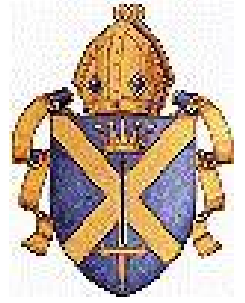




Partnership News

9 May 2010

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

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

9.30am St. Mark's – Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership – Mrs Jean Bank
Intercessions – Mrs Wendy Waters

11.00am Putnoe Heights– Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Jean Kirk
Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

16 May Seventh Sunday of Easter

9.30am St. Mark's – Holy Communion

Preacher - Mr. Michael Carr
Leadership – Mrs Laura Farthing
Intercessions – Mr Ian Farthing

11.00am Putnoe Heights– Holy Communion

Preacher – Mr. Michael Carr
Leadership - Mr. Lawrence Wyatt
Intercessions - Mrs Claire Peck

Readings 1. Acts 16: 16-34 2. Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-end.. 3. John 17 20-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 Claire and Richard Peck to celebrate a birthday.

We are grateful when people make donations towards flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion such as an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St Mark's) or Ann Hitt 404186 (Putnoe Heights) or add your name to the rota in the foyers.

Prayer for Sunday

From the throne of your glory, O Lord,
send forth your wisdom to live in our hearts,
to be at work in our lives
and to speak in our consciences,
so that all our thoughts,
all our actions and all our words
may be according to your will
and reveal the glory of your name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Aeired of Rievaulx (1109-1167)

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
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 Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417
Leadership Team Mr. Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@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 -11.45 am Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school

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

12.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing.

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 ☎07720713738.

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

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

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

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

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting May 17 Judith Stanton. ☎823313

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

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

Tuesday

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎07790296016

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

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 Sally Banks ☎ 870357

1.30pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's 4th Week in month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs Forrest ☎344043

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

2pm U3A Photography (Group 3) St Mark's 1st Week. Janet King ☎313946

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting May 11th Revd Martin Hounsfield. Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

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

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

3.45pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎295862 or 07917582468.

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

6.30pm Yoga Putnoe Heights Veronica Lafferty ☎781466 or 07788750360

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

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

7.30pm Hearts in Beds. Cardiac Support Group 1st Tuesday in the month. Brian Ibberson ☎403497

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

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting May 18 'Ghost Stories' Mr. & Mrs. Paul. 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 Sewing & Chat. Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966

10am U3A Card Making, St Mark's Church. 4th week in the month. Janet King ☎313946

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - May 11 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

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

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

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

1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft St Mark's 1st & 3rd week. Pat Holland ☎262823

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

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

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

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138 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 19 May. Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Alan ☎ 345312.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 in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen ☎343424 .

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. Emma Strangwick ☎211070

11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau at 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.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

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 Caroline Morgan ☎07786508351

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Mark's 2nd & 2th 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

8.00pm 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. Julie 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

5pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve

Whitehead ☎356875

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

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

6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship & fun.



St Mark's Church Council – 22 June, 8 November.

St Mark's Leadership Team –

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – 7 June at the Manse, 18 October

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting ; 24 May

St Mark's Church Forum Meeting -

Putnoe Church Council - 21 June, 25 October.

Pastoral Group Meeting -

Churchyard Committee - 26 May at 11am.

Putnoe Heights Mission Group—9th June 7.30 14 Flint Way

Partnership Council—TBA

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings

Deanery Meeting - 5 May, 17 June.

