



# Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church

6 October 2013 - Ordinary 27



## 8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

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

### Today – 6 October

#### 9.30 St Marks – Family Worship with Baptism of Oliver Barker Priestley Bostock

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership – Mr Edward Parry

Intercessions – Mrs Delia Shephard

Organist - Mr John Mower

#### 11.00 am Putnoe – Family Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership - Mrs Sam Ware

Intercessions - YPG

Organist - Mr John Mower

### 1h October—Ordinary 28

#### 9.30 St Marks – Morning Worship

Preacher – The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

Leadership – Mr Mick Ovenden

Intercessions – Ministers

Organist - Mr Martin Thompson

#### 11.00 am Putnoe – Morning Worship

Preacher – The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

Leadership - Mrs Jenny Snelson

Intercessions — Mrs Sam Ware

Organist - Mr Martin Thompson

**Readings** 1 Jeremiah 29: 1,4-7 2. 2 Timothy 1: 1-14

3. Luke 17: 5-10

**Midweek 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 given by Roger and Anne Platt to celebrate their Golden wedding and in memory of absent friends and Doreen Denny in memory of her wedding day 57 years ago and to celebrate her birthday on 8,October.

## Welcome

We extend a special welcome this morning to the family and friends of Oliver Barker Priestly Bostock who has been brought for baptism at St Mark's Church

## A Prayer for Sunday

Show us, O Lord,  
the transience of the world  
in the light of heaven,  
the shortness of time  
in the light of eternity  
and the meaning of death  
in the light of resurrection;  
through the merits of Christ the Lord. Amen.

*Richard Challoner (1691-1781)*

### The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR

Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com

(Sam also works full time as a Vice President for Hewlett Packard)

### Deacon Jane Mills

c/o Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Tel. 348091 Mobile 07807 146535

jane@thisischurch.com

### The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

309175 Mobile 07973 113861 vicar@thisischurch.com

### Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator

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.*

### Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

### 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 Jenny Snelson 344417

**Treasurer** Mr John Hitt 404186 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

**Gift Aid Administrator** Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188

**Youth Team Leader** Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com

### St. Mark's Church Centre

**Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm**

**Tel/fax & Answering Service** 342613 office@thisischurch.com

**Centre Manager** Miss Wendy Rider 342613

**Leadership Team** - Mr Michael Ovenden 826738

**Treasurer** - Mr Ian Farthing 210892

treasurer@thisischurch.com

**Gift Aid Administrator** Jim Williams 360605

**Partnership News** is sent out by email every Saturday in a colour edition. If you would like to receive a copy please send an email entitled 'Partnership News' to vicar@thisischurch.com. 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.ThisChurch.com

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

**9.15 –3.45 pm Mon and Wed/ 9.15-12.15pm Tues/ Thurs/Fri. Hazeldene Heights Pre-school.** See website for more details [www.ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com)  
Head teacher Mrs Laura Leggett 326685  
**8.30-5.30pm Pre-school** Mon-Fri St Mark's  
**9.-3.45pm Top Marks** Mon-Fri St Mark's  
**8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery**  
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** St Mark's (see contact details below)  
**2.00pm U3A Calligraphy** at St Mark's 2nd week (see contact details below)  
**12.15pm Story box** Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Carolyn Morris [youth@thisischurch.com](mailto:youth@thisischurch.com) 365630  
**1.30-2.45pm Chat & Make** For babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details email– [chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk) .  
**2pm U3A Music Appreciation** Putnoe Heights(see contact details below)  
**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  
**6.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga** - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher 07891879571  
**6.30pm Boot Camp** Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081  
**7.00pm Sugarcraft Guild** St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson 353518  
**7.00pm 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 October Judith Stanton. 823313  
**7.30pm No Fear Bridge Club** St. Mark's Mrs. Susan Ford 300218.  
**7.30pm House group** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567  
**Putnoe Heights Children and Youth meeting** - Monday 10th February 2014 at 1.30pm

## Tuesday

**9.30am Jo Jingles.** St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Charlotte Williams 07968 207442  
**9.30am Candlewicking** (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart 365507  
**9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's. Helen Skinner 07989080389  
**10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group.** St Mark's. Sally Cripsley 350704  
**11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights** (see contact details below)  
**1pm –2.30pm Drop in Wiggles and Jiggles** 0-5 years, Putnoe Children's Centre. Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552  
**1.15pm U3A Cinema Grp.** St Mark's (contacts details

below)

