



Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church

13th April 2014

Palm Sunday



Sunday Services

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

Today – 13 April 2014 - Palm Sunday

9.30 St Marks – Morning Worship

Preacher - Deacon Jane Mills
Leadership – Mrs Wendy Waters
Intercessions – Mrs Morag Stewart
Organist – Mr Clive Simmonds

11.00 am Putnoe – Morning Worship

Preacher– Deacon Jane Mills
Leadership Team - Mrs Veta Hudson-Rae
Intercessions — Dr Tim Wilkes
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

20 April 2014 - Easter Day

9.30 St Marks – Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership – Mrs. Jean Bank
Intercessions - Mr. Ian Farthing
Organist – Mr Clive Simmonds

11.00 am Putnoe – Holy Communion

Preacher– Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mrs. Jean Kirk
Intercessions — Mrs. Sue Allen
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

Readings 1. Acts 10: 34-43 2. Colossians 3:1-4
3. John 20: 1-18

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 St Mark's Church this week have
been given by Myfanwy Mason in memory of her
sister, Margaret Alice.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week
has been given by Veta Hudson Rae to celebrate the
birthdays of Alvin, Johanna, Christopher and Joshua.

*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

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the
form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross
for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you and
to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God
the Father.

Banns of Marriage

We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of
Paul Robson and Julia Suzanne Cooper to be
married at St Mark's Church (*Third Time*)

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com

Deacon Jane Mills

c/o Putnoe Heights Church Centre
Tel. 348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

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

Partnership 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.ThisIsChurch.com
Twitter follow at [bedfordchurches](https://twitter.com/bedfordchurches)**



Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinators

Mrs Wendy Waters 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@thisischurch.com
*Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved,
housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services.
Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.*

Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Geoff Gypps 365630 mob 07947 902846
Leadership Team Mrs Jenny Snelson 344417
Treasurer Mr John Hitt 404186 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Youth Team Leader Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mr Michael Ovenden 826738
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

Hazeldene Heights Pre-school. Sessional and Full Day care available—open Mon.—Fri. Full Day Care 8.30am to 5pm Sessional times 9am—12noon and 12.45pm - 3.45pm

For more info please contact Laura Leggett 01234 326685 or www.hazeldeneheights.com

8.30-12.30pm St Mark's Pre-School Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

8.30-5.30pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's

9.00-3.45pm 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 M. Berry 211955

10.30am U3A Play reading Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

1.30pm Chat & Make. Term time for babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details email-chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk

2.00pm U3A Calligraphy at St Mark's (2nd week in the month) Contact Janet King 313946.

12.00 noon Story box Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com 365630

2pm U3A Music Appreciation Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

2.00pm U3A Italian Putnoe Heights— fortnightly

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

5.30 - 8.30 NHS Eat Smart Think Active at Putnoe Heights. For more details contact Emily Taverner 01234 792013

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner 01767699399 or 07720713738.

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

6.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher 07891879571

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

7.00pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's (1st week in month) Pat Nicholson 353518

7.00pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. (1st week in month) Mr J Dewhurst 01908 377020.

7.00-8.00pm **Laughter Club** at St. Mark's 2nd week each month) Cheryl Green 07729187399

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

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's (Weeks 3 & 5 in the month).. Next meeting— 21 April Judith Stanton. 823313

7.30pm No Fear Bridge Club St. Mark's Mrs. Susan Ford 300218.

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

7.45-9.15 Get Fit Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights Diane Field 01234 404976

Tuesday

9 –1pm Bedford Stop Smoking at Putnoe Heights. For more details please contact Olivia Tornyie 01234 276826

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Charlotte Williams 07968207442

9.30am Candleworking (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 Contact Janet King 313946

1.15pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's Contact Janet King 313946

1.3pm U3A Choir. St Mark's Contact Janet King 313946

2.00pm U3A Book Group 1 St Mark's (3rd Week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

2.00pm U3A Book Group 2 St Mark's (2nd Week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

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

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

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's (1st & 3rd week in month). Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225

2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's (2nd & 4th week in month) Mary Stubbs 406784.

4.00pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

7.30-8.30pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 0789187957

7pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390

7.00pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory 328455 (Unfortunately Jan has had to cancel her sessions at the moment, but hopes to re-start in September.

