks, O God, for all the saints who ever worshiped you
Whether in brush arbour or cathedrals,
Weathered wooden churches or crumbling cement meeting houses
Where your name was lifted and adored.

We give you thanks, O God, for hands lifted in praise:
Manicured hands and hands stained with grease or soil,
Strong hands and those gnarled with age
Holy hand, Used as wave offerings across the land.

We thank you, God, for hardworking saints; Whether hard-hatted or steel-booted, Head ragged or aproned,
Blue-collared or three-piece-suited They left their mark on the earth for you, for us, for our children to come. Thank you, God, for the tremendous sacrifices made by those who have gone before us.

Bless the memories of your saints, God. May we learn how to walk wisely from their examples of faith, dedication, worship, and love.

Mission Appeal *'A time to give thanks, for things we take for granted'* Thank you to those who have already given gifts for our Mission Appeal this year BeCHaR. (Bedford Concern for the Homeless and Rootless) Please note that you can continue to give over the coming weeks using the envelopes provided and placing them on the offering plates or delivering to the church offices. Cheques may be made out either to St Mark's or Putnoe Heights Church.

Autumn Fair At Priory Methodist Church, Newnham Avenue on Saturday 5 November 11am—3pm. Many stalls offering home produce, gifts galore, cards, crafts, paintings, wood carvings, bric-a-brac, children's side-shows, raffle, tombola, etc. Lunches and light refreshments available. Admission 50p (accompanied children free). Everyone welcome, so please come along and bring your friends.

Footprints. Sunday 6 November 2011 at 2.00pm. Location of the start of walk, drive through Felmersham over bridge towards Sharnbrook. On nearside about 200yds before the T junction with the Odell/Sharnbrook Road there is a Nature Reserve car park. Flat easy route 2 - 3 Miles. One stile. Could be muddy and a few nettles. Boots and trousers suggested attire Any queries Alan or Margaret on 327219
Also footprints planning meeting (for next years programme) Tuesday 22nd November 2011 at 7.30pm at the home of Alison and Warwick Tel 403551.

Kempston Music Society
Saturday 12 November 7.30pm, an evening of light music by Kempston Musical Society at Kempston East Methodist Church. In aid of Cruse Bereavement Care Bedfordshire, with solos by Min Min Tey. Entry by programme £6 available at the door. Further information 01234 851893

Art Exhibition: Putnoe Art Group host their third annual exhibition and sale of paintings at Putnoe Heights Church on Saturday, November 5 from 10:30am to 4:00pm. The exhibition will also include Needlecrafts by Val Morgan. Free entry; refreshments available.

Friends for Life was established as a joint Anglican - Methodist scheme to provide volunteer visitors to Care Homes in Bedford. Currently we have over 40 volunteers visiting in 14 homes across the town, with over 50 residents benefitting from these visits. The project is continually looking for more volunteers who feel they could spare an hour or two a month to chat. We are running a Volunteer Induction Day at St Mark's on Saturday, 5th November and would be pleased to hear from

anyone in the congregation who is interested in joining us. joanne.barrow4@ntlworld.com
01234 213038 www.friendsforlifebedford.org.uk

Bedford Deanery Choral Evensong Sunday 6th November 6pm at St. Andrew's Church, Kimbolton Road. Followed by refreshments. All welcome.

Saturday 12th November 7.30pm An evening of light music by Kempston Musical Society in aid of Cruse Bereavement Care Bedfordshire, with solos by Min Min Tey. Entry by programme £6 available at the door. Further information 01234 851893.

Putnoe Good Neighbours need volunteers. We are a voluntary group who do what we can to be good neighbours. We are not asking for any set time commitment, just a helping hand when someone in the community needs occasional help. It could be 10 minutes to collect a prescription, read a form or water plants when they go to into hospital. Be part of the Putnoe Big Society. For information please call or text; 07968 300033.

Commemoration Service. There will be a service remembering loved ones who have died on Sunday 13 November at 3.00pm at St Mark's Church. All are invited to come along to this service at which prayer candles may be lit in memory.

Open House Meets the Mayor

On Wednesday this week Mayor Dave Hodgson came to see for himself the new open House project at St Mark's and spent time meeting all of those who had turned up for the free activities. The new group operates every Wednesday from 10.00am until 2.00pm and is open to all free of charge. Open House is run by volunteers from St Mark's and Putnoe Heights Church.



St Mark's Church Christmas Craft Fayre Saturday 19 November

There are now only 3 weeks to go to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 19 November 2011. We would be grateful for any help with the following:-

Tombola: Any new unwanted gifts\Christmas present etc. for our Tombola stall.

Cake Stall: Millie is kindly co-ordinating the cake stall again this year. She would be very grateful for any offers of cakes. If you are able to bake a cake for this stall please contact Millie via the Church Office.

Refreshments: We would very much appreciate donations of traybakes to sell with tea and coffee. Ploughman's lunches will be on sale at lunchtime as usual. Volunteers to help in the kitchen on the day would be very much appreciated. To put your name down please see Avril Williams. Any help gratefully received.

Secondhand Book Stall: Delia has agreed to coordinate the secondhand book stall again this year so please have a look in your cupboards for any unwanted books. We do ask that they be in good condition please

Indoor Plant Stall: After the success of last year's plant stall we are doing the same again this year. If you have any indoor plants or have split any plants and would like to donate them to our stall we would be very grateful. Marion would be pleased to receive

gift of either indoor or outdoor plants, also small carrier bags. All donated items for the above stalls can be brought up to Church anytime during week beginning 15 November please (unfortunately we do not have space to store items before the 15 November).

We will need lots of help on the day especially when the Fayre finishes at 3.30p.m. Many hands make light work and it would certainly be appreciated



Raffle Tickets are now on sale and available on the table in the entrance. Please take a few books for family and friends. This is one of our main fundraising events of the year and we are hoping to make it an even bigger success than last year, with your help I am sure we can achieve this. Many thanks Avril Williams

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.

**Denise Coates
Ellen Mary Tyrrell
Mary Rogers**

*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 Wayne Tyrone
Armstrong** will take place at Bedford
Crematorium on Thursday 3rd November
at 121.5pm