**1.3pm U3A Choir.** St Mark's (contacts details below)  
**2.00pm U3A Book Group 1** St Mark's (3rd Wk) (see contact details below)  
**2.00pm U3A Book Group 2** St Mark's (2nd Wk) (see contact details)  
**2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins 356895  
**2pm U3A Photography Group 3** St. Mark's (1st Wk) (contact details below).  
**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.  
**4.00pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights..** Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468  
**7.30-8.30pm Pilates** St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 0789187957  
**7pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing** Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390  
**6.00-7.00pm Zumba at St Mark's.** Contact Denise Worker 07900 232648  
**7.00pm Keep Fit.** St. Mark's Jan Gregory 328455  
**7.00pm Laughter Club.** St. Mark's Meeting (meets monthly) 22 Oct/12 Nov & 17 Dec. Cheryl Green 354339 or 07729187399  
**7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** (Meets fortnightly). 15 October Shoe Box Packing Details Janet King 313946

## Wednesday

**9.30am Body Control Pilates.** Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430.  
**9.30am Discover & Do** (Childminders) St. Mark's. Clare Simmons 328380 or 07788824666  
**10am-2pm Open House** at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.  
**10am U3A Gardening Group 3** St Marks. (contact below)  
**10.00am Holy Communion.** St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.  
**10am U3A Card Making,** St Marks (see contact details below)  
**10am U3A Diet and Nutrition-** Putnoe (contact below)  
**11.15am U3A Keep Fit** Putnoe  
**12.30pm –4pm St Mark's Nursery**  
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634  
**12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 9 October Putnoe Heights Office 365630  
**1.00-3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights (Fortnightly)  
**1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired.** St. Mark's. Mr Barnes 261811  
**2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft** St Marks.(see contact details below)  
**2pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan** Putnoe Heights  
**2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster 856966  
**3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church.** St Mark's (3rd Wk). for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 16 October Wendy Waters 401834  
**4.15pm Kumon Maths.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698  
**6.00 pm Brownies.** St Mark's. Mrs C Warden 219731  
**6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation** Putnoe Heights Racheall

Monton 01234 297138 or 07910835994.

**7.00pm Bunyan Bridge.** St. Mark's Yvonne Blain 350241 or Brian Sallows 407725

### **7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society**

Putnoe

Heights monthly. Sylvia Woods 365095

**7.00pm Putnoe Guild** Putnoe monthly Mrs O Holt 266004

**7.00pm Line Dancing** Putnoe Mike Del-Boyer 348378

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

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

**8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club** St Mark's 1st week in the month. Jean Ross 771870

## **Thursday**

**8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery**

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

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

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

9.30am Spanish for total beginners. –starting 7th Nov.

**9.45am Yoga** Putnoe Heights Denise Green 244970

**9.45am Chat and Play** St.Mark's. A term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Jo Garner 400071 or 07932616468

**10.00-11.30am Gentle Yoga** Putnoe For more details contact Helen Nicholson Tel.03003004305

**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

**1pm-2.30pm Drop in** (small hall) Next Steps 9-24months Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552. 2pm -Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

**2pm U3A Current Affairs** - Putnoe Heights

**2-4pm U3A Indoor Games.** St.Mark's (contact below)

**2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society** St Mark's Mary Rich 272470

**5.45pm Weightwatchers.** St. Mark's. Clare Martin 07805408811.

**6.15pm Brownies.** Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins .

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

**7pm U3A Folk & Poetry** St Marks (2nd and 4th week) (see contact details below)

**7.15pm Putnoe Art Group** Bob Wardale 406094

**7.00pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild** St Mark's 3rd week in month. Carol Plant 01832710504

**7.30pm Gentle Birthing** St Mark's. Pat Wood 07946 847231

**8 –10pm Bedford Folk Dancers** (formerly Barn dancers)

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers each week.Except August. Next meeting 5 September. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments. More details Ron 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

**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 Pat Cass 294220

**8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group** St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month Kay Logan 01234 309105.

