



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

## 12 August 19th in Ordinary



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 12 August –19th in Ordinary

**9.30m St. Mark's – Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership -Mrs Jean Bank  
Intercessions - Mr Mike Elliott  
**11.00 am Putnoe -Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman  
Leadership -Mrs Jean Kirk  
Intercessions - Ministers

### Sunday 19 August 20th in Ordinary

**9.30am St Mark's – Holy Communion**  
Preacher - Revd. Charles Royden  
Leadership - Mrs. Jean Bank  
Intercessions – Mrs. Mary Stubbs  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion**  
Preacher - Revd. Charles Royden  
Leadership - Mr. Gordon Evans  
Intercessions - Mr. Tim Wilkes

**Readings** 1 Proverbs 9: 1-6 2 Ephesians 5: 15-20 3  
John 6: 51-58

**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 Christina and Maurice Halsey  
in memory of their granddaughter Davine Stuart.

*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

Love of the heart of Jesus, inflame me;  
strength of the heart of Jesus, uphold me;  
wisdom of the heart of Jesus, teach me;  
will of the heart of Jesus, guide me;  
zeal of the heart of Jesus, consume me,  
now and for ever. Amen

*St John Eudes (1601-1680)*

#### The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

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

#### Deacon Jane Mason

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

#### The Reverend Charles Royden

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

**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 Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com  
**Gift Aid Administrator** John Hitt 404186  
**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)

**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 Marks.(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

**6.15pm Fit for Life Yoga** - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher ☎07891879571

**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– 20 August Judith Stanton. ☎823313

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

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

## Tuesday

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

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

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

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

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

**1pm –2.30pm Drop in Wriggles 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)

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

**2pm U3A Photography Group 3** St. Mark's (1st Wk) (see 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.

**4.30pm—6pm BIGG Writing** Putnoe Heights Natalie John

**6.15pm Pilates** St Mark's Church Jane Butcher ☎0789187957

**7pm—8.30pm Daisy Birthing** Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390

**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)

**7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting August 21 Strawberry tea at St. Mark's at 2.30pm Details call Janet King 313946

**8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers** 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.(see 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)

**12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 12 September 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

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

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

**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 19 September. Wendy Waters401834

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

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

#### Thursday

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

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

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

**9.45am Chat and Play** St.Mark's. A term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Jo Garner 400071 or 07719670624 Restarts 13 September.

**12pm Storybox .** St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Lots of fun. Contact Jaana Swaby ☎363283 Restarts 6 September.

**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.

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

**2pm Putnoe Bridge Club.** Mrs. P. Cass ☎294220

**2-4pm U3A Indoor Games.** St.Marks. (see contact details below)

**2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society** St Marks 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 Whist** St Marks. (see contact details below)

**5-8pm Stars 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

**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 Sacha Ojo ☎07590597891 or [www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk](http://www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk)

**7-9pm Tae Kwon Do** St Mark's (not 25 March) Contact Adrian Felice [www.bedfordtkd.com](http://www.bedfordtkd.com) 07964356355

**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** – 9 October, 19 Feb, 11 June

**St Mark's Leadership Team** - 11 September  
**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** -

**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting**  
**Putnoe Church Council** - 15 October,

**Pastoral Group Meeting** -  
**Churchyard Committee** -

**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings** -  
**Commemoration Service** 4 November 3.00pm

**Harvest Festival** 30 September  
**Circuit meeting** -

**Deanery Meeting** - 16 November

**Woodland Burial Trustees**– 30 September  
**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting** -

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

# Ordinary 19

## Opening Verse of Scripture Ps 34 v 1

I will extol the Lord at all times; His praise will always be on my lips.

## Collect Prayer *Before we read we pray*

Living God, you have placed in the hearts of your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that, believing in

the One whom you have sent, we may know him to be the true bread of heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Methodist Worship

## First Bible Reading - 1 Kings 19:3-8

Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, while he himself went a day's journey into the desert. He came to a broom tree, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the tree and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." He looked around, and there by his head was a cake of bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he travelled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

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

## Second Reading - Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbour, for we are all members of one body. In your anger do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold. He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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

## Gospel Reading - John 6::35, 41-51

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. At this the Jews began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

"Stop grumbling among yourselves," Jesus answered. "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me.

No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life. I am the bread of life. Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, yet they died. But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

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

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever. **Amen**

### **Hymns** (*Please distribute Hymns and Psalms and Morning Worship* )

1. All Creatures of our God and King (verse 1,2,3,& 7) **329**
2. Make me a channel of your peace **776**
3. Immortal, invisible. **9**
4. Lord Jesus think of me. **533**
5. Hallelujah, sing to Jesus. **592**

### **Meditation**

In our Old Testament reading we see Elijah fearful and on the run, afraid for his life, struggling to see how God can save him now, ready to give up, asleep and waiting for fate to take its course. In our own lives tiredness, stress, grief, anger, discouragement, disappointment can combine to lead us to feel God has forgotten us. Sometimes, in trying to discern God's presence in our lives, we can be looking for the great acts of God, the burning of altar type acts. We can dwell on the past and expect for God to act in the same way as God has done in the past and miss the unfamiliar or new. And yet God may be acting to meet our need in the present in less dramatic ways. Sometimes the challenge for the Christian is to discern where and how God met us and is meeting us, in our moments of need. Times where we have been fed by strangers, received peace in times of distress, or found support from surprising places.

