



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

6 March 2011

Sunday before Lent



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

### St Mark's - Family Service & Baptism

Preacher - Revd. Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership – Mrs. Jean Bank  
Intercessions – Mr. Richard Ledger

### 11.00 am Putnoe - Family Service & Baptism

Preacher - Revd. Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership - Mr. Lawrence Wyatt  
Intercessions - Y.P.F

### 13 March – 1st Sunday in Lent

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

Preacher – Mrs Wendy Waters  
Leadership –Mrs Margaret Appleton  
Intercessions – Mr Warwick Holden

#### 11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mrs Wendy Waters  
Leadership - Mrs Linda Hoar  
Intercessions –Mrs Sylvia Cohen .

**Readings** 1. Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7

2. Romans 5: 12-19

3. Matthew 4: 1-11

**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 Gwen Beswick in loving  
memory of her husband Peter, on his birthday.

## Baptism

We welcome especially today the families of Tariq  
Junia Alexis, Curtis Justin Scott , Elisa May Stevens  
and also Samuel Charles Priestly Bostock & Kim  
Michele Priestly.

## Prayer for This Week

Glorious God, give me grace to amend my life and  
to have an eye to mine end without grudge of death,  
which to them that die in thee, good Lord, is the fate  
of a wealthy life. Give me, good Lord, a full faith, a  
firm hope and a fervent charity, a love to thee  
incomparable above the love to myself. Give me,  
good Lord, a longing to be with thee, not for the  
avoiding of the calamities of this world, nor so much  
for the attaining of the joys of heaven, as for the very  
love of thee. (Sir Thomas More 1478 - 1535)

### 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)

### 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

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### 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](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 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 Samantha Ware 304058

**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** - Avril Williams 360605

**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-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school.** See website for more details [www.ThisChurch.com](http://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)
- 9.00am 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 Mrs Berry ☎211955
- 10.30am U3A Play reading** St Mark's J Birks ☎219607
- 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 Gorden ☎07593266091
- 2pm U3A Music Appreciation** - Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting Contact Linda Reed ☎ 216623
- 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.
- 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
- 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—21 March 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 ☎07790296016
- 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** for the less mobile. Sally Banks ☎ 870357
- 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.** 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
- 2.00pm U3A Music Appreciation** fortnightly. Contact Mrs Reed ☎216623
- 2pm U3A Photography** (Group 3) St Mark's 1st Week. Contact John Farish ☎ 824984
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship.** No Meeting on March 8. 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
- 6.30pm 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 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](http://www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk)
- 7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 8 March. Water Fluoridation. For more 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.
- 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 U3A Card Making,** St Mark's Church. 4th week in the month. Janet Fitch 838689
- 12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - 16 March 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
- 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. Next meeting 26 January.

**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 March 16 2011 Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Graham 406359 or Rosemary 405594 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

**11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau** Putnoe Heights.

**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** 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** St Mark's Contact Radmila Dancer ☎404811

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

**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 Lou Watkins

**7.00pm Club 2000** Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

**7pm U3A Folk & Poetry** 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. 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. Julia Nicholson ☎353642

### 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 & 1.15 - 3.15pm 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

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

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

**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

## Diary Dates



**St Mark's Church Council –**

**Annual General Meeting** 10 April 2011

**St Mark's Leadership Team**

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** - 6 June

**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting** - .26 May

**St Mark's Forum Meeting** - 9 March, 10 May, 13 July

**Putnoe Church Council** - 13 June –7.30pm

**Pastoral Group Meeting** - 14th June

**Churchyard Committee** - 19th May –11.15am

**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings** -

**Circuit meeting** - 15 March at Clapham

**Deanery Meeting** - .

**Woodland Burial Trustees** – 15th May 12.30pm

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth** – 4th April, 1.30pm

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

## Sunday before Lent

### Opening Sentence from Scripture — Psalm 8:3-9

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what are we, that you are mindful of us, humankind that that you care for us? You have made us a little than the heavenly beings, and crowned us with glory and honour. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### Collect Prayer *(Before we read we pray)*

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Common Worship*

### First Bible Reading — Exodus 24: 12-18

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and commands I have written for their instruction." Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God. 14 He said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you.

