



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

10 December 2006

2nd Sunday in Advent—Christingle

Methodist Church & the Church of England in Partnership at both
Putnoe Heights Church & St. Mark's Church



Church of
England

Church Services Today

8.30 Holy Communion at St Mark's Church

9.30am St Mark's - Family Christingle

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership - Mrs Linda Parry

Intercessions - Mrs Morag Stewart

11.00am Putnoe - Family Christingle

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mrs Wendy Nash

Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

17 December

8.30 Holy Communion at Putnoe Heights Church

9.30am St Mark's - Holy Communion

Preacher - Mr John Stubbs

Leadership - Mrs Avril Williams

Intercessions - Mrs Margaret Appleton

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher - Mr John Stubbs

Leadership Team - Mr Dave Allen

Intercessions - Mr Alan Bayliss

Reading 1 : Zephaniah 3: 14 - 20

Reading 2 : Philippians 4: 4 - 7

Reading 3 : Luke 3: 7 - 18

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Vin and Pearl James on the occasion of their wedding anniversary.

Prayer for Sunday

Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit
upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do seek quiet
spaces to hear your voice each day.
We who are anxious over many things
look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy
seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people
, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.
To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen.

Henri J.M. Nouwen

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR

266952 Fax- 402624 NSM@ThisisChurch.com

(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.

Home 344536 Crossley@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

309175 Mobile 07973 113861 vicar@thisisChurch.com

Partnership Youth and Children's Worker

Mrs Liz Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

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

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am—5pm Monday to Friday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss 268101

Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

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

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

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day 295592

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

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

8.30 - 5.30 pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634**

(See website for more details)

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

Mini-Strikers Sport for Children at Putnoe aged 2-4 years. Contact Andy Carey 01908 313751 or 07766 142754, or www.ministrikers.co.uk

12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz on 01234 302349

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

4pm Monday Club at St. Marks for 3—8 year olds meet at 3.30. for refreshments , between 4 & 5 Bible story, craft activities & songs. Lots of fun. Contact Liz 302349

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

4.15 - 6.00pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Penny Fulham 406045

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

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

7.15pm Yoga at Putnoe Heights Church. Contact Karen Simpson 244970

7.30pm Creative Needles at Putnoe Heights. Jacky Hayward 307648. New members welcome.

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month next 18 December Contact Judith Stanton. 823313

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

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

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework) at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203

10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230

1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime at Putnoe Heights. Geraldine Skeel 406828

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

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. at Putnoe Heights meets monthly. Contact Morag Tompkins 356895

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 9 January 2007 Contact Betty Wyatt

350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting. Contact Lawrence Wyatt 350188.

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

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. For details of next meeting contact Mary Stubbs 406784.

3.45 - 5.30pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 0582468.

6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Rachel Leontyne 783129

7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit at St. Mark's - Jan Gregory 214107.

Tuesday - 7pm-9pm MT Karate [all ages] at Putnoe Heights. Please

contact Karen King 07941 264885

7.00 - 10pm Card Makers Club meets fortnightly at St Mark's. Carol Houghton 346718

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

7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 12 December Members Christmas meeting. Contact Madge Walsh 359088

8.30pm St Mark's Church Qi Gong. Contact Mrs D Steele 356384

Wednesday

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

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

9.00 a.m. Clubhouse at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Contact Karen Bywater 315460.

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

10am Sewing & Chat Putnoe Heights Contact Valerie Russell 01462 815966

10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights - For details of next meeting Contact Audrey Hancock 365915.

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. For details of next meeting 13 December contact Putnoe 365630

1 - 3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.30 - 4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired at St. Mark's. Mrs Truss Boyce 781133

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

4.15pm - 6pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

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

6.15pm - 7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation at Putnoe Heights. contact Racheall Monton 01234 297138

6.30 - 7.30 at St Mark's Karate contact Karen 079412 64885
7.00pm Bunyan Bridge at St. Mark's. Brian Sallows 407725
7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Contact Sylvia Woods 365095
7pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Janice Loxley 347073
7.45pm Badminton Club at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group at Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*
9.30am Jo Jingles at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips 01582 485333
9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970
1.30pm - 3.00pm Clinic at St. Mark's 267444
12pm Story box St Mark's Church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz Spavins on 302349
1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime at Putnoe Geraldine Skeel 406828
1.30pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group. Debbie Coppenhall 356828.
2pm - Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer 345991
4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights for 4-11 year old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church on the 1st Sunday of each month Lots of fun And it's free! Liz Spavins 302349
5.30 - 7.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.
6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.
6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Helga Nash 218521
6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's Mr & Mrs Pike 823795
7pm Street Dance at Putnoe Heights. Contact Curtis Ritchie 349255 or 07984 525147
7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Mrs M White 404992
7.30pm - 11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club at St Mark's Mr P Housden 376597
7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild at St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby 344442
7.30 - 9.30 Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Bible Studies every 2 Thursday- Pastor Tarr 360188
8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle at St Mark's 1st Thursday each month. Mr Broadhouse 740271

Friday

9.00 am Clubhouse at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.
1.30 - 2pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe.

Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468
2pm U3A Gardening Group at Putnoe Heights Contact Eve Whitehead 356875
7 - 10pm Bedford Arts Society meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Contact Malcolm Smith 01234 400741
7.30pm Youth Club for age 13-18 at St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey 349179

Saturday

9.30 - 11.30am Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468
10.00am - 1.00pm Theatretrain at St Mark's - dancing acting, singing. - Kate Randle 01234 782414
5 - 7pm Bethesda Church . Contact Pastor Denis Baka 07944 749357
7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge at St Mark's Contact Ann or Peter 212066

Sunday

Junior Church with crèche for under 3's
9.30 - 10.30 at St.Mark's
11-12 at Putnoe Heights.
1 - 4pm Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 360188 Mob. 07866775515
6-7.30pm T.N.T. for 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. At Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349.
6 -7.30pm T.X.T for 13 + fortnightly , join us for fellowship , debate & discussion at Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council -6th February 07
Circuit Meeting -
St Mark's Leadership Team - 22nd January 07
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -
 19 February 2007 at Wendy's house
St Mark's Church Management Meeting -
 12.30pm 6 December
Putnoe Heights Centre Management - 15 January
Putnoe Church Council 29 January 07
Pastoral Group Meeting - 31 January 07
Churchyard Committee - 15 February 07
Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting - 7.30pm
 17 January 07, at 14 Flint Way
Partnership Council - 20 February 07 at St Mark's
Brickhill Parish Council - 30 Nov 06
Deanery Meeting
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth—

Calendar dates appear on our church website www.ThisChurch.com. Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.

Second Sunday in Advent - Christingle

Verse of Scripture - Luke Chapter 3

'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'

Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

O Lord, raise up we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord., to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen. *Common Worship*

First Bible Reading - Malachi Chapter 3:1-4

"See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty. But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

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

Second Reading - Philippians Chapter 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart; for whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ--to the glory and praise of God.

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

Third Reading - Luke Chapter 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar--when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene--during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God's salvation.'"

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

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Hymns (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms & Morning Worship)

1. Come thou long expected Jesus **81**
2. How lovely on the mountains (Order of service)
3. The orange of Christingle (Order of service)
4. O come, o come, Immanuel **85**
5. Tell out my soul **86**

Commentary

John, son of Zechariah, was a powerful and charismatic figure. His preaching of the gospel of repentance, followed by cleansing in a river, had made him famous over the whole region. Followers flocked to hear his hard-line preaching on the destructive nature of sin and the need for spiritual renewal. All the writers of the Gospels mention John the baptiser and strive to make clear his deference to Jesus. There were many at the time who thought that it might be John who was the Messiah, not his cousin Jesus of Nazareth. John, by quoting the prophet Isaiah, was placing himself in a supporting role to Jesus. He was the last in the succession of prophets to foretell the coming of Jesus. John was happy to be a prophet among prophets and to help his generation understand the significance of the coming of the Lord. John is of great help to us as we think about the coming of the Lord at Christmas. He emphasises the need for examination of the soul, of purification and repentance. The prophet Malachi (the name is a pen-name, meaning "the messenger") foretells the coming of John the Baptist as one who makes straight the way for the greater One who is to follow, again reminding us that spiritual preparation is not to be ignored or passed over. In the verse from Luke's gospel we get the image of the voice crying in the wilderness, or desert, a place of barrenness and desolation. This is a vivid image of a world without love and faith. Into that cruel emptiness comes the light of Jesus. But we must prepare our hearts and minds for his Coming. Joan Crossley

