



# Partnership News

**Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church  
15 November 2015  
Second before Advent**



## 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 November Second before Advent

**9.30am St Mark's – Holy Communion**  
Preacher - Mr Richard Ledger  
Leadership - Mr. Mike Cooper  
Intercessions - Ministers  
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion**  
Preacher - Mr. Richard Ledger  
Leadership - Mrs Jenny Snelson.  
Intercessions - Mr Alan Bayliss  
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

## 22 November Christ the King

**9.30am St Mark's – Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Mr. Chris Izzard  
Leadership - Mr. Jim Williams  
Intercessions - Mrs. Morag Stewart  
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Mr. Chris Izzard  
Leadership - Mr. Martin Fannon  
Intercessions - Mrs. Sue Allen  
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds  
**Readings** 1. Daniel 7: 9-19, 13-14  
2. Revelations 1: 4b-8 3. John 18: 33-37

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 Doreen Denny in loving memory of her husband Len

The flowers at St Mark's Church this week have been given by Mike Cooper in loving memory of his parents.

*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

Let us worship the Christ  
who draws near to each of us.  
Let us praise the Christ  
who loves the worst among us.  
Let us bless the Christ  
who shares with the least among us.  
Let us glorify the Christ  
who intercedes for all among us  
in the presence of God the Father. Amen.

*Ann Griffiths (1776-1805)*

**The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman**  
Assistant Rural Dean of Bedford  
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  
itsjanemills@gmail.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-Ordinator**  
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 Mon-Thur 9–5.30pm, Friday 9-1pm**  
**Tel/fax & Answering Service** 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com  
**Centre Manager** Geoff Gypps 365630  
**Leadership Team** Mr Barry Southam 219714  
barrysoutham@aol.com  
**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 Charity No 1160981.**  
**Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm**  
**Tel/fax & Answering Service** 342613 office@thisischurch.com  
**Centre Manager** Miss Wendy Rider 342613  
**Leadership Team** - Mrs Margaret Appleton 354708  
**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  
**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 Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**9.45am - 10.45am & 11.00am-12noon Pilates** St. Mark's Liz Mason 07816522200  
**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 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 Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**2.00pm U3A Italian** Putnoe Heights– fortnightly contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**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 07928483418 email firstputnoebrownies@hotmail.co.uk  
**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 Tel Tom 07974566509  
**6.30pm Fit For All** Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081  
**7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** St Mark's (1st week in month) Mary Daly 217127  
**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 November 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. 9.30, 11.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30. Lorrie Pearson 340473  
**11-12.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights** Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**1.15pm U3A Cinema Group.** St Mark's Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**1.30pm U3A Choir.** St Mark's Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**2.00pm U3A Book Group 1** St Mark's (3rd Week in month) Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**2.00pm U3A Book Group 2** St Mark's (2nd Week in month) Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**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 Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** St Mark's (Alternate Tuesdays) Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225  
**2.00-3.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** St Mark's. A social and Bible Study group. Meets alternate Tuesdays. Mrs Jean Bank 355698  
**3.30-6.30pm Stars School of Dance** at Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468  
**6-7pm Supple Strength Yoga** St Mark's Amanda Alcock 07769747393  
**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 8 December - Christmas Event 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 Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**10.00am Holy Communion.** St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.  
**10am U3A Card Making,** St Marks Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**11.15am U3A Keep Fit** at Putnoe Heights  
**12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 18 November Contact Putnoe Office 365630  
**1.15pm Social Bridge Club** St. Mark's. Mr Barnes 261811  
**2-4pm Ukulele Group** at Putnoe Heights. Beginners welcome. Contact Alan 340448  
**2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft** at St Marks. 1st week of the month. Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**2.00pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan** Putnoe Heights Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557  
**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 November 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 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 344600

**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 November 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) Jill Cooper 357960

### 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

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

**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 Hilary Holt 01234 342557

**2-4pm U3A Indoor Games.** St.Mark's Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557

**2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society** St Mark's

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

**5.45pm Weightwatchers.** St. Mark's. Clare Martin 07768481499

**6-7pm Supple Strength Yoga** St Mark's Amanda Alcock 07769747393

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

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

**7.00pm U3A Folk & Poetry** St Marks (2nd and 4th week in month)Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557

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

**7.15pm Putnoe Art Group** Bob Wardale 406094

**7.30pm Magpies Women's Group** St Mark's (2nd & 4th week in month ) Rosemary McNeilage 405594

**7.30pm Brickhill Ladies Group** St Mark's (1st and 3rd week in month) Linda Stephen 409493

**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

### 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 Hilary Holt 01234 342557

**10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French** St. Marks Contact Hilary Holt 01234 342557

**2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist** St Marks. (2nd week in month) Contact Hilary holt 01234 342557

**2pm U3A Gardening—Putnoe Heights** Contact Hilary Holt 01234342557

**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 at St. Mark's.** 1st Sunday Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

**11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior** at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's . 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** -