Circuit Property/Treasurers Meeting

Circuit Meeting

Woodland Burial Trustees – Sunday 16th May AGM

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Opening Verse of Scripture

You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Ps 118 v 18

Collect Prayer for the Day *Before we read we pray:*

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading – Acts 16 v 9 – 15

During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day on to Neapolis. From there we travelled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days. On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshipper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. When she and the members of her household were baptised, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us. (Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. All: **Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading – Revelation Chapter 21:10, 22- 22:5

And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendour into it. On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. The glory and honour of the nations will be brought into it. Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever (Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. All: **Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading – John 14:23-29

Jesus said, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. "All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave



**The Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send
in my name, will teach
you everything, and remind
you of all that
I have said to you.**

John 14.26

with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. "You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe." (Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God)

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen

Hymns - (Please distribute Mission Praise and Morning Worship)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Come down O love divine, 89 | |
| 2. Fear not, rejoice and be glad, 144 | Send forth your Spirit, Lord, |
| 3. Breathe on me breath of God, 67 | and renew the face of the earth. |
| 4. Meekness and majesty, 465 | |
| 5. Christ triumphant, ever reigning, 77 | |

Commentary The Presence of God

In the reading from Acts we see that Luke now joins Paul in his travels ('we got ready at once') and together they start the expansion of the gospel mission to Europe by coming over to Macedonia. Paul's normal practice was to visit a synagogue when he first arrived in a new location, where a quorum of ten men was required for prayer and worship. In Philippi Paul expects to find such a venue by the river but rather than finding a synagogue with ten men, he finds an informal gathering of gentile women in what appears to be an group meeting for prayer. One of the women who listened to Paul was a believer called Lydia, a dealer in purple cloths, a merchant, someone who is relatively wealthy and, for a woman, someone who is probably reasonably positioned in society. It would appear Lydia and the other women with her were worshippers of God, non Jews who had embraced something of the Jewish faith but had not converted fully to Judaism. These God Fearers, as they were known, were Gentiles who had adopted components of the Jewish faith, such as its code of morality, and in all probability attended synagogue services. They remained a gentile community and, in general, had no desire to submit in full to all the Jewish rituals and regulations, such as Sabbath observance and circumcision. Such practices remained largely unattractive to Gentile believers but because they restricted themselves to only specific points of the ceremonial law, they were not only regarded as a gentile community, they were seen as outsiders by the broader Jewish community. When Paul comes and speaks to the group of women its perhaps not surprising that his message of an invitation to a relationship with God through salvation in Christ, without the harsh constraints of the Jewish religion, falls on receptive ears. Lydia responds to Paul's message and invited Paul and Luke to stay in her household. Whatever she may have believed and practiced before, she becomes a convert to the Christian religion. No longer would Lydia be on the outside looking in on her religion. The relationship she could now enjoy with God, her religion and her spirituality would be at the very core of her being. God Himself was a reality to her. The signs of religious observance had been transformed by the reality and presence of God in her life. Moreover, it's clear that many of the communities and individuals known as God Fearers were to become a critical group in the development, growth and expansion of the early church. Lydia's conversion was no one off experience many others with similar beliefs and backgrounds would convert to the Christian faith.

We need to be clear. This was not a case of Lydia being convinced by Paul's slick rhetoric, as gifted a public speaker as he was. Whilst not being a great diplomat, Paul may have made a great politician and convincing argument was his stock in trade. But we are clearly told that it wasn't that Lydia was convinced by Paul's arguments, but that God opened Lydia's heart to respond to what she was hearing from Paul. The Holy Spirit which Jesus speaks about in John was in action. Similarly we need not be concerned about our own powers of persuasion and

debate when we are speaking to others about God, we simply need to be able to explain our faith in understandable and cogent terms and let the Holy Spirit open the hearts of those to whom we speak so that they too can respond in the same manner as Lydia and God can become a reality for them.

The reading from Revelation speaks about a new heaven and a new earth, the city of Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. And it's a Jerusalem without the Temple – a statement of huge significance. The Temple, and before that the tent of the Tabernacle, had for generations been the sign of God's presence with His people. Now there is no need for a sign as God Almighty and the Lamb are there, the sign has given way and been replaced by the reality. The access to the tree of life, which had been denied from the fall onwards, has now been reinstated. Humanity will never again be remote from the reality of God. In John's Gospel too, Jesus asks His followers to obey His teaching. To make God present for others as He has done for His followers whilst on earth.