## **Friday**

**8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery**

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

**9am -1pm Machine Knitting** group at Putnoe Heights, fortnightly . Contact Marion Sutton 217647

**10am -12.00 U3A Photography** St Marks.(4th week) (see contact details below)

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

**2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist** St Marks. (contact details below)

**2pm U3A Italian**-Putnoe Heights (contact details below)

**2pm U3A Gardening** - Putnoe Heights

**4.50pm-8.15pm Stars School of Dance** Esther

Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

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

**7.00pm Meditation** St Mark's starting 4th October.

Cheryl Green 07729187399

**7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club.** St Marks(2nd week) 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

## **Sunday**

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

**10 - 5.30pm Bedford Stamp Fayre.** 1st Sunday Feb/Apr/Jun/Aug /Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

**11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior** at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's and Young



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

## **Diary Dates**

**St Mark's Church Council** – 8 October

**St Mark's Leadership Team** - 21 January 2014

**Annual Congregational Meetings**

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** - 10 October

**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting** 1st October

**Putnoe Church Council** - 14 Oct

**Pastoral Group Meeting** - 10 January at 10.00am

**Churchyard Committee** -

**Commemoration Service** Sunday 3 November 3pm

**Circuit meeting - Deanery Meeting** - 14 November

**Woodland Burial Trustees**–

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting** –10th February 2014 1.30pm

**New Year Lunch** 19 January at Putnoe

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

# Ordinary 27

## Sentence of Scripture - 2 Timothy 1

I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.

## Collect Prayer for the Day

God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.  
Common Worship Shorter Collect



## First Reading -Lamentations 3 v 19 – 26

I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, 'The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.' The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

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

## Second Reading - 2 Timothy 1: 1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life--not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day. What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you--guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

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

## Gospel Reading – Luke 17: 5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you. "Suppose one of you had a servant ploughing or looking after the sheep. Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? Would he not rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.' "

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

**Post Communion Prayer** Bountiful God, you entrust your creation to our care. Grant us the grace so to order our common life that we may use your gifts to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Hymns** (Please distribute *Family Worship, Hymns and Psalms and Baptism Booklets* )

1. *New every morning is the love*, 636; 2. *Be thou my vision*, 378; 3 *All my hope on God is founded*, 63; 4. *Teach me my God and King*, 803; 5 *To God be the glory*, 463

### **Commentary** A strange request

Today's reading from Luke continues with more uncomfortable sayings from Jesus, which started when He began His journey to Jerusalem in Luke 9 v 51. The disciples have just been told to be on their guard against sin and the temptations of the ways of the world so perhaps it's not surprising that they've asked Jesus to increase their faith. Times, it seems, will get increasingly challenging. Jesus' response is characteristically unequivocal and clear and in telling this parable Jesus gives all His disciples an insight as to just how they themselves can strengthen their faith. Simply to get on with doing the things we have been charged by the master, God, to do, however mundane and everyday they seem. They don't necessarily need more faith; they need to put into practice and use the faith they already have. The smallest amount of faith can work wonders. It's easy to fall into the trap of believing that the experiences through which our faith grows need to be spectacular, but so often they are not. For most of us, most of the time our faith develops through the accumulation and culmination of lots of smaller experiences which we have in everyday life. It is through these smaller, much less spectacular everyday events which God gives that our faith is gradually strengthened and deepened bit by bit. For the disciples, who at this stage we getting used to the extra-ordinary and the spectacular, this was a critical element of faith which they needed to fully understand. God can and does act through the spectacular, but more often he acts through the everyday things of life. He uses ordinary people like ourselves who are getting on with life guided by God's precepts. The disciples needed to realise that how a believer's faith is strengthened is ultimately up to the individual themselves. There was no prayer or blessing that Jesus could give them that would deepen their faith in some mysterious way without effort, dedication and service on their part. It is a living out of God's love that Jesus demonstrated in His life and death that is the way of ever deepening faith. For the disciples and for us, that should be an encouragement. As we live out God's love, so our faith is strengthened and deepened, almost without us realising. Yes, there are things which we can do to learn more about Jesus and His love, time we can spend reflecting on the how God wants us as individuals to live out our lives of faith which will help us on that journey but ultimately it is about living our lives in a manner which is pleasing to God which will strengthen our faith. As Jesus explains to the disciples, '...to do our duty', is the way of every deepening faith.

