



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

31 May 2009

Pentecost



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

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

9.30am St Mark's - Holy Communion with Christian Healing

Preacher— Rev Keith Brown
Leadership - Mrs Laura Farthing
Intercessions – Mrs Delia Shephard

11.00am Putnoe Heights – Holy Communion with Christian Healing

Preacher – Rev Keith Brown
Leadership – Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions - Ministers

Sunday 7 June - Trinity

9.30am St. Mark's –Family Worship

Preacher - Rev. Charles Royden
Leadership - Mrs. Avril Williams
Intercessions - Mr. Ian Farthing

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship

Preacher - Rev. Charles Royden
Leadership— Mrs. Linda Hoar
Intercessions— Mrs. Claire Peck

Readings Isaiah 6: 1-8 Romans 8: 12-17
John3: 1-17

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights this week are given by Harry and Margery Charie in remembrance of both sets of parents.

The flowers at St. Mark's this week are given by Barbara Joy in memory of Alan on their Diamond Wedding Anniversary and by Elizabeth Bean in memory of Phil on their Wedding Anniversary.

Prayer for Sunday



Holy Spirit,
sent by the
Father, ignite in us
your holy fire;
strengthen your children
with the gift of faith,
revive your church
with the breath
of love,
and renew the face
of the earth,
through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
266952 Fax- 402624 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

The Reverend Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417
Leadership Team Mr. Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186
Youth & children's worker - Mrs Spavins 302349
youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5.00pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mrs Delia Shephard 273628
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

- 9.30-12.00pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school**
Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685
- 8.30-5.30pm Pre-school** Mon-Fri St Mark's
- 9.30-3.15pm Top Marks** Mon-Fri St Mark's
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634
(See website for more details)
- 9.00am Clubhouse** at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.
- 9.45am - Body Control Pilates** –Putnoe Heights
Stephanie Smith ☎ 357787 or 07973174430
- 10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group.** St Mark's Mr Kellie ☎ 721063
- 10.30am U3A Play reading** St Mark's J Birks ☎219607
- 12.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights** We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. ☎Liz 302349
- 1.30pm U3A History Group** St Mark's ☎ David Fowler 824474
- 2pm U3A Drama** St Mark's 1st & 2nd week. Mr Ovenden ☎ 825059
- 4.00pm Storybox Plus** Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. ☎Liz Spavins 302349
- 4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness.** Putnoe Heights. Margo Needham 843747 or 07881730747
- 4.15pm Kumon Maths** Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698
- 6.00pm Brownies** St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew ☎826190
- 6.15 pm Brownies** Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎ 07720713738.
- 6.15 Pilates** at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859
- 7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson ☎353518
- 7.30pm Cancer Care Society.** St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst ☎01908 377020
- 7.15pm Guides.** St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091
- 7.15pm Yoga.** Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970
- 7.30pm Whist Drive.** St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting 15 June Judith Stanton. ☎823313
- 7.30pm House group** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.
- 8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit'** Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

- 9.30 12.30 Jo Jingles.** St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎01908 587299
- 9.30am Candlewicking** (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821
- 9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg ☎351223
- 10am -Bedford Arts Society** starting at St Mark's Mrs Brown☎771676
- 10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group.** St Mark's. Sally Cripsley ☎350704
- 11.15am U3A Keep Fit** Sally Banks ☎ 870357
- 1.30pm Toddlers Playtime.** Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎325293.
- 1.30pm U3A Cinema Group.** St Mark's 4th Week in

- month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461
- 2.00pm U3A Book Group.** St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs Forrest ☎344043
- 2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins ☎356895
- 2pm U3A Photography** (Group 3) St Mark's 1st Week. Janet King ☎313946
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship.** Next meeting June 2 Richard Ledger. Betty Wyatt ☎350188.
- 2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** St Mark's Fortnightly . Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225
- 2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.
- 3.45pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎295862 or 07917582468.
- 6.30pm Creative Card making.** Putnoe Heights Church. Carol Houghton 346718
- 6.30pm Yoga** Putnoe Heights Veronica Lafferty ☎781466 or 07788750360
- 7pm Keep Fit.** St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455
- 7pm MT Karate** [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎ 07941 264885
- 7.30pm Hearts & Beds. Cardiac Support Group** 1st Tuesday in the month
- 7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or 07866775515
- 7.30pm Chartered Management Institute** St Marks 3rd week. Mrs Dimmock ☎01525 862374
- 7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Meeting 2 June Flying—Sam Cappleman Details from Audrey Wilkins☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

