



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

5 August 2007

18th in Ordinary Time



Church of  
England

## Partnership Church Services Today

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

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

Preacher – Revd Charles Royden  
Leadership Team- Mrs Linda Parry  
Intercessions - Mr Chris Izzard

### 11am Putnoe Heights

#### Family Worship with Baptism of Danial Litchfield and Ami Litchfield

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden  
Leadership Team - Mrs Wendy Nash  
Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen  
Joan Crossley is preaching at Sharnbrook

## 19th in Ordinary - 12th August

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

Preacher – Mr Barry Owen  
Leadership Team - Mrs Avril Williams  
Intercessions - Mrs Mary Stubbs

### 11.00am Putnoe Heights—Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Barry Owen  
Leadership Team - Mr Alan Cooper  
Intercessions - Mrs Claire Peck

### Readings

- 1: Genesis 15: 1-6
- 2 Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16
- 3: Luke 12: 32-40

## Thank You

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been by Helen and Richard Wright to mark their Wedding Anniversary.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Kathryn and Ian Morse to mark their Wedding Anniversary and in memory of Kathryn's mother.

## Prayer for Sunday

Be with us, Lord, to defend us;  
Within us to refresh us;  
Around us to protect us;  
Before us to guide us;  
Behind us to encourage us;  
And above us to bless us;  
For your own names sake.  
Amen *Celtic, 10th century.*



## St Mark's Tea and Coffee Shop.

Open every  
Sunday 2.30pm - 5.00pm.

Don't forget to come along and enjoy great teas

## Contact Details

### The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

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

### The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

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

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

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY  
309175 Mobile 07973 113861 vicar@thisisChurch.com

### For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website.

Partnership News is also archived on our church website [www.ThisisChurch.com](http://www.ThisisChurch.com)

## Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

## Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am—5pm Monday to Friday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com  
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417

Leadership Team Mr Alan Cooper 365302 Mob 07989367604

Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Youth & children's worker - Mrs 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 L Parry 216724

Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Williams 360605

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

**9.30-12.00pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school**  
Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

**8.30-5.30pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school**  
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634  
(See website for more details)

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

**10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group.** St Mark's  
Mr Kellie ☎721063

**12.00-1.00pm Story box** 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

**2.30-4.30pm Bedford Arts Society** at Putnoe Heights  
Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741 (weekly from 25 September 2006)

**4.00pm Storybox Plus** Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. ☎Liz Spavins 302349

**4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness.** Putnoe Heights. Miriam Adcock ☎01908 565044

**4.15-6.00pm Kumon Maths** Putnoe Heights.  
Ms Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

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

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

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

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

**7.30pm Creative Needles.** Putnoe Heights.  
Jacky Hayward ☎307648.

**7.30pm Whist Drive.** St Mark's each month next 20 August - Church Judith Stanton. ☎823313

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

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

## Tuesday

**9.30am Candlewicking** (Needlework). Putnoe Heights.  
Judi Staughton ☎341821

**9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's.  
Helen Folbigg ☎351223

**1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime.** Putnoe Heights.  
Andrea ☎210177 or Majella ☎325293.

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

**2.00pm U3A Book Group.** St Mark's (3rd Tuesday only)  
Mrs Burman ☎364723

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

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

**2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship** - Next August 7 Summer Meeting Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

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

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

**3.45-5.30pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights.

Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 0582468.

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

Rachel Leontyne ☎783129

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

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

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

Karen King ☎07941 264885

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

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

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

**7.45pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting August 14th Afternoon Tea

Audrey Wilkins ☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

## Wednesday

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

**9.30am Childminding Support Group.** Putnoe Heights.  
Mrs S Longman ☎313949

**9.30am - Body Control Pilates.** Putnoe Heights.  
Stephanie Smith ☎357787.

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

**10.00am Holy Communion.** St. Mark's Chapel.

A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.

**10am Sewing & Chat.** Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell  
☎01462 815966

**10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation** Putnoe Heights  
Fortnightly. Audrey Hancock ☎365915.

**Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 5 September Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

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

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

**2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights  
Mrs Webster ☎856966

**4.15-6pm Kumon Maths.** Putnoe Heights  
Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

**6.15-7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation** Putnoe Heights  
Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138

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

**7.00pm Bunyan Bridge.** St. Mark's  
Brian Sallows ☎407725

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

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

**7.00pm Putnoe Guild** meets monthly. Putnoe Heights.  
Janice ☎Loxley 347073

**7.45pm Badminton Club.** Putnoe Heights  
All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867

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

**8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club** St Mark's (1st week) Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

## Thursday

**9.30am Thursday Prayer Group.** Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen ☎343424  
*Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*

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

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

**9.45am-11.30am Chat and Play** St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.50 for first child + 50p for each extra child over 2 years.Next meeting 6 September. More details from St. Marks Office ☎342613 or Emma Strangwick ☎211070