7.30pm Ladies Tuesday Club at Putnoe Heights (Meets fortnightly) 15 April Easter Activity Details Janet King 313946

8.00pm Hearts in Beds Committee St Mark's (week 4 in month) Mrs N Aspey 309816

Wednesday

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

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 Janet King 313946

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

10am U3A Card Making, St Marks Contact Janet King 313946

10am U3A Diet and Nutrition- Putnoe Contact Janet King 313946

11.15am U3A Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights

12.30pm –4pm St Mark's Nursery Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 7 May Putnoe Heights Office 365630

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

2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft at St Marks.Contact Janet King 313946

2pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

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

3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's (3rd Week in month). for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 16 April 2014 Wendy Waters 401834 Jean Bank 355698

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

6-7pm ATSK Karate at Putnoe Height Kevin Stark Tel. 01234 353865

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Colin Jackson 363398 or Brian Sallows 407725.

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Sylvia Woods 365095

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every month except August Mrs Jo Street 344600

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Mike Del-Boyer 348378

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

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

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's (Week 1 in the month) Greta Cansfield 215016

Thursday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Pre School Nursery Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon 356306. Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

9.15am Spanish for total beginners at Putnoe Heights 10.30pm Spanish Holiday Survival at Putnoe Heights. Elena 01234 266968

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

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 342613

1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic at St Mark's (Weeks 1 & 3 in the month)Contact 897401

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 Contact Janet King 313946

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. St.Mark's Contact Janet King 313946

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society St Mark's Jean Paterson 307210

3.15-5.15pm Social Care Solutions Drama Group Claire Creek 262650

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Brenna. 07919402797.

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Nina Ovenden 825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Marks (2nd and 4th week in month)Contact Janet King 313946

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

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

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

8 -10pm Bedford Folk Dancers (formerly Barn dancers)

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers each week.Except August. All welcome, cost £2.50

Including refreshments. More details Ron 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's (1st week in month). John Broadhouse 01525 404014

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's (2nd & 4th week in month) Mrs Marie Cotchin 402089

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's (1st and 3rd week in month) Susan Perugi 300219

Friday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

8.30am Diabetic Centre St Mark's (1st week in month) Deborah Hennessey 792013

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

10am -12.00 U3A Photography St Marks.(4th week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St. Marks Contact Janet King 313946

2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist St Marks. (2nd week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

2pm U3A Gardening - Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

4.50pm-8.15pm Stars School of Dance Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

7.00pm-9.00pm Meditation St Mark's.Cheryl Green 07729187399

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St Marks(2nd week in month)Carol Brown 01438 233385

Saturday

9.00am Faith Temple Ministries St Mark's (1st week in month) Dawn Kelly 07863762593

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard 01234 782414

Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher 357198

2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry 01462 674792

Sunday

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

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

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for our young adults. A crèche is also available.

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's Adrian Felice www.bedfordtkd.com 07964356355

Messy Church Dates Weds 19th March, 16th April, 21st May, 18th June.



Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council – 17 June, 14 October

St Mark's Leadership Team - 20 May, 9 Sept

Annual Congregational Meetings—27th April

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting 30th April

Putnoe Church Council - 10 July

Pastoral Group Meeting -

Churchyard Committee -

Commemoration Service - 2nd November

Circuit meeting – 19th June

Woodland Burial Trustees– AGM - May 25th

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting – Monday 9 June 1.10pm

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

Palm Sunday

Sentence of Scripture- Matthew 21:9

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Collect Prayer for the Day

Before we read we pray

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

First Bible Reading - Isaiah Chapter 50:4-9a

The Sovereign LORD has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught. The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears, and I have not been rebellious; I have not drawn back. I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who is he that will condemn me? (This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

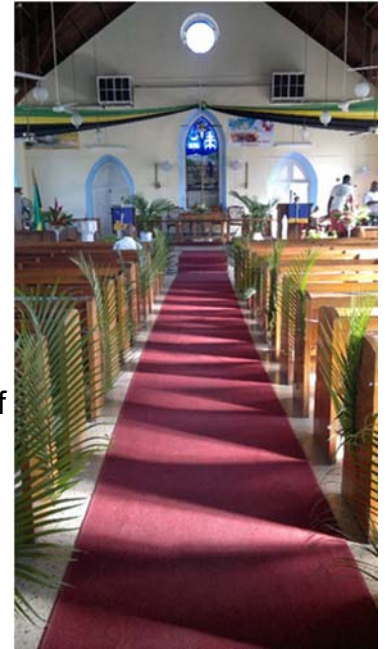
Second Bible Reading - Philippians 2:5-11

