



# Partnership News

**Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church  
15 March 2015  
Mothering 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

### 15 March - Mothering Sunday

**9.30am St Mark's - Holy Communion**  
Preacher - Rev. Dr. Sam Cappleman  
Leadership - Mr. Mick Ovenden  
Intercessions - Mr. Warwick Holden  
Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion**  
Preacher - Rev. Dr. Sam Cappleman  
Leadership - Mrs. Jenny Snelson  
Intercessions - Mr. Alan Bayliss  
Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds

### 22 March - Fifth Sunday of Lent

**9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Mr. Ebo Ofori-Quaah  
Leadership - Mrs. Margaret Appleton  
Intercessions - Mrs. Wendy Waters  
Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Mr. Ebo Ofori-Quaah  
Leadership - Mr. Martin Fannon  
Intercessions - Dr. Tim Wilkes  
Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds

**Readings 1.** Jeremiah 31: 31-34 **2.** Hebrews 5: 5-10  
**3.** John 12: 20-33  
Mid Week Holy Communion at 10.00am at St Mark's  
Chapel every Wednesday and at Sir William Harpur House  
on first Monday of every month.

## Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Margaret and Alan Massey in memory of their parents Jessie and Wilfred Rollason and Mabel and Harry Massey

The flowers at St Mark's Church have been given by Charlie and Corinne in memory of her father George Stanwix.

*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.*

## A Prayer for Sunday

Thank you God  
for the love of our mothers:  
thank you God  
for their care and concern;  
thank you God  
for the joys they have shared with us;  
thank you God  
for the pains they have borne for us;  
thank you God for all that they give us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**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](http://www.ThisIsChurch.com)**

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**Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-ordinators**  
Mrs Wendy Waters 342613 office@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 - 5.30pm, Friday 9-1pm**  
**Tel/fax & Answering Service** 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com  
**Centre Manager** Geoff Gypps 365630  
**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** - Mrs Jean Bank 355698  
**Treasurer** - Mr Ian Farthing 210892  
treasurer@thisischurch.com  
**Gift Aid Administrator** Mr 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](http://www.hazeldeneheights.com)

**8.00am-5.30pm Pre-school** Mon-Fri St Mark's

**8.00am-5.30pm Top Marks** Mon-Fri St Mark's Manager Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634  
(See website for more details)

**9.00am-12noon St Mark's Pre-School Nursery** Manager Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

**9.30-10.30am - Body Control Pilates** –Putnoe Heights Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430

**10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group.** St Mark's Mrs M. Berry 211955

**10.00am-12 U3A Play reading** Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

**11.00am-12noon Pilates** St. Mark's. Liz Mason 07816522200 (starts 8 Sept.)

**12.00 noon Storybox** 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](mailto:youth@thisischurch.com) 365630

**1.30pm Chat & Make.** Term time for babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details contact St Mark's Church Office on 01234 342613 or Janine 01234 297481

**2.00pm 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 Zoe Wilcox 07767311424

**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-8pm Cubs** at Putnoe Ages 8 –10.5 Email:[phxg.enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:phxg.enquiries@gmail.com) Tel Tom 07974566509

**6.30pm Fit For All** 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– 16 March 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

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

**9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's. Lorrie Pearson 01234 340473

**11-12.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights** Contact Janet King 313946

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

**1.30pm 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

**2.00pm 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.

**3.30-6.30pm Stars School of Dance** at Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

**7.15-8.15pm Pilates** St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 07891879571

**7.00pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing** Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390

**7.30pm Ladies Tuesday Club** at Putnoe Heights (Meets monthly Next meeting 14 April Rev. Sam Cappleman Details Diane Bayliss 268101

**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.

**10.00-2pm Open House** at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.

**10.00am 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

**11.15am U3A Keep Fit** at Putnoe Heights

**12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 25 March. Contact Putnoe 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

