



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

## 11 November

### Remembrance Sunday



Church of  
England

#### Partnership Church Services Today

**8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday**  
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights  
2nd and 4th Sunday at St. Mark's Church

#### Today 11 November – Remembrance Sunday

**9.30am St Mark's – Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership - Mrs Jean Bank  
Intercessions – Mr Warwick Holden  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership – Mr Gordon Evans  
Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

#### Sunday 18 November

**9.30 St Marks's – Holy Communion**  
Preacher - Revd Charles Royden  
Leadership - Mrs Morag Stewart  
Intercessions - Ministers  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion**  
Preacher - Revd Charles Royden  
Leadership - Mrs Jean Kirk  
Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes

**Readings 1 Daniel 12: 1-3 .2. Hebrews 10: 11-14 and 19-25 3. Mark 13:1-8**

**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 Doreen Denny in loving memory of her husband Len.

**The flowers at St Mark's Church this week** have been given by Elizabeth Bean and Family in loving memory of Phil.

**The flowers in St. Mark's Chapel** have been given by Gill Williams in memory of David on his birthday.

#### Prayer for Sunday

Be to us, O Lord,  
the affection of our hearts,  
the closest of our companions,  
our everlasting love,  
our enduring happiness  
and the fulfilment of all our desires.  
Through your Spirit,  
create in us holy fire and purity of life,  
that loving you above all things and our  
neighbours ardently, we may come at last to  
the glories of your everlasting kingdom;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen  
*Thomas a Kempis, 1380-1471*

#### The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

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

#### Deacon Jane Mills

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

**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](http://www.ThisChurch.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. Jean Kirk 317699  
**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** - Morag Stewart 360103

# 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

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)

**2.00pm U3A Relaxation & Meditation** at St Mark's 1st & 3rd week starting 1st October (see contact details below)

**12.15pm Story box** Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12.15 and 1.15 for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Carolyn Morris [youth@thischurch.com](mailto:youth@thischurch.com) 365630

**1.30-2.45pm Chat and 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) . Restarts on 10 September

**2.00pm U3A History Group** St Mark's (see contact details below)

**2pm U3A Music Appreciation** - (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

**66.15pm Fit for Life Yoga** - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher ☎07891879571

**6.30pm Boot Camp** - Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081

**Zumba** - Explosion Fitness—Putnoe Heights - Sam Baptista 07402965490

**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– 19 November Judith Stanton. ☎823313

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

**7.45pm Opus Choir** at St Mark's Mrs Sutherland ☎269100

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

## Tuesday

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

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

**9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's. Helen 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 Group.** St Mark's (see contact 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 below)

**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.

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

**6.15pm 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

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

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

**7pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Sacha Ojo ☎07590597891 or

[www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk](http://www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk) **Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting Tuesday 13 November - AGM and Quiz Details call Janet King 313946

**8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers**

**Workshop** St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

## Wednesday

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

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

**9.30am Discovery & 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 details 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 Heights (see contact details below)

**11am U3A Keep Fit.** - Putnoe Heights

**12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 21 November 2012 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**

**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 21 November. 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.

**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. Sylvia Woods 365095

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

**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** at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be 21 November Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Valmai ☎219555 Rosemary ☎405594 or Graham ☎406359 for more details.

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

### Thursday

**9.30am Thursday Prayer Group.** Putnoe Heights.

Valerie Capon ☎356306 No meeting on 1 November.

*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 term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Jo Garner ☎400071 or ☎07719670624

**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 (large hall) Children's Chatty Time** 0-5 years, Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information ☎340552.

**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. (see contact details below)

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

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

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

**7.00pm Club 2000** Putnoe Heights 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

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

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

**8.00pm Magpies Women's Group** St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Pat Cass ☎294220

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

### Friday

**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

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

**6.00-7.00pm Zumba at St Mark's.** Contact Denise Worker ☎07900 232648

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

**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

**6.45pm Duplicate Bridge.** St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

### Sunday

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** – 19 Feb,11 June

**St Mark's Leadership Team** - 22 January

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** - 5 February

**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting** 24 January

**Putnoe Church Council** - 19 February

**Pastoral Group Meeting** - 5 February

**Churchyard Committee** -

**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings** -

**Commemoration Service** 4 November3.00pm

**Circuit meeting** - 7 February

**Deanery Meeting** - 16 November

**Woodland Burial Trustees**—

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting** -

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

# Remembrance Sunday

## Opening Verse of Scripture -

Isaiah 40.31

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary they shall walk and not faint.