Meditation

How can **we** prepare spiritually for the coming of the Lord at Christmas? You will be glad, but not surprised, to know that I am not suggesting anything too rigorous. Where our ancestors would have fasted and attended services of penitence, we just sing carols and cook and shop in the run-up to Christmas. But we could do worse. The hymns of Advent are wonderful prayers in themselves and we can use them in our personal devotions. In my sermon this morning I shall be studying "Oh come, oh come Immanuel". We could also usefully turn to another Advent hymn "Come thou long expected Jesus". Charles Wesley with typical economy of words (notice the short lines and crisp poetry) sums up in a very few words the significance of the coming of Jesus, the liberator, the comforter, the deliverer. The hymn is a great invitation to the Lord to enter our hearts and minds. We can make that space ready in our hearts, in our lives and pray for Jesus to come to us.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Lord Jesus Christ, make me a gossip of the gospel. Help me to share good news with those who are low-spirited, to speak words of comfort to those who are broken hearted, to give hope of freedom to those who are oppressed and to remind those who despair in our world that you have come into it, so that through your love, the world might be saved. May my words and actions help to convince others that they are loved by you, for your sake, Amen (Pauline Webb, "Called to Prayer" Methodist Publishing House 2001)

Eternal God, born into one place and time for the sake of every place and time, wherever you live you are already there waiting to be discovered in the adventure of reality, give us discernment to follow your tracks through the cutting edge of culture and the voices of our times. Make us bold to step outside our old religious comforts, to live and build your kingdom with the stuff that's all around us. (Steve Collins)

Father of lights, from whom comes every good and perfect gift: keep us in the light of Christ, to shine in your world, that all may believe in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Second Candle - Jesus the Prince of Peace

The prophets who foretold the birth of Jesus

Leader: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

All Thanks be to God

Leader: Today is the Second Sunday of Advent, we remind ourselves of our Saviour Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Last Sunday we lit the first candle in our Advent Wreath, and celebrated the promises spoken in the Old Testament of one who would be born a king in the line of King David. *(A person now lights the first candle, Jesus Son of David)*

Today, as we light the second candle of Advent, we remember Jesus the Prince of Peace. Isaiah the prophet spoke of one who would come, a king in the line of King David. "the Prince of Peace".

Scripture Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Commentary

When Jesus came he taught people the importance of being peacemakers. He said that those who make peace shall be called the children of God. When Christ comes to us he brings us peace and he will bring everlasting peace when he comes again in glory.

(A person now lights the second candle, Jesus the Prince of Peace)

As we light this candle we remind ourselves that only through Jesus is true peace found.

Leader: Jesus is the Prince

All: Jesus the name high over all

Leader: Let us pray

All: Lord Jesus, Light of the World, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people from trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmastide. We ask that as we wait for you to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your peace with each other. We ask this prayer in the name of Jesus, the name above all names. Amen.



Chairs for St Mark's Chapel. It has been agreed that we should purchase new chairs for the chapel at St Mark's. These will be solid wood frames with a blue/mauve cushion. Since some people may wish to donate a chair in memory of a loved one, we are inviting people to kindly consider donating a chair. Each chair will be inscribed with an individual named plaque. If you wish to purchase a chair and have a personal plaque inscribed, at a cost of **£60 inclusive**. please see one of the Clergy or Leadership Team. This scheme will be kept open until all chairs have been dedicated with a plaque.



Garden of Remembrance Extension.

Work is now underway to extend the Garden of Remembrance at St Mark's. A new pathway is being made from the front of the church using land acquired from Bedford Borough Council. A beautiful lych gate will be built at the front of the church and pathways created through newly planted areas. A granite wall will be constructed to be used for the interment of caskets. There will be new water fountains and special features. The total cost of the work will be about £65,000 and donations will be gratefully received by the treasurer John Day. Tel: 359529

News and Information

Name labels at Putnoe. In the next few weeks we will be inviting everyone to wear name badges in church. This is to increase our sense of fellowship and to make sure we know one another better. We shall be inviting those who are not yet church members to take a membership form and to consider taking on this deeper commitment to the church.. Joan

Concord singers Christmas concerts. Saturday 16 December, 7.30pm, at St Mary's Church Cardington, in aid of the church organ fund. Tickets £8 including refreshments. Saturday 23 December, 7.30pm, at St Mary's Church Oakley. Tickets £7.50 including refreshments.

4th Putnoe Brownies are looking to recruit new members. Meeting Thursday, term time, between 18.15 and 19.45. Large Hall at Putnoe Heights.

Tuesday Club - Our Christmas Celebration is at Putnoe on Tuesday 12th December at 7.45pm. This will be an open meeting, so all are welcome. There will be an entry fee of £1 which includes refreshments. We will also have a collection for BECHAR (a charity for Bedford homeless).

British Cardiac Patients Association next meeting Thursday 21 December at 7.30pm at Putnoe Heights. This will be a Christmas Party with entertainment by Bedford Town Band. Everyone is welcome to come and join us, please bring a wine glass. There will be a raffle and refreshments. More details, contact Eileen Marriott 303834.