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

**12pm Storybox.** St Mark's Church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing . Lots of fun. Next meeting 6 September. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070

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

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

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

**6.15 pm Weightwatchers.** St. Mark's.  
Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.

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

**6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club.** St. Mark's  
Mr & Mrs Pike ☎823795

**7.00pm Club 2000** Putnoe Heights  
Sheila Jakeman ☎261935

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

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

**7.30-9.30pm Embroiderers' Guild** St Mark's  
3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby ☎344442

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

**7.45pm Housegroup** meets fortnightly  
Betty Wyatt ☎350188

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

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

**8.00pm Brickhill Wives** St Mark's (1st and 3rd weeks)  
Next meeting 5 September Mrs Woods ☎404702

## Friday

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Saturday

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

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

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

## Sunday

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

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

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

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

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

## Diary Dates

**St Mark's Church Council** – 12 November  
**St Mark's Leadership Team** – 12 September  
**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** –17 September  
**St Mark's Church Management Meeting** -  
**Putnoe Heights Centre Management** - 20 August  
**Putnoe Church Council** - 8th October  
**Pastoral Group Meeting** –  
**Churchyard Committee** - 5 September 11am  
**Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting.** 12  
September. 7.30pm at 14 Flint Way  
**Partnership Council** -  
**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings**  
**Deanery Meeting** - 13 September St Paul's  
**Circuit Meeting**  
**Woodland Burial Trustees** - 3 September 7pm  
**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth**–

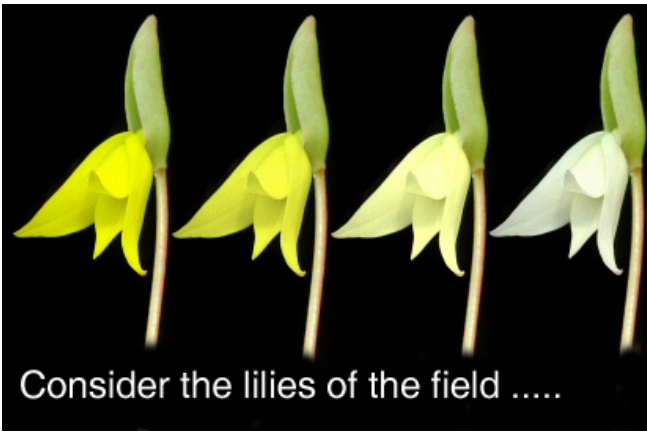
Calendar dates appear on our church website  
[www.ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com). Please advise St Mark's  
Church Office of the dates of your meetings.



## Telecare

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

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



## 18th in Ordinary

### Opening Verse - Psalm 107: 1

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his love endures forever

### Collect Prayer for the Day Before we read we pray

O God who alone can satisfy our deepest  
hungers, protect us from the lure of wealth

and power; move our hearts to seek first your kingdom, that ours may be the security and joy of those who place their trust in you. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. *Common Worship*

### First Bible Reading - Ecclesiastes 1: 2, 12-14, 2: 18-23

Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher. "Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless. I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. I devoted myself to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under heaven. What a heavy burden God has laid on men! I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind. I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. And who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the work into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless. So my heart began to despair over all my toilsome labour under the sun. For a man may do his work with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then he must leave all he owns to someone who has not worked for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune. What does a man get for all the toil and anxious striving with which he labours under the sun? All his days his work is pain and grief; even at night his mind does not rest. This too is meaningless.

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

### Second Bible Reading - Colossians 3: 1-11

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

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

### Third Bible Reading – Luke 12: 13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, "You

have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' "This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."

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

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Lord God whose Son is the true vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for he is alive and reigns, now and fore ever. Amen

### **Hymns (Please distribute )**

1. Sing to God new songs of worship (600 Mission Praise)
2. Be still for the presence (50 Mission Praise)
3. As the deer pants for the water (37 Mission Praise)
4. Love divine (449 Mission Praise Blaenwern)
5. O for a thousand tongues to sing (496 Mission Praise)

### **Commentary**

For thousands, of years there have been examples of people from all religious faiths who have renounced the world in order to devote themselves to the spiritual life, without the distractions of material possessions. We might think immediately of Saint Francis and many nuns, monks and religious folk who have entered into religious communities.

This tension between material possessions and spirituality is even more of an issue today, because we live in a society which is incredibly materialistic and enjoys unparalleled material prosperity. It is interesting that there has been a slight shift of late towards a more responsible attitude towards consumption. People are being encouraged to think about whether we are consuming the world's precious resources too fast and without proper responsibility. This change has not been brought about by religious people, more by politicians and the green lobby. These people are not so much concerned about the damage which materialism can do to the soul, but rather to the planet. The problem which is faced by us all as we struggle to restrain industrial growth and its effects is that other countries are not so pleased with our new found global conscience. We enjoyed the fruits from the industrial revolution, now other nations are discovering their appetite and consider it unfair that at this time they should be told to hold back.