## Collect Prayer

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

## First Bible Reading –Micah 4: 1-8

In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and peoples will stream to it. Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Every man will sit under his own vine and under his own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the LORD Almighty has spoken. All the nations may walk in the name of their gods; we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever. "In that day," declares the LORD, "I will gather the lame; I will assemble the exiles and those I have brought to grief. I will make the lame a remnant, those driven away a strong nation. The LORD will rule over them in Mount Zion from that day and forever. As for you, O watchtower of the flock, O stronghold of the Daughter of Zion, the former dominion will be restored to you; kingship will come to the Daughter of Jerusalem. (This is the word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God**)

## Second Bible Reading - Romans 8:31-end

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered. "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

## Gospel Reading - 1 Corinthians 15: 50-end

I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed-- in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O

death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.

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

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you not only with our lips but in our lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Hymns** (*Please distribute special service sheet* )

1. Judge eternal, throned in splendour, 395;
2. The National Anthem
3. I vow to thee my country
4. Blest are the pure in heart
5. All my hope on God is founded

### **Remembrance Sunday Mediation**

#### **In Flanders Fields**

In Flanders fields the poppies blow, between the crosses, row on row,  
that mark our place; and in the sky, the larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago, we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie, in Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch, be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die

We shall not sleep, though poppies grow, in Flanders fields. *John McCrae*

### **Commentary Working with God for Peace**

Micah knew all about war. He was a prophet around 860 – 750 BC in the Southern Kingdom of Judah. He was contemporary with Amos and Hosea in the Northern Kingdom of Israel and with Isaiah in Jerusalem in the Southern Kingdom. His message and vision (Micah 1 v 1) is for the two capital cities of these Kingdoms, Samaria and Jerusalem, warning them about the threat from the Assyrians: to both the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah. He was probably describing events from first-hand experience. In 722 BC the Assyrians destroyed Samaria (in the North) and 20 years later attacked Jerusalem, only for the city to escape by a miracle. Micah almost certainly lived through both of these events and was deeply affected by them. The alliance the Northern Kingdom of Israel had formed with Syria to try to hold back the Assyrians had failed. It was a painful time for Micah. Not only did this involve heavy fighting but also a 3 year siege of Samaria, after which his records show 27,290 people were deported to Persia and repopulated the land with colonists from Babylonia, Elam and, of course, Syria. But Micah wasn't even particularly focused with the political landscape; he was more concerned with the social injustices he saw, especially between the rich and the poor. And for Micah, not only was there the horror of living through war, he also experienced a lost generation, in his case the 10 lost tribes of Israel because after the fall of Israel, the 10 tribes of the Northern Kingdom effectively disappeared. There are some groups who claim to be descended from them even now, but they are in reality the Lost Tribes of Israel, a lost generation. We should never forget our lost generation, that is all those who lose their lives in battle fighting for freedom and liberty. We should never trivialise the fact that they gave everything in the cause for peace and freedom and the incredible loss they and their families suffered, and in some cases are still suffering. But as

we reflect on society today there is a real sense that we too have a lost generation on our hands. Micah spoke about the judgement and salvation of the Kingdom of God. But he was also able to look past the carnage of war and see the ultimate and peace that we have in God. He had a vision of a better world. There may be wars and carnage in the future that Micah saw but ultimately nations truly would turn their swords into ploughshares, their spears into pruning hooks and train for war no longer and sit under their own vines and fig trees as not only was the land peaceful, there would be a fair and equitable distribution of wealth. Despite the desperate situation, Micah showed that in God there was hope. It is that hope which we as Christians hold out for our society, the generations in our culture that are lost, lost not perhaps in the geographic sense but in the sense of the Jews of Israel and Judah, lost spiritually and therefore wandering aimlessly and potentially lost eternally. As Christians we are all part of that tapestry and we can choose to hold up our piece of the picture, our identity and responsibility or not. As Christians we are called to hold up the flag of hope in our own country, our own lost generation. Today reminds us that without the sacrifice of others we would not have the nation we have today. We should not trivialise their sacrifice, nor mix metaphors or images and our calling is of a completely different nature to theirs, but it is a calling nonetheless. Who are our lost generation, who are those who we should be engaging with? Like Micah, we should speak out to our leaders about the hope we have in Christ, the real peace that He brings, the economics that drives fair distribution of the world's resources. Like Micah too we need to speak out to individuals so that their lives can be changed and transformed by the hope that we all have in Christ. Today we remember all those who lost their lives in the service of their country. As they responded to their call, will we respond to ours? A call that is very different in its nature to their but in our current times, no less urgent.