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading - Matthew 26: 14 - 30

Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests and asked, “What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?” So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?” He replied, “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, ‘The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.’” So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover. When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. And while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, “Surely you don’t mean me, Lord?” Jesus replied, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.” Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, “Surely you don’t mean me, Rabbi?” Jesus answered, “You have said so.” While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. What do you think?” “He is worthy of death,” they answered. (This is the word of the Lord-- **Thanks be to God**)



Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father.

Hymns (*Please distribute Morning Worship and Mission Praise*).

1. Jesus is Lord! 367
2. Make Way 457
3. All Glory Laud and Honour (*printed on Partnership news*)
4. Give me the faith which can remove 168
5. Lord for the years 428

Commentary Palm Sunday 2014

How time flies! This time last year I was nearing the end of my sabbatical, having spent most of lent, holy week and Easter surrounded by actual palm trees in Jamaica! Having spent the first weeks of my visit in Kingston, researching the history of Methodist Deaconesses, I went across the island to visit my mother in law. Gloria met me off the bus in Ochi Rios and we travelled by taxi to her home in Boscobel, passing a huge white church on the way. I decided to attend for Holy week activities, hoping to gain fresh experiences of familiar festivals.

The Methodist Church in Ochi Rios was bedecked with fresh palm branches as I arrived, and I was keen to see how the worship would unfold. As people gathered several sought me out with a welcome pack, keen that I fill the contact card in, as it turned out so that I could be welcomed by name during the service, something they do regularly, being located in a holiday hot spot!

I was handed a very elderly tattered copy of the Methodist Hymn book (the one before Hymns and Psalms) and the worship itself was a very traditional. It could have been here 40 years ago, with the exception that there was far more involvement from members, with one group leading a section of prayer and worship songs, and several choirs performing, making worship a little longer than we are used to! Strange how something can be both familiar and alien at the same time

Time and distance both have the power to change our perspective, I have often noticed that something that happened very recently seems an age ago, while other events from our distant past remain with us, 'like it was only yesterday'. Similarly I have noticed that our attachment to people, places and practices grow the further we are away from them. It seems that emotions play such a huge role in how we remember things, with the joy of the highlights staying with us but also, and unfortunately often more strikingly, the darkness, betrayal and hurt of the difficult times.

Palm Sunday, marks the beginning of Holy week, a time of incredible change which begins with Jesus' arrival to Jerusalem and progresses through anger, love, fellowship, betrayal, anguish, denial, and ultimately a humiliating and agonising death. But Jesus was not only human, even in the midst of agonising pain he found it within himself to forgive, to reach out to others and to see to the welfare of those who will mourn his loss in the dark days ahead.

The people in Jerusalem, it appears, were expecting something to happen. Jesus seemed to fulfil so many expectations and crowds gathered to welcome the one who would save them. A people in an occupied homeland can, understandably, be keen for change, yet those who have it in them to overthrow a government can turn out to be just as repressive.

So here they gathered, keen to welcome their hero, and how did he arrive? On a donkey of all things! Yet the power of the crowd led them along, welcoming him as a conquering hero, but I can't help but wonder if doubts were already being seeded? He was heralded a hero, yet he was not what the people expected and it just gets worse as he goes on to disrupt those things they hold most dear, i.e. in the turning of tables in the temple, and the die is cast. Within the space of that week the cry of the crowd had changed from one of welcome to one of hate. How little we have changed in 2000 years! Those in the public eye are too often built up one minute then eagerly torn down at the slightest hint of failure or 'wrongdoing'. This happens to all of us to a greater or lesser degree, and we can all, at times, be in some way guilty of doing the same to others.

The palm crosses we receive each year can be seen as a representation of the Holy week journey in

their own right, symbolising both the palm branches waved by the enthusiastic crowd and the cross that road was to lead him to. When you take yours home this year you may want to put it somewhere that will remind you that there are two sides to everything. It may help at a time when you feel 'hard done by' and perhaps even serve to help you notice if you prioritised your own 'wants', potentially disturbing the plans of others.