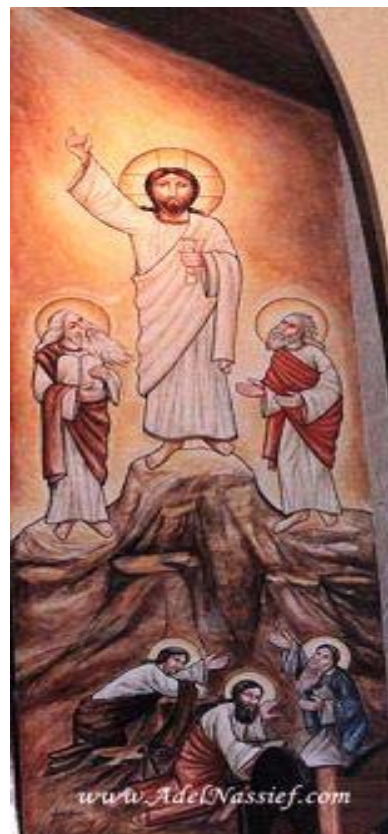
Aaron and Hur are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute can go to them." When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the Lord called to Moses from within the cloud. To the Israelites the glory of the Lord looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.  
(This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God)

### Second Reading - 2 Peter 1:16-21

We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God)

### Gospel Reading - Matthew 17: 1-9

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead. (This is the Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God)



## **Hymns** (Please distribute Mission Praise, Family Worship and Baptism Booklets )

1. Christ triumphant, ever reigning, 77
2. Who put the colours in the rainbow, On Partnership News;
3. Father hear the prayer we offer, 132
4. Great is thy faithfulness, 200
5. Guide me O Thou great Jehovah, 201

## **Commentary**

Today's gospel reading follows the declaration by the disciples that Jesus is the Messiah. Their decision about Jesus is not prompted by what they see on the mountain. It's more like what they see and hear on the mountain is a confirmation of what they have already come to believe, that Jesus is indeed the Messiah. As Jane Williams writes, "This is my Son, my Beloved' – you have made the right choice". But that vindication of choice did not mean an endorsement of the disciples' view of what they believed the Messiah to be, far from it. It was only after the cross and resurrection that the disciples would come to understand the full extent of Jesus' Messiahship. They would see that it involved suffering as well as glory, pain as well as light and life, the hard path to life, not the easy path to fame and success.

God's glory rests on the mountain for six days and then Moses enters into the cloud following his summons; Jesus waits six days and then goes up the mountain. The memory of the glorious encounter would last with Peter, James and John for the rest of their lives and into eternity. Whatever they would encounter as they followed Jesus, the joys, trials and tribulations of life as a disciple of Jesus, that experience and memory would remain with them. They would recall it at night, they would think of it as Jesus spoke to them and taught them of His Father's love for them and the world. They would hold it before them as they went out into the community in which they lived, to share what it meant to have had an encounter with the Son of God and the transformation that brought in their own lives.

It's perhaps not surprising that it is these same disciples who are with Jesus in His hour of deepest agony and darkness in the Garden of Gethsemane. In the dark, they would remember the light. In the hour of Jesus' deepest affirmation and challenge, they would remember the mountain top experience. And yet, not all the disciples experienced the transfiguration. They, like many others to follow them, would need to live off the experience of the few who had witnessed first hand the intervention of God and His voice speaking in His creation.

Mystical experiences are not just the privilege of a few. Each of us in our own way can experience similar mystical experiences at different times of our lives. They can be times when we are reassured of God's personal relationship and love for us as individuals, they can assure us of God's purpose in our lives, or that can just be a mystical experience of a power other than ourselves in our lives for a brief moment. There can be times when we hear God's voice as clearly as the disciples did, even though for most of the time we struggle to hear the thunder of God through the everyday noise and clamour of the world. But just because we do not always see and hear the transforming and transfiguring light and voice of God does not mean that they do not exist, for others or for ourselves.