- 9.30am Body Control Pilates.** Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎357787 or 07973174430.
- 9.00am Clubhouse** at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.
- 10.00am Holy Communion.** St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
- 10am Sewing & Chat.** Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966
- 12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - 3 June 2009 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630
- 1.00-3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights .
- 1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired.** St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811
- 1.45 Scots Society Whist** Putnoe monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr 268147
- 2-5pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179
- 1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft St Mark's** 1st & 3rd week. Pat Holland ☎ 262823
- 2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster ☎856966
- 4.15pm Kumon Maths.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698
- 6.00 pm Brownies.** St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden ☎219731
- 6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation** Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138
- 6-8pm Karate.** St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Brian Sallows ☎407725
7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Vanessa Aykac 268098 or 07917385987
7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice Loxley☎ 347073
7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Heights Mike Del-Boyer ☎348378
8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867
8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club St Mark's, 1st ,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next Meeting 3 June Everyone welcome. Ring Graham ☎406359 or Alan 345312. or Rosemary 405594 for more details
8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016
7.45 for 8pm God talk - women's group monthly meeting for worship and friendly chat at Wendy Nash's Contact Majella Atkinson ☎325293

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen ☎343424
Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table. (No meeting on 9th April)
9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970
9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. Emma Strangwick ☎211070
12pm Storybox St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing . Lots of fun. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070
1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic St.Mark's ☎267444
1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293.
2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991
2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society at St Mark's. Mary Rich ☎272470 Next meeting 24 September
4 - 7.00pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179
6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.
6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Caroline Morgan ☎07786508351
7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden☎825059
7pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's 2nd & 4th week in month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059
7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale ☎406094
7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Nadeen Salmon ☎301550
8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week in month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193
8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Jean Birks ☎219607
8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Pat Foulks ☎346505

Friday

9.30-12.30pm U3A Photography (Group 1) St Marks 4th week in month Val Scrivener ☎346397
9.00am Clubhouse St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.
10am - 12 U3A Beginners French St Mark's Joyce Fields ☎353086
12.15pm U3A Photography (Group 2). St Mark's 4th week in month. Sue Butler ☎354183

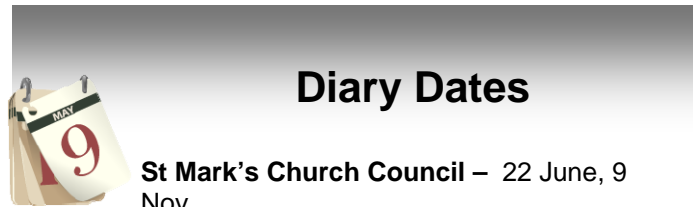
5pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468
2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875
6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights. Racheall Monton 297138 or 07910835994
6.30pm Line Dancing. St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360
7pm Bedford Art Society monthly Putnoe Heights. Next meeting 1st May Mary Rich ☎272470
7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St. Mark's. Carol Brown ☎01438 233385

Saturday

9.45am Bedford Stamp Auction at Putnoe Heights Next Auction 30th May. Contact Stuart or Anne 01327 876438
10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard ☎01234 782414
Young Embroiders bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher Tel 357198
2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry 01462 674792
7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School at St Mark's with crèche for under 3's
11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for our young adults. A crèche is also available.
1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515
6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship & fun. Please see Liz ☎302349 .