I leave you with a piece to reflect on, written by David J. Harding.

When tanks roll by and trumpets play
Some people cheer and shout 'hooray'
But Jesus chose another way
Parading on a donkey.

He set out to impress them all...
A horse would make him proud and tall
And save him from the risk of fall...
But he rode on a donkey.

No soldier he, but King of Love!
The way he chose was well above
All hawkish ways, and as a dove
He rode upon a donkey.

Folk must have laughed to see the sight,
A conqueror who would not fight
With what is wrong for what is right...
And riding on a donkey.

He had to show that he was brave
And that he only came to save,
Less like a king, more like a slave,
For he rode on a donkey.

No matter if the world despise
This Jesus-way of sacrifice;
For love lives on when all else dies;
And he rode on a donkey.

God offered love, not pomp and show,
So people everywhere would know
The way his kingdom has to grow;
So Jesus rode on a donkey.

Who cares about the tyrant's pride?
Today's Palm Sunday is world-wide
And millions stand with us, beside
The king who rode a donkey.

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

As on this day we keep the special memory of our redeemer's entrance into the city, so grant, O Lord, that now and ever he may triumph in our hearts. Let the king of grace and glory enter in, and let us lay ourselves and all we are in full joyful homage before him, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Handley C.G.Moule 1841-1920

Have mercy on me O God, I was angry that I had no shoes, then I met a man who had no feet.
Chinese Buddhist Prayer

I thank you Lord for knowing me better than I know myself, and for letting me know myself better than others know me. Make me, I ask you them better than they suppose, and forgive me for what they do not know, *Abu Bakr*

Lord of Lords, grant us the good whether we pray for it or not, but evil keep from us, even though we pray for it. *Plato 27-348BC*

Palm Sunday Hymn

*All glory, laud, and honour
to thee, redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet Hosannas ring.*

Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest
the King and blessed one. *Refrain*

The company of angels
are praising thee on high,
and mortal men and all things
created make reply. *Refrain*

The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went:
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present. *Refrain*

To thee before thy Passion
they sang their hymns of praise:
to thee now high exalted
our melody we raise. *Refrain*

Thou didst accept their praises:
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King. *Refrain*

St Mark's Chat and Play starts again on Thursday April 30
St Mark's Storybox starts again on Thursday April 24
St Mark's Junior Church starts again on April 27.

Nordic Walking – Meet Monday morning in Brickhill at 9.30am. Two locations. Please contact www.northbedsnordicwalking.co.uk or 07758205455. £3 per walk. Very friendly welcoming group.

Highfield Residential Care Home St. Mark's group will hold an Easter Service on April 13 (Palm Sunday) At 2.30pm. All well wishers are welcome to come and help. Vera Pearson.

Easter Cards Invitations to our Easter service are available for distribution at both churches this morning. Please use these to invite friends and neighbours to our Easter services

Housebound - If anyone who is housebound would like Holy Communion taken to them during the Easter period could you please inform St Mark's Church Office on 01234 342613

Open Day at St Mark's Pre-School and All Day Childcare on Saturday 10 May 2014 from 2.00pm-4.00pm (Now taking bookings for September 2014). Activities for the children, face painting etc Coffee and cakes. Families Welcome.



Open House is offering a unique opportunity for people with learning disabilities to access a free service. Cheryl Green is the group organiser and she has seen the group expand dramatically

with many more people joining. The group is entirely voluntary organised and receives no funding. In order to raise some funds to help provide this service we are asking you to search out any coins which you may have and give them to us. The coins may be British or foreign coins, we have somebody who will ensure that we receive the best value for them.



Please give old coins

It may be old foreign currency left over from that holiday years ago, or a few old British coins lying around. They may be no use to you but they are to us. We can turn every coin and note, no matter how old or how small, into cash to help fund our Openhouse project to help people with learning difficulties. So search out those old pesetas or shillings or whatever and bring them along to the

Church Office anytime so we can sort them out and get the best possible value for everything you donate. Remember, everything can be used to generate funds for Openhouse.