It is clear from the teaching of Jesus that he did not consider wealth or possessions in themselves as either inherently good or bad. Rather he set out clear choices which make it abundantly clear that we should develop a dependence on the goodness of God, not a dependence on material, created goods. Jesus said that we should consider the lilies which do not toil or spin but God clothes them. Not a single sparrow falls without God knowing about it, because he cares for us—hence we should be less concerned for our future well being. Each day should have sufficient care, one day at a time. For this reason we should pray for daily bread, not bread enough bread for a month, or even for tomorrow.

Jesus wanted this not because he wanted to stop us from enjoying ourselves, clearly he was accused of being a party guy. Instead Jesus knew that pursuit of fulfillment through material wealth and greed, was utterly self-destructive. The challenge facing us all is to strike the right balance between using our hard work and God given creativity and becoming consumed by consumerism. There is nothing great about being poor, Christians should work to alleviate all kinds of poverty. However if we are all concerned with our own wealth creativity, if we amass more and more for ourselves and fail to be mindful of the needs of others, then that greedy attitude will inevitably cause others to be poor.

**The manner in which we create wealth is important**, we should not be mean, cheating or exploit the vulnerable.

**The way in which we use wealth is important**, we should be considerate of the needs of others and not just spend it on ourselves.

Each one of us needs to examine our attitudes towards wealth and materialism. If we devote ourselves to amassing material things, neglecting moral, spiritual and intellectual well-being, then we will eventually destroy ourselves—and coincidentally also the planet. Charles Royden

### **Meditation Ecclesiastes**

"Vanity of vanities....All things are vanity!" It is no wonder that the Book of Ecclesiastes doesn't have a great reputation among biblical readers. It is considered by many as negative, pessimistic, cynical and worldly. Hardly what one would expect from a book in the Bible! But many do like Ecclesiastes because it looks at life squarely in the eyes—it is blunt and honest. It deals with real life and doesn't paint over what is false or unholy. It speaks of the prizes life has to offer the successful and wonders whether it was all worth it. Today's reading is the opening of his book and it begins with a big challenge: what and where we place our security may not be as secure as we think. "All things are vanity!" What we pursue and where we invest our energies may not be worth anything. Even the wise and knowledgeable, who have worked hard throughout life, will only have to leave their property, "to another who has not laboured over it." What is important to keep in mind, as we read today's selection is that the book ends with a section that gives hope to those whose view of life is challenged (11:9-12:8).

"The last word, when all is heard: Fear God and keep God's commandments, for this is a person's all. Because God will bring to judgment every work, with all its hidden qualities, whether good or bad" (12:13-14).

So we keep our eyes wide open and we reflect on what kind of soil we have built our security. Is it the sand of passing delights, or is it the foundational rock of God's Word?

### **Prayer**

Strengthen us, O God, to relieve the oppressed, to hear the groans of poor prisoners, to reform the abuses of all professions; that many be made not poor to make a few rich. For Jesus Christ's sake. (Oliver Cromwell 1599-1658 adapted from letter after battle of Dunbar)

May we see your glory, O God, in all your works. May we feel your presence in all circumstances and may we hold to you through times of good and ill; through Christ our Lord. Amen

*George Ridding, 1828-1904*

Father of everlasting goodness, our Creator and Guide, be close to us and hear our prayers. Forgive us when we forget to trust You to provide us with every blessing in this life. Giver of all good gifts, help us not to seek things for ourselves, but to seek ways in which we might be of service to others

Teach us to treasure Christ and His grace above all earthly possessions. Help us to continually cast our lot with life and not with death; with grace and not with judgement, with love and not with hate, with giving and not with receiving, with praising and not being praised., with trusting and not with fear

As we pray for ourselves, we pray also for blessing to be upon others, bring to pass that which they most need in their lives right now:

Here is a gaping sore, Lord,  
Half the world diets, the other half hungers  
Half the world is housed, the other half is homeless  
Half the world pursues profit, the other half senses loss  
Redeem our souls, redeem our people, redeem our times. John Bell (Iona Community)

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

**YPF/Jnr Church**—There will be no YPF or Jnr Church at Putnoe during August

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

**Footprints.** Next walk will be on Sunday 5th August. Meet at The Globe, Linslade for circular walk. Details from Ruth and Alan Bunker Tel. 213951.

**British Cardiac Patients Association.** Our next meeting at Putnoe Heights Church is on Thursday August 23rd at 7.30pm. We will be entertained with music played on the keyboard by Shaun Milsom. All are welcome to come along and join in with us. Admission is free and we will have refreshments and a raffle.