The gospel writers captured the story of the transfiguration so that it would become a shared experience. Shared not just with the other disciples, who might have expected to rightfully share in the experience, but shared with the many generations who would follow in the disciple's footsteps as followers of Christ. Our faith will always be a mixture of our own personal experience and spiritual journey and the reflected experience and stories of others on the same road. We may not always hear and experience God in the same way as others but we should not deny the reality of that experience just because it is not ours. God, through His Son Jesus, speaks to each one of us differently, meets with us in different ways; wants us to encounter Him not only in our mountain top experiences but in our valleys of despair. And as He does, as we acknowledge the voice that says, 'This is my beloved Son, listen to Him', as we listen to Him and

let the light of the transfiguration into our lives, so Christ is able to transfigure and transform our lives. *Rev Dr Sam Cappleman*

### **Meditation**

Transfiguration Sunday marks the end of the season of Epiphany. There is a lot of talk about light during Epiphany, beginning with the shining star that led the Wise Men to Jesus. Epiphany literally means 'to shine on' or 'give light to' and today's gospel reading about the Transfiguration are all about light shining, from people's faces, because they have encountered the mystery of God. Transfiguration is the culmination of the epiphany season, the grand finale, where Jesus is revealed to us as being one with God. This biggest epiphany of all comes just before Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent. There is a connection between this epiphany - the transfiguration - and what is to follow. The transfiguration is the prelude to the cross. Jesus' return trip down the mountain is the beginning of his fatal journey to Jerusalem. We too have our mountain top experiences before we are sent back down the mountain and out into the world to reflect the light we have encountered.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead**

As the beautiful, dew covered rose rises from amongst its thorns, so may my heart be so full of love for you my God, that I may rise above the storms and evils that assail me, and stand fast in trust and freedom of spirit. Amen. Hadewijch of Brabant - 13th Century

Lord, in so many ways we are blind to you. We too fail to see you for who you are. Forgive us when we miss the reality of your transfiguring and transforming presence among us. Amen

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit, that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the broken hearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

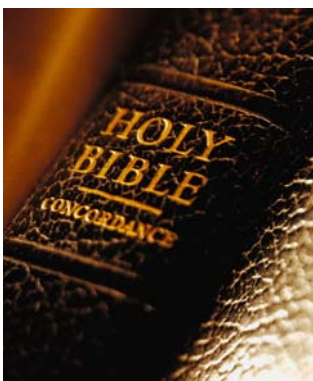
God of dawning light, hear our prayers today and give us the strength to put aside all cares and to chose to follow you in your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christ the Son of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. Amen

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## **Partnership Lent Course**

The Lent course this year will be held at Putnoe Heights and look at the essential of Christian belief as expressed in the Apostles Creed. I believe in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Refreshments will be served from 7.30pm with each session starting at 8.00pm and lasting one hour. Since the series will look at the foundation of Christian belief it would be particularly helpful for anybody who is considering confirmation. Please speak with one of the ministers if you would like to consider this.



**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**  
Thursday 17 March by Charles Royden

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**  
Thursday 31 March by Sam Cappleman

**I believe in the Holy Spirit**  
Thursday 7 April by Jane Mason



## Secondhand Book Sale

### Putnoe Heights Church

Saturday March 12

10am-2pm.  
There will be refreshments and light lunches available.

Please remember to look out your unwanted books and bring them to Putnoe Heights Church on Friday March 11 between 6pm-7.30pm. Help at the sale on Saturday March 12 is needed. Please contact Linda Hoar if you are able to help. Tel: 782717

**Holy Week** – The Bishop of Bedford will be holding meditations at St Paul's Church Bedford on three consecutive nights in April - 18/19/20  
Monday 18 at 7.30pm - Sacrificial love as generosity  
Tuesday 19 - Sacrificial love as selflessness  
Wednesday 20 - Sacrificial love as faithfulness  
The meditations will include a simple communion service - all are welcome to attend.

**Footprints Walk** Sunday 6 March 2pm. Meet at Renhold Church for 4 mile walk to Priory Marina. Transport back to Renhold for car drivers will be arranged. Details — Sue and Gerry.

**House Group** at the home of Wendy Waters will be held on Mondays for 6 weeks beginning at 7.45pm on 7 March. We will use the Diocesan Lent Course 'Living God's Love'. If you would like to come please phone Wendy Waters 401834.

**Putnoe Heights Church** are looking for volunteers to help decorate the quiet room . If you are able to help please contact either Sam Ware on 01234 304058 or Jean Kirk on 01234317699

" **Guitar Rags and Gods Riches** " A new CD, a collection of Christian songs and Ragtime music, written and played by Rev Laurie Burn, ( son of Pam and Bob). Price £8, all proceeds in aid of IcFEM, a sustainability project in Kenya, and the building fund of Totterdown Baptist Church Bristol. To purchase or obtain information Tel 854858

**Unwanted desk** available at Putnoe Heights to take away. Contact church office on 365630. Linda Hoar 782717

**Church Chairs.** In the next week or so we expect to take delivery of the new chairs for the Church. We are grateful to anybody who would assist us by purchasing a chair. Each chair will cost £50. Donations can be made to the church office and should be gift aided if you are a tax payer please.