**2.00pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan** Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

**2.00pm - 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 18 March 2014 Wendy Waters 401834 Jean Bank 355698

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

**5.00–6.00pm Rainbows** at Putnoe Heights Mrs Gill Lake 218091

**6.00pm Brownies.** St Mark's. Mrs C Warden 219731

**6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation** Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton 01234 297138 or 07910835994

**6.00-7.00pm ATSK Karate** at Putnoe Height Kevin Stark Tel.01234 353865

**7.00pm-9.00pm Scouts** at Putnoe ages 10.5-14; Email:[phxg.enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:phxg.enquiries@gmail.com) Tel Tom 07974566509

**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

**7.15pm Putnoe Guild** Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every month except August Mrs Jo Street 3446008.

**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 18 March 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

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

**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 Contact St Mark's Church Office 01234 342613 or Janine 01234 297481

**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

**1.00ui-2.30pm Wiggles & Jiggles** Putnoe Heights. Drop in.

**1.00 - 2.30pm 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 07768481499

**6.15pm Brownies.** Putnoe Heights Lou Brenna. 07919402797.

**7.00pm Club 2000** Putnoe Audrey Halford 407284

**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

**8.00pm 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

**7.30pm Magpies Women's Group** St Mark's (2nd & 4th week in month) Mrs Marie Cotchin 402089

**7.30pm Brickhill Ladies Group** St Mark's (1st and 3rd week in month) Kaye Logan 309105

### Friday

**9.30am -3.30pm Machine Knitting** group at Putnoe Heights, 2nd week per month.. 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-7.00pm Stars School of Dance** at Putnoe. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

**6.30pm-8.00pm Beavers** at Putnoe Ages 6-8 Email: phxg.enquiries@gmail.com Tel Tom 07974566509

**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 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.

**2- 4.30pm Indoor Bowls** at St. Mark's 2nd & 4th Sunday. Ray Seymour 305695 or church office.

### Diary Dates



**St Mark's Church Council** – tba

**St Mark's Leadership Team** -

**Annual Congregational Meetings** - 26 April 2015

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** –

**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting** –

**Putnoe Church Council** -

**Pastoral Group Meeting**

**Churchyard Committee** - 15 April 11.15am

**Circuit meeting** –

**Deanery meeting** - 19 March 7.30pm.

**Woodland Burial Trustees** – 15 March 12.30pm

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting** - 1 June 2015 2pm

**St Mark's Car Boot Sales 2015**,6 April, 4 May, 25 May and 31 August.

**Harvest Festival** service will be on Sunday 27 September.

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

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

## Mothering Sunday

### Sentence of Scripture - *Psalm 34 v 11*

Come my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

### Collect Prayer for the Day

*Before we read we pray*

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen  
*Common Worship Collect for Mothering Sunday*



### First Bible Reading - **Exodus 2:1-10**

Now a man of the house of Levi married a Levite woman, and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him. Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to get it. She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said. Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?" "Yes, go," she answered. And the girl went and got the baby's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."  
(This is the word of the Lord—**Thanks be to God**)

### Second Bible Reading - **2 Corinthians 1:3-7**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.  
(This is the word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God**)

### Gospel Reading - **Luke 2:33-35**

*Please stand when the reading is announced - **Glory to Christ our Saviour***

The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."  
(This is the Gospel of Christ - **Praise to Christ our Lord**)

### Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



to my addiction to sweatless dreams,  
to my arrogant insistence on how it has to be;  
to my corrosive fear of dying someday  
which eats away at the wonder of living this day,  
and the adventure of losing my life  
in order to find it in you.