**Two Day Summer Special**—'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dream-coat'. We invite all our young adults (under100yrs!)and children (over 5 years) throughout the Partnership, to join us at Putnoe Heights on Tuesday 21 & Wednesday22 August between 9.30 and 3.30 for two days of fun. We will learn about Joseph and his family relationships through story, discussion, games, crafts and under the direction of Clive Simmonds put together the 20 minute musical performance. More details will follow. Liz  
We would very much appreciate any adult help for either part of day.

**Luncheon Club** which meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights relies heavily on volunteer drivers to transport elderly folk to & from their homes. An additional driver is needed to start in early September. If you can help please ring Putnoe Church Centre 365630.

**NCH House to House Collection** NCH, the children's charity, works with disadvantaged and disabled children and their families, through its family centres located throughout the country. It is an independent charity working with other groups in partnership including the Methodist Church. Her Majesty the Queen is its patron. The annual house to house collection to support the vital work of the

NCH will take place as usual in the first 2 weeks in September. St Mark's Church has the responsibility for covering most of Brickhill and last year we raised over £800. If you could spare a few hours during early September to put out and collect envelopes in the Brickhill asrea, perhaps near to where you live, or you would like some more information then please contact me Mike Elliott 342507.

**Mother Teresa Support Group** – Would you like to spend a pleasant afternoon in good company, knitting and chatting with a cup of tea and biscuits to sustain you? If so, you would be very welcome to join us at St Mark's on alternate Tuesdays at 2.30pm Wool, needles and patterns provided.

**Social Event at St Mark's**—The Caribbean evening planned for 13th October has been changed to "An Evening from the Shows." Put the date in your diary! The Caribbean Evening will be arranged at a later date.

**Grants available** from Community Champions, up to £2000, to volunteers willing to run community based projects in their own time. Full guidelines and application forms via website [www.cover-east.org](http://www.cover-east.org) & click on Community Champions or see notice board in St. Mark's foyer.

**Thank you.** Barbara Joy, Naomi & Amy give grateful thanks to all friends who sent flowers, cards and messages of sympathy on the death of Linda and all who contributed to the uplifting Thanksgiving Service. Special thanks to Charlie and Joan for the kindness and love they showed to us and Linda whilst in hospital until her end. God Bless You All.

**Woodland Open Day.** All are invited to visit the St Albans Woodland Burial Ground on Saturday 25th August from 2 - 7pm. Directions can be found on the church website or from the church office at St Marks. Drinks and light refreshments will be provided in the glade.

**TXT** is the new youth group for our young teenagers starting in September on alternate Sunday evenings 6.30 - 8.00pm. We shall be doing a little Bible Study followed by some fun activities and prayer. If you could spare the time to be one of our adult helpers please contact Sam Ware on 304058.

## Banns



We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of Calvin George Ayton and Keesha La'Toya Edwards both of this parish. This is for the first time of asking.

## Morning Worship

*Please join in words in bold type*

### Opening Verse

This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**We will rejoice and be glad in it!**

### Opening Prayer *Said together*

**Eternal God, source of all blessing  
Help us to worship you  
With all our heart and mind and strength;  
For you alone are God  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Hymn** Sing to God new songs of worship 600

### Adoration *Please be seated*

**Holy God, to you belong glory, honour and  
praise. We join with the hosts of heaven as  
we worship.**

**You alone are worthy of adoration from every  
mouth, and every tongue shall sing your  
praise.**

**You create the earth by your power; you save  
the human race in your mercy, and renew it  
through your grace. To you loving God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be all glory,  
honour and praise,  
Now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Minister introduces the confession*

### Confession *(said together)*

**Lord Jesus, you cared for the welfare of all  
people, and spent your time doing good.  
Grant us the imagination and perseverance  
to create in our country and throughout the  
world a just and loving society for all people.  
Make us agents of your compassion to the  
suffering, the persecuted and the oppressed.  
Forgive us when we are complacent.  
Help when we are tempted to think there is  
nothing which we can do. Empower us by  
your Spirit to work for change. Amen.**

God of truth and love,  
**be merciful to us, as we claim your promised  
forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

God who is faithful and just, assures us of  
pardon and peace. Amen.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn** Be still for the presence 50

### The Offering *Please stand*

**Gracious God, accept these gifts, and with  
them our lives, to be used in your service;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

At Putnoe Heights Church only  
Baptism of Danial and Ami Litchfield

### Collect Prayer

### Bible Readings

*These can be followed on page 4  
At the end of each reading:*

Reader This is the Word of the Lord:  
**All Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn** As the deer pants 37

**Sermon** The Reverend Charles Royden

**Hymn** Love divine 449 Tune Blaenwern

### Prayers

Lord, in your mercy:

**hear our prayer.**

*ending with*

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver  
us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn** O for a thousand tongues 496

### The Blessing *Please remain standing*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**