**St Mark's Messy Church** is held from 3.45 to 5.30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. If you are interested in helping please speak to Jean Bank or Wendy Waters This month it is 16 March.

**Thank you** to everyone at both Churches for their good wishes for my 90th birthday and also for the lovely flowers from St Mark's. I appreciate all your kind thoughts. Thank you. Doris Cooper

**Rest in Peace.** Members of Putnoe heights Church will be saddened to hear of the death of Mollie Cutler who attended worship here for many years. Our thoughts and prayers are with Deryck and the family. we also received the news of death of Doris Wilson, another lovely lady, who many people will remember worshipping with us with her family. Service details are printed page 8.

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## A Hymn for Sunday

- 1 Who put the colours in the rainbow?  
Who put the salt into the sea?  
Who put the cold into the snowflake?  
Who made you and me?  
Who put the hump upon the camel?  
Who put the neck on the giraffe?  
Who put the tail upon the monkey?  
Who made hyenas laugh?  
Who made whales and snails and quails?  
Who made hogs and dogs and frogs?  
Who made bats and rats and cats?  
Who made ev'rything?
- 2 Who put the gold into the sunshine?  
Who put the sparkle in the stars?  
Who put the silver in the moonlight?  
Who made Earth and Mars?  
Who put the scent into the roses?  
Who taught the honey bee to dance?  
Who put the tree inside the acorn?  
It surely can't be chance!  
Who made seas and leaves and trees?  
Who made snow and winds that blow?  
Who made streams and rivers flow?  
God made all of these!

## Bedford foodbank

A meeting has been arranged on Wednesday 9 March from 12 noon till 1400 at the Salvation Army Hall, Commercial Road, Bedford, MK40 1QZ to explore the viability of setting up a Bedford foodbank similar to those in Milton Keynes and Cambridge. Bedford foodbank will be an independent charity that works across the churches. Whilst the foodbank will be a Christian organisation, it will serve people of all faith groups and beliefs or none. – kevin.sandford@salvationarmy.org.uk.



## Ash Wednesday Service

There will be a special Ash Wednesday Service this coming Wednesday 9 March at 7.30pm at St Mark's Church. Preacher Rev Eric Royden

interpretation of Pakistan's blasphemy law, but as minister for minorities he was clear that it was his obligation to promote tolerance, acceptance and justice for Pakistani citizens regardless of their religious affiliation.

"His assassination fuels fear of growing sectarian bigotry and violence, not just in Pakistan but worldwide.

"It is a cause for concern, not only because of its implications for the safety of religious minorities, but also because of the questions it raises about the will or the ability of the Government of Pakistan to defend the rights and freedoms of all its people.

"We urge the Government of Pakistan to do all in its power to bring the perpetrators of such violence to justice. It is profoundly important that we all work for a society in which respect is given and difference honoured, where people can be sure of their security.

"Meanwhile we assure the family, friends and supporters of Mr. Bhatti of our deep sympathy, praying with them in their personal distress. We continue to support all those working for justice and stability in Pakistan, whatever their faith. The Methodist Church wishes to express its admiration for those who continue to avoid the sin of silence in the face of such atrocities and urges prayer for the government and people of Pakistan."

## Methodist statement on the killing of Shahbaz Bhatti

Christine Elliott, Secretary for External Relationships for the Methodist Church in Britain, said: "The killing of Shahbaz Bhatti is deeply shocking. He is known to have understood the potential consequences for his stand on the



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## 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

**The funeral of Myles David Chester Parker** has been arranged to take place at St Marks Parish Church - Bedford at 4:00pm on Wednesday 9 March 2011 followed by the committal at Keysoe Woodland Burial.

**The funeral of Mollie Cutler** will take place at Putnoe Heights Church on Friday 18 March at 12.30

**The funeral of Doris Hilda Wilson** will take place at Putnoe Heights Church at 2.30pm on Monday 14 March

