



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

6 November 2011 - Ordinary 32



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

6 November

9.30 am St. Mark's - Family Worship
Preacher - Reverend Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership – Mrs Laura Farthing
Intercessions – Mrs Wendy Waters
11.00 am Putnoe - Family Worship
Preacher – Reverend Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mr Gordon Evans
Intercessions - YPG

13 November - Remembrance Sunday

9.30 am St. Mark's - Morning Worship
Preacher - Reverend Charles Royden
Leadership – Mrs Elizabeth Bean
Intercessions - Mr Mike Elliott
11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship
Preacher – Reverend Charles Royden
Leadership - Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions – Mrs Sue Allen



Bible Readings 1.Micah 4: 1-5
2 Romans 8: 31-end 3.1 Cor 15: 50-end

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 Derrick Wren in memory of the birthday of his wife Betty.

The flowers at St. Mark's Church this week have been given by Richard Ledger in memory of his mother.

Welcome

We especially welcome to our service the family and friends of Grace May Allen who has been brought for baptism.

Prayer for the Week

Lord help us not to stare into the sky waiting for your return.
Enable us to see you with us now - in the cries of the hungry and the thirsty, the loneliness of the stranger, the plight of the naked and those who have nothing in the pains of the sick, and the hopelessness of the prisoner.
May our eyes be opened to see you, may our ears be obedient to your voice, may our hearts reveal you to all in need.
Give us the oil of your love, that the lamps of our lives might burn brightly to your praise and glory.
Amen

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

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

Deacon Jane Mason

12 Hartop Close, Bedford MK41 8HE
348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden

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

For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website and may appear in other local media sources.

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Geoff Gypps 365630 mob 07947 902846
Leadership Team Mrs. Linda Hoare 782717
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator John Hitt 404186
Youth Worker Emma Gordon email - 07593266091 youth@thisischurch.com

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

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

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

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

Head teacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

8.30-5.30pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's

9.30-3.15pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634

(See website for more details)

.9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights

Stephanie Smith ☎ 357787 or 07973174430

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mrs Berry ☎211955

10.30am U3A Play reading (see contact details below)

12.15pm Story box Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12.15 and 1.15 for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Emma Gordon ☎07593266091

2pm U3A Music Appreciation - (see contact details below)**3.30pm Storybox Plus** Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year olds. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then until 5pm stories, drama, singing & craft activities. Emma Gordon 07593266091 or 365630

4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe Heights. Margo Needham ☎843747 or 07881730747

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

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner

☎01767699399 or 07720713738.

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

6.15 - 8.15pm

6.15pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's Sam Thompson

☎07766421000

7.15pm Fit for Life Yoga - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher ☎07891879571

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson ☎353518

7.30pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst ☎01908 377020

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

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting– 21 November Judith Stanton. ☎823313

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

8pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎07790206016

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

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

10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group. St Mark's. Sally Cripsley ☎350704

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)

1.15pm Toddlers Playtime/Sing & Stomp - Putnoe Heights for toddlers and their carers. Run by Putnoe Childre's Centre Trudy Hamilton ☎340552

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. (see contact details below)

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

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

2.00pm U3A (see contact details below)

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting 8 November Mr. P. Jarret 'The Fisherman's Mission' For more details contact Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

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

2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

3.45pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson ☎295862 or 07917582468.

6.30pm Creative Card making. Putnoe Heights Church. Carol Houghton ☎346718

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

7pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455

7pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎07941 264885

7.30pm Hearts in Beds. Cardiac Support Group 1st Tuesday in the month at St Mark's. Brian Ibberson ☎403497

7pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Sacha Ojo ☎07590597891 or www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting November 15 Craft Evening Details call Janet King 313946

8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

Wednesday

9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎357787 or 07973174430.

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

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

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

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 9 November Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811

1.45 Scots Society Whist Putnoe monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr ☎268147

2-5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179

1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft St Mark's (see contact details below)

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

3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. 3rd Wednesday in the month.. Wendy Waters 401834

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha

Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

6.00pm Shooting Stars. Youth Group for 9-13yrs at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Contact Emma Gordon 365630.

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138 or 07910835994.

6-8pm Karate. St Mark's Karen King ☎079412 64885

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

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Vanessa Aykac 268098 or 07917385987

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice Loxley ☎347073

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Heights Mike Del-Boyer ☎348378

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

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club meet at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be November 16 2011 Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Valmai 219555 Rosemary 405594 or Graham 406359 for more details.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

Thursday

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

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

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. Jo Garner 400071 or 07719670624 Restarts on 8 September.