This is the kind of faith that Paul describes in his letter to Timothy. Timothy's faith is like a family heirloom, something which is passed on through the generations. Paul, who perhaps better than anyone knows that faith is not a panacea or a cure all, calls Timothy to be a guardian of that faith. This is no mere preservation of an empty tradition, Timothy is called to live out the faith, pass it on to others and guide them in their ways too. To share both in the suffering and heartache that this might bring, but also to share in the joy and the glory of living a life of faith enabled by the Holy Spirit. Like all of us, Timothy was called to make faith relevant to the contemporary world in which he lived. A world that has both joys and sorrows, times of rejoicing and times of hardship. Above all, Timothy is called not to be ashamed of the gospel he proclaims, to live it out to the full with the boldness that comes with the confidence of knowing the transforming love of God. In the words of the writer of Lamentations, 'Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail'. *Sam Cappleman*

**Meditation** The 5 chapters of the book of Lamentations are each a poem, each one of which laments the fall of the city of Jerusalem and its destruction by Nebuchadnezzar's Babylonian army in 586 BC. Chapters 1, 2, and 4 (Poems 1, 2 and 4) are alphabetical acrostics, with each verse starting with a new letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Chapter 3, where today's Old Testament reading comes from has the same structure but with 3 verses each starting with the same letter of the Hebrew alphabet. To the people of Judah, Jerusalem was God's special city, and it was where the Temple was located, therefore its fall was seen to have far reaching implications. As the city burned, the Temple was destroyed and the people deported, understandably they believed that God had given them up to the enemy. If not, how could the current destruction have happened? It appeared that God had rejected His people. Time after time, despite the repeated warnings of the prophets and the appeals to the Jewish nation for reform, God's covenant people had broken their

faith with Him and they must now face the consequences of their actions. The symbolic fall of the Temple is the essence of what the prophet writer laments in these poems. Even today, these poems are read in Synagogues in July or August as a reminder to the fall of the Temples. Jews believe the destruction of the two Temples took place on the same day separated by around 650 years. The First Temple was built by King Solomon and destroyed when the Babylonians sacked Jerusalem in 586 BC and which is lamented in today's Old Testament reading. The Second Temple was built on the site of the First Temple. It was completed around 516 BC but destroyed during the Roman siege of Jerusalem in 70 AD. These events were so tragic that the ancient rabbis declared the anniversary of the Temples' destruction a day of mourning. Tisha B'Av, also known as The Ninth of Av, as the day falls on the ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av, and is one of the six fast days in the Jewish calendar. The Ninth of Av has also seen other tragedies befall the Jews such as the day that Jews were expelled from England in 1290, from Spain by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella in 1492, and more recently the commencement of World War I which set the stage for World War II and the Holocaust. It's also reported to be the day when in 1940 Himmler presented his plan for the Final Solution to the Jewish problem to the Nazi Party and in 1942 when the Nazis begin deporting Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto. And yet, in the midst of all this sadness, desolation and horror we see a God who does not forsake His people, a God who does restore, and a God who will never let us go, whatever the circumstances. Even as the world as they knew it was crumbling around them and being destroyed before their eyes the writer of Lamentations provides encouragement to the down-hearted, and the crushed. He states with confidence, 'The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.'

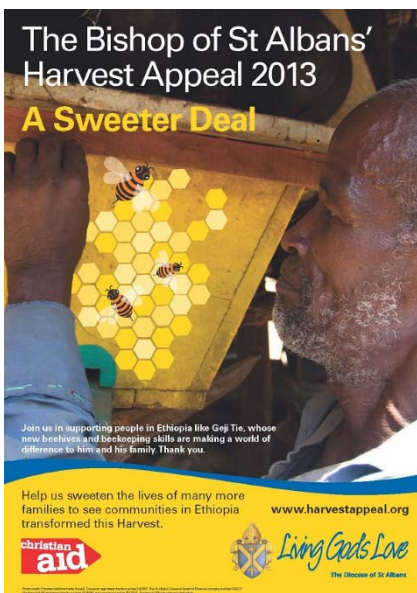
### Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Your are never tired, O Lord, of doing us good. Let us never be weary of doing you service. But as you have pleasure in the well-being of your servants, let us take pleasure in the service of our Lord and abound in your work and in your love and praise evermore. **Amen**