Those we remember today were laying down their lives for the cause of peace, justice and freedom, often through the call of duty to a country or nation. They gave up their freedom so that others could have theirs. They fought injustice so that justice could ultimately triumph. We remember their sacrifice from the freedom that their efforts and commitment bought. They gave up their lives so that others could live in the freedom for which they fought. We remember them with gratitude for what they achieved and what their sacrifice enabled. With the current military engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan and across the world we are reminded daily that there is a heavy toll of human life in war. Many more are injured and impacted by the physical and mental damage war brings. Modern warfare is at the same time increasingly technological and increasingly fragmented, increasingly complex and increasingly diffuse in its aims and outcomes, increasingly widespread yet increasingly local and it must seem to many, as it seemed to Micah, that there is an army approaching their gates. We give thanks today for those who sacrificed so much, and for those who continue to do so day in and day out, in the cause of peace and freedom. We remember too that we will only turn our weapons of war into tools for peace when God is at the very centre of our lives and society and we are content to walk humbly with our God in obedience to Him. Sam Cappleman

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

We thank you, Lord, for all those who have died for their nation. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in whose hands are the living and the dead: we give you thanks for all your servants who have laid down their lives in the service of their country. Grant to them your mercy, and the light of your presence, that the good work you have begun in them may be perfected; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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

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

## Advent Course

This year we will be running a Partnership Advent Course at St Mark's for three weeks. The course will also be great for those considering confirmation in the 2013. Each session will start with refreshments at 7.30pm with the main meeting 8.00pm - 9.00pm. For our first session we will be joined by The Reverend Canon John Tibbs. John will be known to some people from his ministry at Bedford hospital before his retirement, but he is still active in our deanery.

### Thursday 29 November

Coffee served in Chapel 7.30 - 8pm  
Session in Church from 8pm  
with Rev Canon John Tibbs

### Thursday 6 December

In WREN room from 7.30pm

### Thursday 13 December

Coffee served in Chapel 7.30 - 8pm  
Session in Church from 8pm.

**Messy Church** This year, for the first time, our Messy Church families will be donating items for the Samaritan's Purse 'Operation Christmas Child' Shoe Box Appeal. If you would also like to contribute items for the 'Shoe box' presents there will be a container for them in church from 21 October to 18 November. A leaflet, which you can take as you leave church today, gives more details and most importantly lists what can and cannot be donated. For more information please contact: Wendy Waters 01234 401834, or Margaret Appleton 01234 354708..

**Storybox** at Putnoe Heights Church is flourishing this term. Our catering team would welcome new volunteers to help once a month. For further details please talk to Carolyn Morris or Val Peacock.

### St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre 24 November

**2012.** With just two weeks to go, a quick reminder of the items needed for our stalls: **Picnic Hamper for the raffle** – A list of is on the table in the Foyer.

**Raffle Tickets** – Available on the table in Foyer after service. Please take a few books home for family and friends, returning counterfoils and any unsold books during the week beginning 19th November or on the Saturday of the Fayre. **Tombola** – Any NEW unwanted gifts\Christmas presents etc. for our Tombola stall. **Cake Stall**- homemade cakes required please see Millie **Refreshments** – homemade tray bakes to sell at our Refreshment Counter. **Second-hand Book Stall** – Any books or paperbacks in good condition. **Indoor/Outdoor Plant Stall** – Any plants accepted please see Wendy Waters All donated items for the above stalls can be brought up to Church anytime week beginning 19th November. Many thanks to those who have already offered their help, either in the form of goods or on the day, it is very much appreciated on all fronts. Avril

**Sir William Harpur House.** On 27 November 2012 at 10.30am The Alzheimer's Society is coming to the Communal Lounge for a Dementia Information Point Drop In Session. This is for family and friends of people with dementia, carers or anyone interested in what help is available to support people looking after someone suffering from dementia.

**Local Preachers Taster Evening** at Willington Methodist Church on Wednesday 14 November at 7.30pm. Come and talk to newly accredited preachers and hear about their experiences

**Open House** are holding a fundraising coffee morning at St Mark's for Children in Need on Wednesday morning 15 November 2012 between 10.30 –12noon. Lucky Dip, Craft Stall, Cakes, Pickles and lots more....Everyone welcome.