12pm Storybox . St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Lots of fun. Contact Jaana Swaby ☎363283

1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic 1st and 3rd Thursdays St. Mark's ☎267444

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293

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

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

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

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

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

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

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

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale ☎406094

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Pauline Lynham ☎01525 714517

8 -10pm Bedford Folk dancers (formerly Barn dancers) Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights . Different guest callers each week. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments. More details Ron Law 825574.

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

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Jean Birks ☎219607

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Pauline Hooper ☎350079

Friday

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

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

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

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

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

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

Saturday

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

Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher ☎357198

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

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

Sunday

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

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

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

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's Contact Adrian Felice

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

www.bedfordtkd.com or bedfordtkd@googlemail.com.



Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council – 21 February 2012

St Mark's Leadership Team - 16 February 2012

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 25th Jan 2012

7.30pm at 24 Loring Rd. Sharnbrook.

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting - Mon. 23rd

Jan 2012 7.30 Putnoe Meeting Room

St Mark's Forum Meeting - Wednesday 9th November

Putnoe Church Council - 13 February 2012

Pastoral Group Meeting -

Churchyard Committee -

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Circuit meeting - 8 February 2012 @ Kempston East

Deanery Meeting

Woodland Burial Trustees – 27 November

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth – 16 January 2012

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

Ordinary 32

Opening Verse of Scripture -1 Peter 1:13

Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Collect Prayer (Before we read we pray)

Eternal God, in whose perfect realm no sword is drawn but the sword of justice, and no strength known but the strength of love: guide and inspire all who seek your kingdom, that peoples and nations may find their security in the love which casts out fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

First Bible Reading - Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25

Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods. But I took your father Abraham from the land beyond the Euphrates and led him throughout Canaan and gave him many descendants. Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.'" Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we travelled. And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God." Joshua said to the people, "You are not able to serve the LORD. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you." But the people said to Joshua, "No! We will serve the LORD." Then Joshua said, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the LORD." "Yes, we are witnesses," they replied. "Now then," said Joshua, "throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." And the people said to Joshua, "We will serve the LORD our God and obey him." On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he reaffirmed for them decrees and laws (This is the Word of the Lord — **Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep.

For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to



The Wise and Foolish Virgins,
William Blake 1826

meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words. (This is the Word of the Lord — **All: Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading -

"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' " 'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. "Later the others also came. 'Sir! Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!' "But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.' "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

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

Post Communion Prayer

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

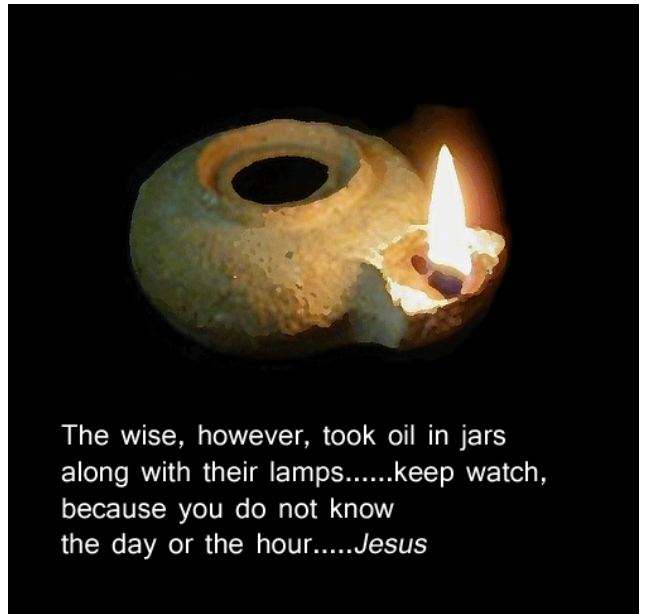
Hymns (*Please distribute morning worship and Mission Praise, baptism booklets at Putnoe*)

Blessed Assurance, **59**; Give me oil in my lamp, **167**; Be Thou my vision, **51**; Christ is surely coming, **75**; Ye holy angels bright, **783**

Commentary

Following on from the parable of the wedding banquet, the discussions about paying taxes to Caesar and marriage at the resurrection, debates about the greatest commandment and the Sonship of Christ, Jesus goes on to berate the Pharisees and then turns His attention to the signs of the end of the age. There will be wars and civil unrest, but ultimately only the Father knows the day and the hour when time will be wrapped up and the whole earth renewed. Jesus continues, 'At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgin who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom...'. Turning once again to the imagery of Jewish custom, Jesus encourages us to be ready for His return.