Kempston Musical Society Christmas Concerts. Saturday 16 December at 7.30pm at Kempston East Methodist Church, also featuring Kempston Junior Concert Band.. Monday 18 December at 7.30pm at Elstow Abbey in aid of The Friends of Elstow Abbey. More details for both concerts from 01234 268101

Kisiizi Mission Project Update Thank you all for an outstanding response to the Kisiizi Mission Project. Including coffee mornings and gift aid we have raised just over £4825 - an absolutely amazing total, to which will be added the contents of the Smartie Tubes and the proceeds from the Christmas Voices evening on 8 December at 7 pm. Through this total we are able to provide months of support for nurses, doctors and drugs to Kisiizi. It is a fantastic achievement. We'll update you when we have the final total. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Magnet Some members in Putnoe Heights and St Mark's Churches enjoy the 'Magnet ' magazine. It costs £2 quarterly or £8 annually. This is the time of

year when the 2007 magazines are ordered. Please contact Mrs Hilda Hicks or Mrs Margaret Standley to order your copies before the 18th December. If you find it difficult to read now and would prefer it in tape form quarterly, that can be arranged.

Could you give a child a chance? Integrated Services Programme (ISP) is an independent, childcare organisation providing foster care to children with a wide range of emotional and behavioural needs. They are currently looking to expand into Bedfordshire and the surrounding areas. ISP looks after children from many different ethnic and cultural backgrounds including white UK, African, African-Caribbean, Asian and dual heritage. They offer full training, 24 hour support and a professional fee from £433 per week. For an information pack please contact their Chesham Team on 01494 792999 or 0800 085 7989 or visit www.ispchildcare.org.uk

Putnoe Provender –at last Sunday's sale the sum of £180-45 was raised for the Kisiizi Hospital Appeal. Many thanks to all who supported the sale. John and Sally Gunning.

Footprints New Years Day Walk Monday 1.1.07 at 10.30am. Meet at Milton Earnest Garden Centre for coffee followed by an easy circular walk suitable for all the family (some stiles) Option for a pub lunch afterwards. Contact

Carols in the Car Park

Carols in the car park next Saturday 16 December at 6.30pm with Bedford Town Brass Band at St Mark's

How will we see? We will have lights but if in doubt bring a torch.

How long ? It will last for up to an hour depending on how cold we get.

Will we get hungry ? We will be serving free mince pies and mulled wine throughout the service

What if I can only come for half an hour Feel free to come and go as you please.

Can I bring my car ? If you would like guaranteed parking and you have disabled badge—(or a good excuse) please telephone St Mark's office and we will reserve a parking place for you. You can even stay in the comfort of your car to listen to Christmas cheer.

Christmas Paper Delivery

Thank you to everybody who has helped us deliver Christmas papers. Please keep up the good work and help us to finish off every home this week.

Storybox at St Marks Thank you to all the ladies who support our under 5 group each week, making the sandwich lunch on a Thursday. This group has been going for two years now and some of our volunteers feel it is time to move on from catering, so we are now looking for some new people to join us in the New Year. Please see Liz, Joan or Janet for more details. Also if any one feels they would like to join the storytelling rota, please ask for details. Our Storybox group at St Mark's attracts approx. 30 children with their carers each week and remains a very important part of our church work.

Priory Methodist Church Christmas Tree & Crib Festival 15 - 17 December. Friday 15 : 11.30 - 8pm, Saturday 16 : 10.30 - 6pm, Sunday 17 : 12 - 4pm. Admission £2 includes light refreshments, (Accompanied children under 16 free) Proceeds to be shared between Kariburi Trust & Church Development Projects.



Woodland Burial. Progress is being made on establishing the woodland burial site at Keysoe. A booklet is now available which can be downloaded from the church website, www.thischurch.com/woodland. Alternatively contact our administrator Mrs Linda Parry at St Mark's Church office or by Email, woodland@thischurch.com

Books. Please save your books for our Mission Group Book Sale, planned for the end of February at Putnoe Heights Church. More details in the New Year, Sylvia Cohen 34342

Please Order your presents through Amazon

Amazon.co.uk sell everything, with free delivery and really low prices. When you access Amazon through thischurch.com we receive a percentage of the cost usually 5%. Please only ever access Amazon directly through the link on thischurch.com

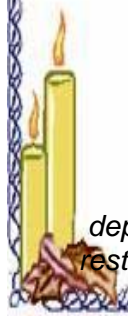
Please order now for Christmas!



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.

**Roy Frederick Hudson
Dorothy Joy Hudson**



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



Rest in Peace

The Funeral of Mrs Eva May Norman will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 15 December at 1.45pm *Royden*

The Funeral of Mr Cyril Janes will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 12 December at 10.45am *Royden*