St Mark's Church Council – 22 June, 9 Nov
St Mark's Leadership Team – Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – 8 June at Linda's, 12 Oct, 8 Feb 2010
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting 20 July
St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - 15 July, 8 Sept , 11 Nov, 12 Jan 2010
Putnoe Church Council - 15 Jun, 5 Oct
Pastoral Group Meeting - Churchyard Committee - Putnoe Heights Mission Group - Wednesday 3 June, 7.30pm 14 Flint Way.
Partnership Council - September 6th
Brickhill Parish Council Meetings - Deanery Meeting 18 Jun, 17 Sep, 19 Nov, Circuit/Deanery Meeting Woodland Burial Trustees – Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –

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

Pentecost

Opening Verse Acts 2:17-18

In the last days, God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

Collect Prayer for the Day —

Before we read we pray

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by that same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to

rejoice in His holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen *Common Worship*



First Bible Reading Acts 2: 1-21

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

" 'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'"

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

Second Reading Romans 8:22-27

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with

groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

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

Gospel Reading John 15:26-27, 16: 4b-15 All: Glory to Christ our Saviour

When the Counsellor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

I did not tell you this at first because I was with you. "Now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgement: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to judgement, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

"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.

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

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**

Commentary

For fifty days we have contemplated the death and resurrection of Jesus, today the church is called to be born in the Holy Spirit and to go out to proclaim the name of Jesus. For this reason today is regarded as the birthday of the Christian church. The early Christian church was like a dead corpse, but at Pentecost the dead body was given mouth to mouth resuscitation by Jesus as he imported the life giving power of the Spirit. That is why this is the birthday of the church, because on this day the church was born. In an instant they have the life which they need to live and grow.

It is appropriate that we are able to celebrate the great colourful festival of the church when scents and colours really start to make an impact in nature around us. Pentecost is a time when we can begin to feel good about the possibilities of life. The colour of Pentecost could have been white. In English Pentecost is Whitsunday, the word coming from the baptisms which were once held around this time at which they wore white, and so it was called White Sunday. However the colour for Pentecost is red, which the church choose to make a bold statement about the power of God, the presence of Christ himself in its midst. The red symbolised the experience described in our Acts reading when something like tongues of fire came down upon the Apostles. In many parts of Europe it is called the 'Red Feast.' The peony often flowers around this time and is know as the 'Rose of Pentecost'.

With the coming of the Holy Spirit, Pentecost changed the church for ever. The Christian Church found peace when the Spirit came. It was not that the coming of the Holy Spirit made the danger go away, indeed the Apostles went on to give their lives. Instead the Holy Spirit gave the presence of Jesus to the church and with that came renewed strength and courage.

The Holy Spirit gives life to the people of God. This is challenging for us. The life to animate us as Christians and as churches is a power which is beyond our controlling. The picture of the tongues of fire, leaping around, is a good way of stressing that the Spirit is uncontrollable. The fire was not constrained within a grate, it was a fire which rendered the disciples powerless to control it. We do not like loosing control, we like to manage and legislate but the Holy Spirit is not to be controlled but to fill us and take us over. At Pentecost we remind ourselves that we must not be too busy, too tired, too poor, too spiritually apathetic —to face up to the task which God has called us to do. We must open ourselves to the Spirit of God to move us and we must all question ourselves.

- What gifts do I have?
- With whom do I share them?

- What are the gifts that I don't share as freely as I could or should?
- Why am I reluctant to get involved in sharing those gifts?
- How can God help take away any fear that might hold me back? *Charles Royden*

Meditation

The disciples behind locked doors were "gathered in fear." They were afraid that what had happened to Jesus would happen to them. They were huddled together in failure and without a future. When things couldn't look any worse, Jesus appears.

Jesus appears to disciples who abandoned him in his hour of need; denied him when they were asked about him and, when Mary Magdalen brought news of his resurrection – they didn't believe her. So, that's how we find them; gathered together behind a locked door, with no hope and afraid. Jesus appears to them in their failure and fear. But instead of giving them a tongue lashing for their past behaviour, calling them cowards and miserable failures, he opens up a whole new future for them. The first word from his mouth is, "Peace." One word that tells them things are ok between them and him. One word that puts aside the past. One word that opens a future for them.

Then Jesus says it again, "Peace be with you." This time it isn't about the past, that's over. Now it is about the future. Peace – because they have to unlock the doors and go out into the world that made them afraid; the world that was so rough on Jesus and was going to be rough on them for their belief in Christ. He was sending them, as he sends us again on this Pentecost, not to seek revenge for past offences, but to practice forgiveness. In a world that clutches and hangs on to past hurts and looks for ways to get even, Jesus sends out his disciples to practice forgiveness.