*From Martin Pearson, Church of Scotland.*

### **Commentary**

Fr. John Foley writes that Elijah had just come from a dangerous showdown with 150 prophets of the god called Baal, in the land ruled by Jezebel. The God of Israel easily won this encounter, but Elijah progressed into violence against the surviving prophets anyway. Queen Jezebel, understandably enraged, sent a message that she would do the same thing to Elijah and more within that same day. Elijah was frightened, exhausted, and dispirited, especially when he came back to find the Israelites themselves being unfaithful to the only true God. He became depressed in spite of his great triumph. So he prayed to God to give immediate death to his worthless self. Then, as depressed people will do, he went to sleep. He was under a broom tree (a tall hedge with which desert people shielded themselves from the sun in the day and the wind at night). God could have been harsh to Elijah as a result. But instead, a quiet touch from God's angel awakened the prophet, and the angel whispered: get up and eat. Lo and behold, "there at his head was a hearth cake and a jug of water." Elijah did eat and drink, but then settled right back into sleep again. With tender care the angel whispered, "Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you!" He did and was strengthened for the unknown mission he was to be sent on. Today's other readings are all about God's kindness to us too, his goodness even in small things. In the Gospel, Jesus offers nourishment too, but this time the provisions are for a very long journey: eternal life. The people listening will not have a bit of it. They argue among

themselves, ridiculing his silly offer of miraculous food. They "murmur" that they knew his parents, which made him just a local boy acting crazy. Jesus ordered them to stop complaining and listen. He made the same comparison that we saw last week, between manna that came down from heaven in the desert and Himself, "the living bread that came down from heaven." Jesus as living bread can be a difficult concept to understand. But leave that aside for a moment and just concentrate on the deliberate kindness God shows to his people: feeding them, giving them drink, pursuing them again and again in order to offer the greatest gift of all, God's sacrificial love for us. God follows us quietly, gently. How can and should we respond? Receiving the living bread in Communion is a beginning. Reflecting on the mellowness of God is another. And simply slowing down. Stop running away and let the Lord find you. God's kind-hearted and also tough love is quite worth the struggle. God is the one who will send us into the world (if he can catch us!). Here is how Paul puts it in the Second Reading. "Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma."

The "I am" sayings of Jesus run throughout John's Gospel. When Jesus comes walking across the water to the disciples in the boat during the storm after the feeding of the 5000 He simply said to them, "Fear not, I am." The feeding calls to mind for the Jews, the historical feeding but the central message of the passage is how the apostles took Him into their boat as He came toward them. Jesus is presented as offering Himself as human and divine and His loving desire for all men and women to take him into the boats of their passages and journeys. The past deeds of God are being continued in Jesus who came that we may have life and life is this: believing that He was and is sent into the world. Larry Gillick says, Elijah wanted to give it all up and the apostles were being swamped with fear. Most of us have been there and were tempted to do that as well. But God so often sends angels to "touch" us, to give us the "Bread from Heaven" and continues to urge us "get up and eat" and then get up and get on with the living. Our comfort is more than bread, it is that we have taken Christ into our boats, allowed Him to sweep us from underneath the "broom tree" and keeps us as His real presence in the society in which we live. Elijah moaned, "This is enough, O Lord! Take my life," Jesus says to us, "I am enough! You take my life, eat it all, live it all and you will be already living the eternal life I came and come to share."

*Sam Cappleman*

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

God of the way, you are the road we travel, and the sign we follow; you are bread for the journey, and the wine of arrival. Guide us as we follow in your way, holding on to each other, reaching out to your beloved world. And when we stray, seek us out and find us, set our feet on the path again, and lead us safely home. In the name of Jesus, our Lord we pray. **Amen.**

Father God, when we are troubled and afraid, come to us, and make us hungry for you so that your love and presence may sustain and encourage us all the days of our lives and evermore. **Amen**

Risen Christ, whose absence leaves us paralysed, but whose presence is overwhelming, breathe on us with your abundant life; that where we cannot see we may have courage to believe that we may be raised with you. **Amen**

The God of all grace who called you to His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