Holy Spirit, light up grace within us. Let us be kindling. Let us burn with love. Stir into flames your acts of love in our lives. **Amen**

Lord, help me please to always make a home for you in my heart and to receive within that home the neighbours and friends and especially the strangers whom I meet. I am grateful that you are God and that you include me in your assembly, and in your love. **Amen**

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life, perfect in you the image of His glory; and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**



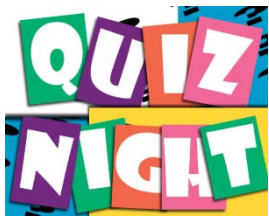
The love and affection of the angels be to you,  
 The love and affection of the saints be to you,  
 The love and affection of heaven be to you,  
 To guard you and to cherish you.  
*Originally from the Carmina Gadelica III, 207*

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If you have not already done so, please take one of our mission leaflets and envelopes and make your contribution to our mission appeal. The appeal will run until the first week of December when we will make our contribution as a church towards the Harvest Appeal 2013 'A Sweeter Deal'

### **Samaritans Purse Shoe Box Appeal 2013**

Following the success of last year's donation of 38 boxes by Messy Church and the wider congregation, we will be packing boxes at our Messy Church session on 16 October. We will be happy to accept donated items from now on. There is a box at the back of the church where you will see details of what can and cannot be put in the boxes. If you require further information please speak or phone Wendy Waters 401834 or Margaret Appleton 354708. What to give: All gifts should be new Toys: Soft (but not hand knitted stuffed), finger puppet, jigsaw, yo-yo, building blocks, small musical instruments, cars, trucks, dolls, tennis ball etc. Educational supplies: Pens, pencils, felt pens, eraser, colouring book, notepad, puzzle book etc Hygiene items: Toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, comb, hair clips, bar soap, flannel etc Other items: Gloves, hat, scarf, bangles, necklaces, sweets sell by date at least March 2014 Please do not give: Food especially chocolate, medicine, no war related items e.g. toy guns, no clothing other than hats, gloves or scarves, no fragile items, no liquids, no sharp items, no novels, nothing of a political nature, no hand knitted stuffed toys. If you do not wish to give items as above, financial contributions towards the £3 per shoe box 'shipping' cost would be appreciated.



### **Date for your Diary**

Partnership Quiz will take place at St Mark's on Saturday 16 November. Do come and make up a team.

**We're going to the Cappuccino Bar, Come and Join Us.** Putnoe Men would you be interested in joining us for a meal at a local restaurant on Tuesday 12 November. The meal will cost £15.00 for two courses including a drink. If you are interested in joining in with other men from our church for an evening of good food & fellowship please let me know as soon as possible. For further information please email me or see me after church on a Sunday morning if you have any questions. Barry Southam Leadership Team. Tel: 07860639595 or 01234 219714 Email: [barrysoutham@aol.com](mailto:barrysoutham@aol.com)

### **Do you fancy a 5 day holiday in the Lake District in early Spring next year based in Keswick?**

We have been organising UK coaching holidays from Priory Methodist Church for over 10 years and have been pleased to take people from a number of other local churches during that time. Our itinerary is designed with older folk in mind to provide an enjoyable but leisurely holiday in good quality hotel accommodation with interesting days out. It is suitable both for those who enjoy walks as well as those with more limited mobility. We are pleased to offer a limited number of places in both double and single rooms all with en suite facilities. If you would like to know more please either email us

on [johnbassill@live.co.uk](mailto:johnbassill@live.co.uk) or phone us on 07540828362. Pauline and John Bassill

### **Suitcases for Yarls Wood Immigration Removal Centre.**

Very many thanks for the 20 or so suitcases that I have already been given! My last monthly visit to Yarls Wood will be on 9 October, so if you are thinking of giving me a suitcase it would help if it was before 9 October. After that date please contact: The Miracle Church of God, Alexander Road, Bedford; or phone Miracle Church of God secretaries on 01234 215081; or Pastor Lonnie 0773889455.