If they do become known for their ability to forgive, the disciples are going to attract attention, because forgiveness is a rare commodity in our world – internationally and nationally; but also in our own close circle of family and friends. If we practice forgiveness we too will attract people to Jesus' way and to our community or, it will stir up resistance, ridicule and rejection, just as it did for Jesus.

Jesus gives them and us his Spirit: the source of his life; the force that energized him and the strength that enabled him to say and do what he said and did. He breathed on them his own Spirit. Which is what he does for us, now, today and each and every day, when we need the words, courage, determination and strength to live as Christians in the world. He says to us, "Peace," and breathes his Spirit into us at this communion time, and we respond, "Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful and kindle in them the fire of thy divine love."

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

1. Come down O Love Divine 89 Down Ampney
2. The Spirit lives to set us free 664
3. Spirit of holiness 611
4. O thou who camest from above 525

Prayers for Sunday and week ahead

O God, send forth your Holy Spirit into my heart that I may perceive, into my mind that I may remember, and into my soul that I may meditate. Inspire me to speak with piety, holiness, tenderness and mercy. Teach, guide and direct my thoughts and senses from beginning to end. May your grace ever help and correct me, and may I be strengthened now with wisdom from on high, for the sake of your infinite mercy. Amen. Saint Anthony of Padua

Breathe into me, Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Move in me, Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Attract my heart, Holy Spirit, that I may love only what is holy. Strengthen me, Holy Spirit, that I may defend all that is holy. Protect me, Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy. Saint Augustine

Breathe in me, Holy Spirit, that all my thoughts may be holy. Act in me Holy Spirit, that all I do may be holy. Draw my heart Holy Spirit, that I may love that which is holy. Give me strength Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guide me than Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy.

"...may I show thy Spirit within/ Which purges me from every stain;/ Unspotted from the world and sin, /The truth mf my religion prove/ by perfect purity and love. (Charles Wesley)

Statement from Church leaders: vote next week, vote positively

“We call on UK Christians to give voice to their values by voting at next week’s European Parliamentary Elections on June 4. “In a world grappling with global financial meltdown, climate change and poverty it is more important than ever that UK citizens choose their representatives carefully.

“Voting is a right, but it’s also the right thing to do. It is a chance to make our voices heard in the midst of the current political turmoil. Many feel disillusioned with mainstream political parties, and the scandal over MPs’ expenses has emphasized the need for our politicians to be held accountable.

“But we must hold our representatives accountable for more than just their expenses. They are accountable for enacting policies that promote justice and seek the common good. Extremist parties promoting values and policies which are incompatible with Christian beliefs need to be faced down with a high voter turnout.

“We implore all Christians around the UK to vote next week and to use their vote positively for the values and interests they believe in.

“This week the Church will be celebrating Pentecost, when God’s Holy Spirit was poured out on God’s people. In the coming days we hope that people across the European Union will discern the Spirit’s leading, and after prayerful consideration will use their vote to support peace, justice and the integrity of creation.”

Revd Jonathan Edwards General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain

Revd Stephen Poxon President of the Methodist Conference

Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe Co-Moderator Elect of the United Reformed Church General Assembly

Statement from Anglican Bishops

The Bishop of Hertford, the Rt Revd Christopher Foster, and the Bishop of Bedford, the Rt Revd Richard Inwood, have also produced a poster for clergy to put up in churches and vicarages.



Church leaders are not publicly backing any particular party. They are just reminding voters that the Euro Elections’ regional voting system means every vote counts and asking them to be vigilant about any party or individual candidate seeking to use people’s fears for their own well-being to stir racial or religious hatred.

In the statement, they ask voters to remember that “All human beings are created equally in the image of God. That is why racism is a sin.” They continue:

“The East of England has a notable history of welcoming people fleeing persecution elsewhere in Europe, sometimes on religious grounds. As Christian Leaders in this generation, we believe that hospitality and living together with mutual respect remain the foundation of a civilised society.”