If we are to be prepared for the future, Matthew's gospel seems to suggest that we should stock up and lay in provisions to see us through emergencies and difficult times. Save up for a rainy day. With the financial crisis across Europe it would seem for many that the rainy days have now arrived – and our stocks and reserves are severely depleted! For Matthew part of the preparation and provisioning for the future involves familiarising ourselves with what we are looking for so that we will recognise it and it will recognise us. The bridesmaids have not prepared themselves for the party, they are just going through the motions, and when they get to the door they are seen for the gatecrashers that they are. Better preparation would have led to a much different outcome. They, and we, it would seem, are to spend time familiarising ourselves with God and His ways so that we can recognise Him and He us. Spending time looking back over God's dealings with us so that we can truly be prepared and have that sure and certain hope of the heavenly banquet that ahead despite all the uncertainties that may lie in between. The resources we have in our storerooms reflect only what we have put in them beforehand. Henri Nouwen writes, 'When our gratitude for the past is only partial, our hope for a new future can never be full... ...If



The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps.....keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.....Jesus

we are to be truly ready for a new task in the service of God, our entire past, gathered into the spaciousness of a converted heart, must become the source of energy that moves us toward the future'.

It's a personal responsibility. Oil is often seen as a sign of repentance and as we look back over the past as we prepare for the coming of Christ it's important that our own relationship with God is right. Just as the wise virgins could not share their oil with the foolish ones, we cannot ask others to repent on our behalf. It's something we need to do for ourselves as we turn to Christ on a regular basis as we ask God for forgiveness of our sins and to continually renew and transform us and our lives. For whilst the passage is about being prepared for the coming of Christ, it's also about what we do, who we live and act while we wait. Our lives need to be lit by the oil of action in addition to being illuminated by the lamps of intention. Whenever it is when Christ returns, it seems one of the factors we do know is that it will be when we least expect it and we are to be ready for that time – before it is too late to put matters right in our lives. Jesus invites us to join with Him in the wedding banquet of His love for the whole world. As a church and as individuals we are to be ready and willing to respond to that invitation. We are called to live in a manner which demonstrates our readiness for the coming of the renewed Kingdom of God, whenever that happens.

Economically the future does look uncertain. The political landscape of the world is changing radically. But as we look back as Matthew encourages us to do, we see can see that we can be prepared and assured of an eternal future. It is God Himself who continues to offer hope and a future despite all the economic turmoil, political change and military conflicts around the world. *Sam Cappleman*

Meditation

Barry D Blanton writing in his Monday Morning Minute piece discusses what makes a great leader. He comments: Consider these two great quotes regarding humility and why it is a key to quality leadership. "Humility is not about thinking less of yourself; it is about thinking about yourself less." Humility is a great virtue, but it does not mean you have to think less of yourself. Being humble means thinking of others more than yourself. That does not mean that you think less of yourself. As a matter of fact you can feel a whole lot better about yourself by thinking more about others. You may not associate humility with great leadership but truly exceptional leaders understand the importance of humility. Ezra Taft Benson wrote, "Pride is concerned with who is right. Humility is concerned with what is right." As leaders we should be concerned with what is right, not if we are right. What a great world it would be if we were all more concerned with what is right than who is right. We spend a lot of time defending our position, arguing our viewpoint and building our own individual case. Is our position always what is right? That seems doubtful. There are times we may be arguing for what is right, but often we are just concerned with being right. Sometimes we even know that we are not right, but we just can't bring ourselves to admit that we are wrong. It should not be about being wrong. It should be about what is right. This is a tough one for many leaders. Often leaders think they are supposed to be right and always have the answers. Leadership is not about being focused on oneself and always being right. Leadership is about thinking more about others and what the right answer is for the situation.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Most gracious God and Father, in whose will is our peace: turn our hearts and the hearts of all people to yourself, that by the power of your spirit, the peace which is founded on righteousness may be established throughout the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we wait for the coming of your Son; then when He appears, He will not find us sleeping in sin, but active in His service and joyful in His praise, for the glory of your Holy name. **Amen**

Living God, you have given us a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead: grant that we, being risen with Him, may fix our hearts on heavenly things and share eternal life. **Amen**

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the people of every church and nation, peace and concord; and to us and all the servants of God, life everlasting; and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

You let us choose, O God, between you and the false gods of this world. In the midst of the night of sin and death, wake us from our slumber and call us forth to greet Christ, so that with eyes and hearts fixed on him, we may follow to eternal light. Amen.