Sometimes with all the paraphernalia of our religions we can get caught up in the outward signs which represent God and the salvation that was brought by the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus. Many can get enchanted by the beguiling attraction of the signs and power of the Holy Spirit which enables us to live our daily lives. These outward signs and symbols can be very helpful and assist us in understanding who God is and what He has done for us. Help us understand the power and majesty of a saviour who is fully God yet fully human. Ultimately however, what really matters is the inward reality of God in our lives and the lives of others. How we experience God day by day as we seek to be transformed ourselves and through us allow God to transform the world as Lydia and many of the God Fearers around her came to understand. *Sam Cappleman*

Meditation

Honesty and integrity are highly prized. We're often challenged to 'keep our word', to follow through on the things to which we have committed. In John's gospel the command is not to 'keep our word' but to 'keep God's word'. To obey God's teaching as exemplified by Christ. To enable us to do this Jesus then promises the Holy Spirit, a divine indwelling through which we are re-created as people able to live and love as Jesus himself did. As God's new creations we are imbued with an inner power, hope and confidence which enables us to live out that life which reflects the glory of God in the world and demonstrates His love and peace for all people. Jesus knows that to do so will involve stepping out in faith, speaking out when sometimes we'd prefer to keep quiet and say nothing. That's why He also reminds the disciples that they have no need to fear, God will be with them, and as they live out their lives in obedience to Him, so they will know the peace that only God can bring. We do not know what turbulent times there may be in the future, both in this country and abroad, but we do know that Jesus has promised His Holy Spirit to His obedient people that they may know the peace that only He can bring.

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

God of glory, as you made yourself present in the person of Your Son, grant that we, through the presence of the Holy Spirit, may be your presence and glory in the world, that through you and obedience to your precepts all nations would know your lasting peace and hope. Amen

All shall be Amen and Alleluia. We shall rest and we shall see, we shall see and we shall know, we shall know and we shall love, we shall love and we shall praise. Behold our end which is no end. Amen *St Augustine*

At Easter we rejoice in the salvation of the world. Christ is risen; let us arise in him! Christ enters new life; let us live in him! Christ has come forth from the tomb; Let us shake off the fetters of evil! The gates of hell are open, the powers of evil are overcome! In Christ a new creation is coming to birth, Alleluia! Lord make us new, Alleluia! Amen

Living God, you have given us an eternal and 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 in your eternal life, worshipping you for ever at your throne in heaven. Amen

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight; and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen

BEH Women's Network Spring Craft Day will be held on Saturday 15 May 9.45am to 4.30pm at Priory Methodist Church. A chance to learn a new skill to discover hidden talents and to share together creatively. For details of workshops and a booking form please contact Pam Seymour (305695) or Ann Hitt (404186). Closing date of booking 8 May 2110

The Partnership Lunch Club, fortnightly Wednesdays at Putnoe, urgently needs an additional driver to bring less mobile folk to lunch (a previous appeal did yield a reserve driver thank you). If you can help it would greatly ease the load on the team, please contact Peta Pearson 356878.

House Group to meet at 13 Farnham Way Putnoe on Mondays at 7.45pm on 10 & 17 May, 14, 21 June and 12 July. We will be using the York Course 'When I survey .. Christ's cross and ours'. For more information contact Wendy Waters 01234 401834.



Sunday morning Taxi Service St Mark's is now providing a taxi service for the 9.30am service. This service is free of charge for those who have difficulty transporting themselves to

Church. To book this service all that you have to do is to telephone St Mark's Church Office during the week before 1.00pm on Friday. We will then arrange to have you collected by our driver, it is as simple as that!

If you require any more information please speak with Avril Williams 360605

For Sale 5' x 3' wooden trailer, complete with cover and spare wheel. Ideal for camping. £200 ono Donation to church funds. More details Laurie Holyoak Bedford 341228.