**Anjulita Court Coffee Morning** on Thursday November 15, 10.30 to 12 noon. Christmas cards, paper calendars etc for sale in aid of Arthritis Research UK. All welcome to come and keep the residents company.

**Footprints Walking Group** Annual Planning Meeting. Tuesday 20 November at 7.30pm. At the home of Margaret and Alan (Tel 327219) All members welcome. Parking can be rather tight so suggest you try to share cars. Walk on 2 December. Planting trees in Wiles Wood, part of the new Marston Vale Forest. Meet at Wootton Village Hall at 2.00 pm for short walk to the tree planting area. Trees, tools, tea and toilets provided. Details from Sue A.

**Bedford Council of Faiths** open interactive discussion for all interested in helping to shape the work of BCoF. Sunday 2 December 2012 at 2.30pm - 4.30pm. Friends Meeting House, 5 Lansdowne Road, Bedford MK40 2BY Light refreshments For more information contact: bcof@bcof.org.uk 01234 772385 (ext 3) See: www.bcof.org.uk

**Bedford Council of Faiths** - Faith walk - 17 November 2012. Our BCoF 2012 Faith Walk includes 1.30pm visit to Bangladesh Islamic Mission, 2.15pm Parish Church of the Holy Child, home to a relic image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. 3.00pm (approx.) Shri Guru Ravidass Bhavan

## Social Evening

Tickets are now available for an evening of music and entertainment with special guest Vittorio at St Mark's on Saturday 17 November.



## A Letter from the Bishop of Bedford

On the 15 November, the first ever elections for the new Police and Crime Commissioners will take place across the country. Whatever our views on the wisdom of this development, these Commissioners will

be given significant responsibilities. Replacing Police Authorities, they will hold the police to account on behalf of the public, and also hold the Chief Constable to account for the performance of his or her force area's officers and staff. They will set strategic direction and will have the power to appoint, and in certain circumstances, to remove the Chief Constable. They will have a duty to deliver better value for money and more effective policing. The appointment of a Police and Crime Commissioner in both Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire should engage our careful and prayerful participation, especially over the exercise of the second preference vote which the electoral system in use provides. At the same time, there are real concerns that the election will have a very low turnout. In a recent letter in the Daily Telegraph, the Electoral Reform Society wrote of the possibility of 'rock bottom turnout' and hoped that the Government would never again call a winter election. Why not use the cut-out flyer this edition of See Round in your window to encourage a good turnout at the election? More alarmingly they pointed to the danger that low turnouts can open the door to extreme candidates. In the 2009 local and European elections the two Archbishops warned of the dangers of voting for any party 'whose core ideology is about sowing division in our communities and hostility on grounds of race,

creed or colour.' Neither is this the platform for such views.

The Christian concern for the whole community not only calls on us to vote but also to keep before us the priority of the well-being of all and the common good. Police and Crime Commissioners, with their responsibility for policing across the county, cannot be partisan: they must respond to community concerns without regard to whose voice shouts loudest. Indeed they must embody the values of the oath that they will need to take which includes: 'I will serve all the people of [Police Force Area] in the office of Police and Crime Commissioner without fear or favour'.

As I prepare to vote in the Police and Crime Commissioner election, in addition to my assessment of their overall vision for policing, their general competency and experience, I find myself pondering four questions which I commend to you. Will this candidate:

- Have a particular concern for ensuring the safety of the weakest in our society?
- Have the ability to hold together the differing policing needs of rural and urban communities?
- Rejoice in the ethnic and faith diversity of our communities?
- Place an emphasis on restorative justice and the reintegration of ex-offenders back into community?

Thursday 15 November may be cold; it may even be raining, but despite the weather and the unfamiliarity of voting in November let us vote; and let us vote as always with a concern for the good of all.

+ Richard Bedford

The Right Revd Richard Atkinson  
Bishop of Bedford  
[bishopbedford@stalbans.anglican.org](mailto:bishopbedford@stalbans.anglican.org)

## 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.

**Maureen Sylvia Kaye**  
**Mary Denise Mason**

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



## Forthcoming Funerals

Please remember these families and friends in your prayers.

**The funeral of Ralph Houghton** will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 2-30p.m. on Friday 16 November.