**Action for Children September House to House**

**Collection** Action for Children works with disadvantaged and disabled children, and their families, through its family centres located throughout the country. It is an independent charity working with other groups in partnership including Social Services and the Methodist Church. Her Majesty the Queen is its patron. The annual house-to-house Collection to support this vital work will take place as usual in the first 2 weeks in September. St. Mark's Church is responsible for covering the Brickhill area and last year our 21 collectors raised £753 (including Gift Aid). If you could spare a few hours during early September to distribute and then collect envelopes in the Brickhill area, perhaps near to where you live, or you would like some more information then please contact me. Mike Elliott (Tel. 342507)

**Chat and Make** at St Mark's starts again on Monday 10 September at 1.30pm.

**Chat and Play** at St Mark's starts again on Thursday 13 September at 9.30 am.

**Story Box** at St Mark's starts again on Thursday 6 September at 12 noon.

**Junior Church** at St Mark's will resume on 9 September. Jaana

**Storybox** at Putnoe Heights Church will start again on Monday 17th September at 12.15 for details of our summer programme please contact Carolyn at youth@thisischurch.com. Carolyn

**Car Boot Sale** The final car boot sale of the year is on Bank Holiday Monday 27 August. Now would be a great time to sort out things which you don't need and get them ready for the church car boot stall. We also would really appreciate things like cakes and tray bakes for refreshments. As always we could not cope without volunteers so if you have any free time please drop in and help out - see Avril who will welcome you with open arms and give you a job .

**St. Mark's Craft Club Appeal** - Wanted for projects for the Christmas Fayre - Round wreath bases in either cane, willow or polystyrene. Please if you have any hand them in to the Office. Thank you.



**Praise Service**

A service of Praise celebrating the Cross will be held at Putnoe Heights Church at 6.30p.m. on Sunday 9th September. This is a service for the Partnership to which all are invited to

join together to sing a collection of tuneful hymns relevant to the theme of the Cross. (Eric Royden)

**Meet and Greet with the Paralympic Athletes**

There will be an opportunity to meet some of the Paralympic athletes staying in Bedford next Wednesday, 15th August between 5.00pm and 7.00pm at the Bedford International Athletic Stadium, Barkers Lane, Bedford. There will be a chance for you to also watch them train in their chosen sport.

Church Membership. If you have not already done so then please complete a church membership form so that we can keep in touch. we are also really grateful for email addresses to enable us to contact you

**Church Membership Details**

Please enrol me as a member of the Partnership, Putnoe Heights and St Mark's Church

**Name** (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms etc..) .....

**Address**..... **Telephone** .....

**Church** which you usually attend (St Mark's or Putnoe) .....

**Denominational background** (if any) which you may have eg Methodist / CofE / Baptist / R Catholic /

Please feel free to leave blank.....

**Email** This is increasingly helpful for us for church use such as reminding you of important events.

We promise never to disclose it to anybody else .....

(You can return this form to a member of the Leadership Team or send an email to a minister)



**Messy Church** on 19th September will have an Olympic theme. We would like items that will help create an 'Olympic' atmosphere e.g Olympic ring flag, bunting of national flags, posters,

pictures. If you can give us any items please phone Wendy Waters 401834 or leave them at St Mark's office.

**Offertory Envelopes** will be available at Putnoe this week.

### **We're Solar Powered**

As you will know our churches are currently using solar photovoltaic panels to generate electricity. we receive 44p for each unit we produce. In addition the government assumes that we feed back into the grid half of what is produced and so we get an extra 3p for half of the total.

So far St Mark's has produced units.

The Putnoe PV panels were installed in late May 2011. EON Feed In Tariff receipts for the 13 months 1 June 2011 - 30 June 2012 totalled £1,658.76. An average of £127 per month so far.

You will see that this has proved an excellent investment and the government has guaranteed the income tax free for the next 20 years.

**News from the Diocese.** Last week Archdeacon Paul Hughes went into hospital for a routine hernia operation. Unfortunately, there were complications which make it likely that Paul will need to stay in hospital for several weeks. Once he is discharged he is likely to need a prolonged time to recover. In himself he is bright and cheerful, although he is also frustrated that he is going to take some time to recover fully. Please remember Paul and his wife Liz in your prayers

Living God's Love

### **Living God's Love Prayer**

Living God,  
draw us deeper into your love;  
Jesus our Lord,  
send us to care and serve;  
Holy Spirit,  
make us heralds of good news.  
Stir us, strengthen us,  
teach and inspire us  
to live your love  
with generosity and joy,  
imagination and courage;  
for the sake of your world  
and in the name of Jesus,  
Amen.

amazon.com  
and you're done.



### **Thank you for Shopping at WWW. ThisChurch.com**

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

### **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.

#### **Alexander Patrick Douglas**

*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 Alexander Patrick Douglas** will take place at 11.30a.m. on Monday 6th August at the Crematorium.

**The funeral of Vincent Llewelyn James** will take place at Putnoe Heights Church at 3.30pm on Monday 20th August.

**The funeral of Julie Elizabeth Underwood** will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 12.15pm on Thursday 23 August