CAB run an advice session at the Putnoe Heights Children's Centre. It's from 11-12 on a Thursday morning and is a drop in service.

Holy Communion at Sir William Harpur House. There is a service of Holy Communion on the first Monday of every month at 10.00am at Sir William Harpur House. All are welcome to attend this service

Puttenhoe Residential Home. Would you be interested in joining a group of people to help provide some worship at Puttenhoe? They have asked us to consider how we might be able to support the provision for the residents of a short service including some hymn singing, readings etc. If you are interested please speak with one of the ministers or any member of the Leadership Team



St Albans Woodland Burial Ground Open Day
Saturday 15 May 2010
2.00pm - 5.00pm

You are invited by the Trustees to a special open day at our woodland, set in 60 acres of beautiful countryside. All the family, including dogs, are welcome to come and refreshments will be provided.

Our third Open Day in June 2009 was an astonishing success attracting visitors from across the region, we hope that you will come along to our next. The woodland is now looking beautiful and you will have the opportunity to ask questions and reserve burial plots. Even those who would prefer cremation have asked for plots for the burial of ashes. Please remember that the woodland is always open to visitors and we welcome people to come and visit.

Can you help? Offers of help with catering beforehand or on the day would be greatly appreciated.

Sunday Afternoon tea and cakes. £2.00 in aid of Action for Children will be held at St. Mark's Church on 23rd May 2-4pm in the Wren Room. All are welcome. If you have a home collecting box, please bring this for opening and counting the money. Thank you. Margaret Standley.

Amphill and District Churches Together Choir present Greater Than Gold (the story of Mary Jones and her Bible) on Sunday 16th May in Amphill Methodist Church at 6.30pm. Also at Bunyan Meeting on Sunday 9th May at 6.30pm. Margaret and Eddy Peck

St. Mark's Preschool Open Day is being held on Saturday 15 May from 2 until 4pm. Activities for children, face painting, coffee and cakes. Families welcome. Telephone 01234 342634.

Brickhill Parish Council

Find out about our ideas to produce a parish plan. Have your say on the future of Brickhill. Thursday 13 May at 7.00pm. We will be joined by the Mayor of Bedford Borough Dave Hodgson. For further information contact Delia Shephard on 01234 271708

Thank You. Many thanks to all of those who gave up their bank holiday to help with the car boot sale. A magnificent £976 profit was made £8 more than the last time. We are very grateful to all of those who help support this event in any way, these funds are a valuable support for our church finances.

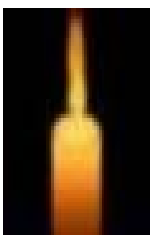


Christian Aid week 9th-15th May. Collecting packs are available today in the Welcome Area at both churches. We welcome new collectors. For more information
St Mark's John Harrison
Putnoe Carolyn 350722, storyboxplus@aol.com.

Christian Aid Prayer for 2010

Because we know you love everyone on your earth, we pray to you.
 Because we know that all people deserve to live with dignity, we pray to you.
 Because we know that the privilege of our birthplace
 has given us rights and comforts that
 others are denied, we pray to you.

And our prayer is this:
 Move us to action. Move us to real generosity.
 Move us to bring in your Kingdom.



Visit our online chapel, Light a Candle of Remembrance. We have now provided the opportunity to visit our online chapel and light a prayer candle. Please visit www.thischurch.com and click on the candle.



Please don't forget to buy what you need at Amazon. Free delivery . Remember, never click on Amazon direct, always click on Amazon via the link at thischurch.com, then we obtain 5%

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 Mr Raymond Bean will take place at Bedford Crematorium on 13 May at 10.45am

The funeral of Phyllis Naylor Reynolds will take place at Putnoe Heights Church at 1.00pm on Tuesday 25 May

The funeral of Pauline Winifred Reissland will take place at St Mark's Church at 3.30pm on Wednesday 19 May