Catch me in my aimless scurrying, Lord,  
and hold me in this Lenten season:  
hold my heart to the beat of your grace  
and create in me a resting place,  
a kneeling place,  
a tip-toe place  
where I can recover from the dis-ease of my grandiosities  
which fill my mind and calendar with busy self-importance,  
that I may become vulnerable enough  
to dare intimacy with the familiar,  
to listen cup-eared for your summons,  
and to watch squint-eyed for your crooked finger  
in the crying of a child,  
in the hunger of the street people,  
in the fear of the contagion of terrorism in all people,  
in the rage of those oppressed because of sex or race,  
in the smouldering resentments of exploited third world nations,  
in the sullen apathy of the poor and ghetto-strangled people,  
in my lonely doubt and limping ambivalence;

and somehow,  
during this season of sacrifice,  
enable me to sacrifice time  
and possessions  
and securities,

to do something...  
something about what I see,  
something to turn the water of my words  
into the wine of will and risk,  
into the bread of blood and blisters,  
into the blessedness of deed,  
of a cross picked up,  
a saviour followed.

Catch me in my mindless scurrying, Lord,  
and hold me in this Lenten season:  
hold my spirit to the beacon of your grace  
and grant me light enough to walk boldly,  
to feel passionately  
to love aggressively;  
grant me peace enough to want more,  
to work for more  
and to submit to nothing less,  
and to fear only you...  
only you!

Bequeath me not becalmed seas,  
slack sails and premature benedictions,  
but breathe into me a torment,  
storm enough to make within myself  
and from myself,  
something...

something new,  
something saving,  
something true,  
a gladness of heart,  
a pitch for a song in a storm,  
a word of praised lived,  
a gratitude shared,  
a cross dared,  
a joy received.

### Christian Aid Soup Lunch

You are invited to our annual Lent Soup Lunch at Putnoe Heights Church at 12.30pm on Sunday 22 March. Donations to Christian Aid. Please sign the sheet in the welcome area at Putnoe or give names to St Marks office.



**Date for your diary** Auction of Promises at St Mark's Church Saturday 18 April at 7.30pm. Please put this date in your diary. This will be a fund raising evening at which we can offer things we have, experiences, gifts etc. More information to follow. Ian Farthing

**Arthritis Research Spring Fayre** on Saturday 28 March at Biddenham Village, Nodders Way from 10am to 12 noon Admission 50p accompanied children free. Cakes and preserves, gifts, bric-a-brac, plants, tombola etc.

**St Mark's Craft Stall** Easter novelties now available from £1 each. This year we have Shaun the sheep. All profits to St. Mark's.



**Next Messy Church at St Mark's Church** on Wednesday 18 March 3.45 - 5.30pm. Messy Church takes place monthly on a Wednesday from 3.45pm - 5.30pm. For children of

lower school age and carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and meal. For more details contact Wendy Waters 401834

### Core Skills for Children's Work Leaders

Saturday 4 July 10am – 3pm at St Andrew's Church, Bedford The Revd Ruth Pyke, Diocesan Children's Work Adviser, will be leading this training day. Core Skills is a course devised by the Consultative Group on Ministry among Children. The modules Ruth will be covering on 4 July are Working as a Team, and Pastoral Awareness. This is a free event for those in St Albans Diocese, but places must be booked in advance. Book online at <http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/ministry/find-a-course/> or for more information please contact Julie Cirillo on 01727 818160 or email: [youthoffice@stalbans.anglican.org](mailto:youthoffice@stalbans.anglican.org)

### Bedford Credit Union St Mark's Church, Brickhill

You can now become a member of Bedford Credit Union (BCU) at St Mark's Church. This is a not-for-profit organisation owned and run by its members, providing savings facilities and low-cost loans. The BCU provides an alternative to High Street banks and doorstep lenders. We encourage regular saving and aim to educate our members in money management. We can also signpost members to local debt counselling services.

The BCU is run by the efforts of a group of local people who have come together with the aim of taking practical action against financial exclusion. If you would like to join then visit our office at St Mark's Church to complete an application form.

### Membership Fee

The annual membership fee of £3 covers administration costs then deposit at least £1 and you are a member.

### Junior Membership

Accounts can be opened for under 18 year olds. We run a number of School Savings Clubs. There is no joining fee. Our website shows schools involved. Contact us for details.

There is instant access to your funds and no tie-in penalties.