**The National Methodist Youth Band** will present a concert at Priory Methodist Church on Saturday 12th of October at 7.30pm. All proceeds will go to help desperate people in Zimbabwe.

**Models Wanted** If anyone would like to sit still and be paid for it. Bedford Art Group meet at St Mark's Thursday afternoons at 2.30 - 4.30pm. And are always looking for models. For more details please contact Teresa on 01234 771418.

**Thank you** Thanks to those who attended the coffee morning at the home of Peter and Valerie Littleford on September 27th. The sum of £114.00 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support and it was good to meet up with friends

### **Job Vacancy Personal Assistant to the Superintendent Minister.**

The North Bedfordshire Circuit of the Methodist Church is seeking to appoint a part-time Personal Assistant to the Superintendent Minister. The postholder will need to be computer literate in order to provide organisational and administrative support, including diary management, handling correspondence (post, phone and emails) and dealing with documents and arrangements for meetings. The salary will be £8.55 per hour for 10 hours per week. The Methodist Church is an equal opportunities employer. For more information and an application pack please contact Mr Peter Fletcher on 01525 713243 or at [pfletcher@ormail.co.uk](mailto:pfletcher@ormail.co.uk). The closing date for applications is 1st November 2013



**When you start Christmas shopping please shop at [www. ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com)**

Thank you for shopping using the link on ThisisChurch.com to shop through Amazon. Please be careful to make sure that you never access Amazon direct but always use the link on ThisisChurch.com, this ensures we get a donation every time you make a purchase. Please also remember the Easyfundraising link. This is really a very good way to shop as it has lots of voucher codes which can save you a fortune on purchases.

## Mission Project 2013 Ethiopian Honey Appeal

Every year we have an appeal where we raise money to help people in our own community or across the world who are in need. This year we are joining with the St Albans Diocese and Christian Aid to help the Ethiopian Honey Appeal. If we help provide farmers in Ethiopia with the equipment they need to keep bees, then they will be able to make honey and enough money to be able to provide for their families and develop a sustainable community. Bees are vital pollinators; flying from flower to flower, they make connections that are fundamental to the life of our planet. The Bishop's Harvest Appeal is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our connected world and to make life changing, loving and lasting connections with people in Ethiopia. The appeal will end on December 1 - *Thank you for helping*

Please take one of Harvest Appeal leaflets with a gift aid form and donation envelope.

- £3.50 can buy a honey knife
- £14 buys a net and gloves
- £85 Pays for a modern hive
- £207 pays for a community honey extractor for harvesting honey from the hives effectively

## Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Sunday 3 November at 3.00pm

### Have you lost a loved one ?

You are invited to our service to remember and give thanks to those we have entrusted to God's safe keeping.

Release of doves in church grounds immediately before service. Children may come from 2.30pm to see the doves.

Preacher  
The Reverend Eric Royden

St Mark's Church, Calder Rise, Bedford.  
MK41 7UY [www.thisischurch.com](http://www.thisischurch.com)  
[office@thisischurch.com](mailto:office@thisischurch.com)



*A machine for processing honey*

**Ethiopia:** ending hunger Ethiopia was tragically brought to the world's attention by the devastating famine of the 1980s, when hundreds of thousands of people died. Since then, the country has often been used as shorthand for poverty. But to label Ethiopia as a hopeless case, a place where poverty and hunger are inevitable, would be a scandal. It has a rich and ancient culture, of which its people are understandably proud. While drought in Ethiopia seems like a certainty, disaster is not. In 2011 east Africa faced its worst drought in 60 years, but thanks to work by the Ethiopian Government, Christian Aid's partners and others, communities had become more resilient by then, so the outcome was that very few lives were lost in Ethiopia, even though this was a far worse drought than in the 1980s. This long-term work is helping people to grow more in the good years, to store or sell the surplus to ensure something is put by for the bad years and to invest in their future. The ultimate aim is that these communities will not merely survive in the future, but thrive.

### 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.

**Mary Robinson**

*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 Mrs Florence 'Tommy' Hulatt** will take place at St Mark's Church on Monday 7th October at 10.45am

**The funeral of Pamela Marina Wood** will take place at the Crematorium on Friday 11th October at 2.30pm