Posters are being distributed to clergy to display on church noticeboards or in Vicarage windows and the A3 and A4 colour posters can also be downloaded from the Diocese of St Albans website. The poster can be seen at:

<http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/I-want-to/Find/Latest-Updates-Regular-Postings> and downloaded via that page or directly from: <http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/I-want-to/Find/Latest-Updates-Regular-Postings/Bishops%27-Election-Poster-A3>

Woodland Burial Trust St Albans Woodland Burial Ground Open Day Come and visit the woodland on Saturday 27 June from 2.00pm—5.00pm Refreshments served throughout. We would welcome offers of help with providing refreshments throughout the afternoon. If you are able to offer any help then please contact Janet Day 295592

Car Boot Sale You will be pleased to know we made £1042. 64 at the Car Boot Sale on Bank Holiday Monday. The total income for the last three sales come to £3068. 56. Thank you all for your support. Avril

The Christian Aid Collection at Putnoe Heights raised a best-ever £1946 of which £1000 should attract Gift Aid recovery. Sincere thanks to all our collectors and generous givers. Beryl and Lawrence.

Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club who meet at St.Mark's on 1st/3rd & 5th Wednesdays are holding a Ceilidh at Roxton Village Hall on Saturday 13 June at 7.30pm. Dancing to Moondance Accoustics Tickets £6 plus a plate of food available from Rosemary 405594 or Lena 271664

Methodist Homes for the Aged are hosting an event to provide information on the opening of Anjulita Court in Brickhill. This will be held at St Mark's Church on Monday 8 June at 7.00pm. We are particularly pleased to be hosting the event especially as we have now confirmed that the chaplaincy for Anjulita Court will be linked to the Partnership.

Footprints Weekend 2009 Friday 25 - Sunday 27 September. Booking is now open. Bed, breakfast and dinner at The Four Pillars Hotel, Ducklington Lane, Witney, Oxfordshire is £52 per person sharing a double room. Walks daily or non walking option to visit Blenheim, Burford etc. Please contact Barry Snelson at the Putnoe Church office [Tuesday to Thursday] on 01234 365630 or at home on 01234 344417 as soon as possible to register your interest. If anyone has any old jam jars please can you give

them to Liz Spavins at Putnoe. Thank you.

Coffee Morning Saturday 6 June between 10 & 12 noon at 1 Welbeck Gardens, the home of Sam & Andrew Ware. Hosted by the Young Peoples Group. Cakes , Raffle etc. Proceeds to Mission Funds. All welcome. Requests for/offers of transport on the day contact Valerie Capon 356306. Sylvia Cohen 343424

Footprints Sunday 7 June at 2.30pm. A pleasant, easy walk of approx. 3.5 miles, with a few stiles. Meet outside Pertenhall Village Hall which is 11 miles from Bedford just off the B660 Kimbolton Road. Further details from Jean and Alan Kirk 317699.

1st Putnoe Brownies are holding a coffee morning on Saturday 6 June at 10.00 till 12.00 in the small hall. Raffle and tombola. Please come along and support them. 1st Putnoe Brownies General Knowledge Quiz sheets available from the office. £1.00 entry. £25 1st prize, closing date 13th June.

Shannon Express Concert with Great Songs and Great Voices - the award winning Male Close Harmony Chorus. Saturday 4th July 7.30 pm Tickets £7.50 (concessions £6.50) from Bedford Central Box Office 01234 269519 or from 01234 403255 price includes light refreshments St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Goldington

All 'Open the Book' Storytellers, past and present, are invited to the 10th Anniversary celebrations on Saturday 13 June from 10am to 4pm. Bob Hartman is the special guest and storytellers from other parts of the country are also coming for the event. We need a reply slip in advance plus £5 (lunch inc.) for catering & seating purposes. Please contact Dave Todd 364679 or Sheila Lawless 01234 359359 if you have not received an invitation

Thursford Christmas Spectacular. Kempston Musical Society have a few seats left on a trip to this fantastic show on Tuesday 24th November. Coffee on the journey by coach, and a meal on the return journey are arranged. Anyone interested to contact Bob Burn in the first instance. 01234 854858

Rest In Peace

On the Sunday following a funeral service we remember in church those who have died. We light a candle to symbolise the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope. If you would like a person remembered in our service when the candle is lit, perhaps on an anniversary or birthday, please inform the ministers, or telephone the church office.

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



Forthcoming Funerals Rest In Peace

The funeral of Mrs Olive Lucy Betts will take place at Putnoe Heights Church on Tuesday 9 June at 10.45am