If we have a surplus at the end of the year a dividend may be paid to all savers, if agreed at the AGM, based on your savings over the year. Your savings are completely safe, covered by the National Compensation Scheme, up to £85,000 of each members savings.

**The Bishop of Bedford** will attend at St Mark's on for the official opening on Monday 30 March at 11.00am

### MacMillan Grand Easter Egg Draw

If anyone requires raffle tickets for the MacMillan Easter Egg, please contact myself or Jane on 01234 348091. I would like to thank everyone who have either given money or who already bought a ticket for their incredible generosity The draw will be the 29th March & Sam has agreed to pull out the winning ticket. Although, I didn't tell him the date so I hope he is free to do it



**Bedford Foodbank** is holding a 'Doctor Who Day' on Saturday 11 April at The King's House, Ampthill Road, Bedford. All profits will go to the Foodbank, which provides emergency food for local people in crisis. Guests include three of the Doctor's companions (Ace, Peri and Polly!), and the actors who play Davros and K9. Choreographer Ailsa Berk, who teaches movement to the actors who play the aliens, will be leading a monster-movement workshop! For more information, please go to the website [bedfordwhocharitycon.co.uk](http://bedfordwhocharitycon.co.uk) or email Simon Danes on [info@bedfordwhocharitycon.co.uk](mailto:info@bedfordwhocharitycon.co.uk)

## Prayers for Mothering Sunday

God says, As a mother comforts her child, so will I myself comfort you. Your sins are forgiven: rest on God as on your mother's breast. **Amen.** Is 66 v 13

Ever loving God, your care for us is greater even than a mother's love for her child; teach us to value a mother's love and see in it an expression of your grace, that we may ever feel more deeply your love for us in Christ Jesus our Saviour. . **Amen**  
*New Zealand Prayer Book, p 660*

O God, as truly as you are our father, so just as truly you are our mother. We thank you, God our Father, for your strength and goodness. We thank you God our Mother, for the closeness of your caring. O God, we thank you for the great love you have for each one of us. **Amen** *Mother Julian of Norwich (c 1342 – 1415*

When the Word became flesh, earth was joined to heaven in the womb of Mary; may the love and obedience of Mary be your example. Amen.  
May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts and homes. Amen

May you be filled with the joy of the Spirit and the gifts of your eternal home Amen  
And the blessing of God, our Maker, Friend and Inspiration, be upon you and those you love, and remain with you always. **Amen**  
*Patterns for Worship, 2T8*

God, who is our father and mother, we pray for all who do not enjoy a happy family life. We pray for men, women and children whose relationships are going through a troubled time. We think of children and parents who struggle to understand each other. We pray for young people and adults who suffer abuse from others. We pray for those who wish they had children to care for, but don't; and for those who want to be cared for by someone else, but feel alone and isolated. We pray for everyone who is far from their family, and for those who have no family. And we pray too for all the agencies which give support when the burdens become too great.

### 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

**Lily May Hostler**  
**George William Stanwix**

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

 *Living God's Love*

### Partnership Mission 14- 19 July

Thank you to those people who have been coming forward with great ideas for our mission week. Please keep suggesting events and activities for July when Bishop Richard will be joining us in the Partnership for a week of mission in our community. We will be holding special events and Bishop Richard will be visiting groups and meeting people leading up to special Sunday Services. If you have any ideas of events which you would like to hold or that you would like to participate in, then please speak with Charlie. During this week the aim will be to make contact with as many people as possible and offer them a welcome to our church family in Jesus name.

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### Forthcoming Funerals

**The funeral of Mr Peter Clough** will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Monday 16 March at 10.00am

**The funeral of Peter Parker** will take place at Putnoe Heights Church on Wednesday 18 March at 11.30am

**The memorial service for Maurice Mitchell** will take place on Friday 20 March at St Mark's Church at 2.00pm. Refreshments will be served at the church after the service. Donations in memory of Maurice may be made to Headway or St. Mark's Church.