Easter Services at Putnoe Heights and St Mark's Church

Putnoe Heights Church

Palm Sunday Family Service 11.00am

Maundy Thursday Service 7.00pm

Good Friday Stations of the Cross at 11.00am

Good Friday Special for children of all ages 12.15pm - 1.30pm for all children - *Crafts, stories,*

Easter Day Holy Communion 11.00am

St Mark's Church

Palm Sunday Family Service at 9.30am



Messy Easter Wednesday 16 April 3.45pm - 5.30pm

Good Friday Stations of the Cross at 9.30am

Easter Day Sunrise Holy Communion 6.00am Holy Communion 9.30am

Kempston Musical Society will be performing Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle on Saturday 26th April 7.30pm at Kempston East Methodist Church. Admission £8.00. Conductor Janet Welsh. Accompanists: Derrick Robinson Piano, Brian Fox Organ. Guest Soloists: Min Min Teh Soprano, Emma Stroud Contralto, Jack Cornwell Tenor and Edward Peters Bass. For more details telephone Bedford 781010 or e-mail kempstonmusicalsociety@hotmail.com

Spring Fayre For Arthritis Research UK 45th Anniversary Spring Fayre, 26th April from 2.30 -4.30pm at Biddenham Village Hall. Admission 50p (accompanied children free)

Inheritance. We were most fortunate to experience a most challenging and stimulating performance from Riding Lights. Thank you to everyone who helped organise the event and to the host who welcomed the actors into their homes.

Twitter - we are trying to get Twitter going!
Please follow at [bedfordchurches](https://twitter.com/bedfordchurches)

Car Boot Sale Easter Monday 21 April 2014
 Believe it or not we are starting our 2014 round of Car Boot Sales on Easter Monday 21st April 2014. As it is Spring and being the first car boot of the year perhaps you would like to clear out your cupboards and donate goods to the Church Stall at the car boot. All donations very much appreciated. We would also be very grateful for any donations homemade cakes and tray bakes for our refreshment stall. If anyone would like to volunteer their help at the Car Boot please email me at: aj56@btinternet.com, or see Linda Parry or Janet Day. Once again many thanks to everyone. Here is hoping for a very successful 2014 Car Boots *Avril Williams*

Putnoe Heights Ladies. You may be aware that our men folk have recently enjoyed two convivial evenings out together. It's our turn now! I have agreed to arrange a similar evening for the ladies. Please give me your name if you would like to join us on Wednesday May 21 at 7.30 p.m. at the Cappuccino Bar in Newnham Street, Bedford. The cost will be £15, which will cover a starter, main course and a drink. Lifts can be arranged between us, so don't let lack of transport stop you from coming out for an evening of delicious food and cheerful company. Margaret Massey. Tel. 01234 327219 or massey-1@tiscali.co.uk

Flower Arranging Demonstration by Rev. Alan Ashton, on 30 April at Priory Methodist Church at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 from Ann Hitt or at the door.

Easter Offering Methodist Church Easter Offering envelopes can be found in the foyer of St Mark's Church

Well Done - St Mark's Preschool has raised a total of £709.86 for Charity in the last eighteen months. Charities have included Marie Curie; Sport Relief; Chatterbox and Children in need. Well done to all the Staff and children.

Partnership Meal with Holy Communion for

Maundy Thursday. Thursday 17 April, 7.00pm at Putnoe Heights. A service of Holy Communion integrated with a two course meal. Please add your name to the lists (in welcome area at either church) if you would like to come and share in this meaningful fellowship. A collection will be taken to cover catering costs.

Annual Congregational Meetings take place on the 27 April after church. Nomination forms are available for Church Councils of our churches, please complete and return to Church Offices. Alternatively email to office@thisischurch.com giving details of
 1. Person nominated 2. Proposer & 3 Seconder

Church Membership Now is a great time to update our records of members. Please complete a Membership Form or send an email to office@thisischurch.com giving us
 1. Title 2. Name. 3. Address 4 Telephone 5 Any denominational church background
 If you have changed any details lately then please let us know so that we can update our records.

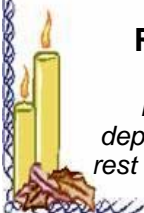



When you do your shopping please shop at [www. ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com)

Thank you for shopping using 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 we receive a commission. You can shop at John Lewis, M&S etc - please always shop through www.thisischurch.com

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.



Robert Vaclaw Newman

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



Forthcoming Funerals

Members of St Mark's Church will be saddened to hear news of the death of Mollie Belcher. details of her funeral will follow next week.

The funeral of Dorothy May Wildman will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 15th April at 12.15pm