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

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

Kempston Music Society

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

Friends for Life was established as a joint Anglican - Methodist scheme to provide volunteer visitors to Care Homes in Bedford. Currently we have over 40 volunteers visiting in 14 homes across the town, with over 50 residents benefitting from these visits. The project is continually looking for more volunteers who feel they could spare an hour or two a month to chat. We are running a Volunteer Induction Day at St Mark's on Saturday, 5th November and would be pleased to hear from anyone in the congregation who is interested in joining us. joanne.barrow4@ntlworld.com 01234 213038 www.friendsforlifebedford.org.uk

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

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

Putnoe Good Neighbours need volunteers. We are a voluntary group who do what we can to be good neighbours. We are not asking for any set

time commitment, just a helping hand when someone in the community needs occasional help. It could be 10 minutes to collect a prescription, read a form or water plants when they go to into hospital. Be part of the Putnoe Big Society. For information please call or text; 07968 300033.

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

Missions Group at Putnoe Heights church have sent a cheque for £150 to the British Red Cross for the turkey earthquake appeal.

Advent Texts and Emails- This Advent the Diocese of St Albans is offering a very special kind of Advent calendar. They will send you every day a text or email with a special religious thought for Christmas. It will help you to take time to pause each day to prepare for Christmas. You can sign up by visiting www.livethechallenge.co.uk where you can also download stories and activity sheets

Coffee Morning Thursday 10 November from 10.30 to 12 noon at Anjulita Court. Cards, calendars etc on sale. All welcome.

Study Group Tuesday 8 November will be meeting in the Chapel at St Mark's.

Musical Concert aid of SSAFA to be given by the Music Department of Bedford Modern School. Saturday 12 November 7.30pm Tickets £8 available on the door. All welcome. Pre-concert drinks 7pm

Some Expressions of Thanks

Thank You Putnoe Heights for the stunning Autumn coloured bouquet of flowers. I miss each and everyone of you, thank you for all your prayers. God Bless You All. Love Deborah Wallace

To all my friends at Putnoe Heights Church I would like to express my thanks and for your concern about my care and welfare, hospital and home visits, flowers, etc. God bless you all. Arthur.

Thank You We would like to 'thank you' for the very generous Gift Token and beautiful flowers you gave us last Sunday, it was so kind of you all. We would also like to thank you for the friendship and fellowship you have afforded us over the last four years making us so welcome at both Churches. We shall miss you. Mike and Penny

St Mark's Church Christmas Craft Fayre Saturday 19 November

There are now only 2 weeks to go to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 19 November 2011. We would be grateful for any help with the following:-

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

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

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

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

Indoor Plant Stall: After the success of last year's plant stall we are doing the same again this year. If you have any indoor plants or have split any plants and would like to donate them to our stall we would be very grateful. Marion would be pleased to receive gift of either indoor or outdoor plants, also small carrier bags. All donated items for the above stalls can be brought up to Church anytime during week beginning 15 November please (unfortunately we do not have space to store items before the 15 November).

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

Two Weeks to go and counting

Thank you for your support so far with items for the Fayre. This week the Street leaflets are available from the table in the Foyer. We would be very grateful if you could take your street and deliver the leaflets to each house. If you can do another street as well that would be wonderful. Any leaflets left over please return to the Church. All the Christmas services are also printed on the back, so it is quite important to make sure Brickhill is informed about St. Mark's Christmas Services.

Raffle tickets are also available.

Please take a few books and sell to family and friends. It is a good way of advertising the event. Please make sure that you bring any counterfoils, money and unsold books back to St Mark's Church office by 18 November.

Any items (books, plants new gifts for Tombola etc.) for the Fayre can be brought up to Church anytime week beginning 14 November. Sadly we do not have room to store items before then. Many thanks Avril Williams



A Hymn for Sunday

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;
be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:
be thou mine inheritance now and always;
be thou and thou only the first in my heart:
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

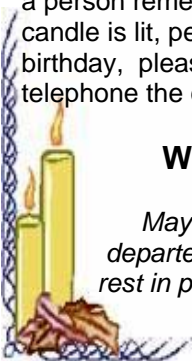
High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

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.

Wayne Tyrone Armstrong

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



No Forthcoming Funerals