**St Mark's Leadership Team** -

**Annual Congregational Meetings** - 24 April

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** - 19 January

**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting** - 13 January

**Putnoe Church Council** - 26 January

**Pastoral Group Meeting**-

**Churchyard Committee** - TBA

**Circuit meeting** -

**Deanery meeting** -

**Woodland Burial Trustees** -

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting** -

**Messy Church** Wednesday 18 November,

Wednesday 9 December 3.45pm

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

## Second Sunday Before Advent

### Sentence of Scripture Psalm 1:1

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

### Collect Prayer for the Day

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Common Worship



### First Bible Reading - Daniel Chapter 12:1-3

At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people--everyone whose name is found written in the book--will be delivered. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.  
(This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

### Second Bible Reading - Hebrews Chapter 10:11-14, 19-25

Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.  
(This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

### Gospel Reading - Mark 13: 1-8

*Please stand and when the Gospel is announced we say - **Glory to Christ our Saviour***

As he was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!" "Do you see all these great buildings?" replied Jesus. "Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down." As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?" Jesus said to them: "Watch out that no one deceives you. Many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and will deceive many. When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains. (This is the Gospel of Christ - **Praise to Christ our Lord**)

## Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**Hymns for Sunday** (*Please distribute Holy Communion booklet and Mission Praise where required*)

1. Praise the Lord, his glories show (On Partnership News)
2. Majesty 454
3. The kingdom of God is justice and joy 651
4. I cannot tell why He, whom angels worship 266

## Commentary

The reading from Daniel addresses the problem of justice - the fates of both the righteous and the wicked and when the end will come. Verses 2 and 3 actually affirm resurrection - one of the very few parts of the Old Testament to do so; many will shine like stars - a thought echoed in a Christmas carol with the lines:

*"When like stars his children crowned All in white shall wait around".*

This is a lovely picture - the wise or religious leaders who have guided others in the right path receive their reward. Wise leaders are worth their weight in gold - and Isaiah 52:13 says "My servant will act wisely." So we are to have confidence, despite the time of distress, despite chaos and suffering, that God will know, and gather safely in, every scrap of goodness, all that is good and faithful.

Psalm 16, which is the psalm appointed for today, is worth studying, for it tells us that God is the place of refuge (v1) the voice of confidence (vv 2-7) and the path of life (vv 8-11). And do remember that psalm 23 concludes;

*"Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."*

Mark Chapter 13 begins with the disciples marvelling at the splendour of the temple. It really impresses them and we see a contrast between them and what impresses Jesus. At the end of Chapter 12 Jesus commends a widow who gives what little she has. She has, according to Jesus, put more into the treasury than the wealthy. She gave all she had to live on—amazing generosity - and Jesus praises this. It shows that really he is most interested in the quality of life - rather than in the quantity of material.

Having said in verse 2 that the temple will be destroyed, Jesus has a conversation with four disciples about when "these things" will happen. Now the context is clearly the destruction of the temple, but the whole chapter seems also to deal with the 'end' things. It is a very difficult chapter, containing, so commentaries say, some sayings of Jesus and other later material. It seems that they make up a "Little Apocalypse" to warn Christians in Jerusalem, at the start of the siege in AD70 to flee - and here, after verse 1 and 2 is a logical place for Mark to put it. What will be the signs, the disciples ask Jesus, that herald the end? (Though note that in Mark 8:11-13 and 17:20-24 Jesus warns against looking for signs.) Here Jesus talks about deceivers wars and rumours of wars that in those days with no Sky TV News(!) would have taken a long time to be heard about; and then earthquakes and famines. These, of course, are not - and were not - unusual events - but Old Testament prophecies of the "end" refer to these as part of the plan of God. There are people who speculate about these things today and are often led astray, distracted from following Jesus. It has been said that if all the attention in Christian history paid to the last things had been given to the first things then the service of Christianity to the world and its impact would have been greatly increased.

Jesus tells his disciples not to be led astray by preoccupation with the end of all time. The answer is not a date in the calendar, but God. We are called to have faith in a dependable God who acts in his own time. *"A thousand ages in Thy sight are as an evening gone ."* God wants us to focus on him; to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with him: to love God with all our heart, soul and mind, and our neighbour as ourselves.

Jesus says

*"Do not be alarmed."*

He often said that to people - for we can trust God. He is dependable.

The letter to the Hebrews emphasises that, because of who Jesus is and what he has done we can have confidence (v19) and assurance - full assurance - of faith (v22).

God says to Isaiah,

*"Fear not. I have redeemed you, I have called you by name, you are mine."*

I reckon that it is love - however buffeted and battered by chaos and suffering - whether this is on a global scale or in our individual experiences of life - that will last for ever. God wants to enfold us all in arms of love that are both gentle and strong, and at the end\_(whether it is the end of all time or the end of our lives) we can trust Him for all that's to come. Because as Clive Simmonds wrote in the hymn *"I want to walk with Jesus Christ"*, *"He has conquered death, He is King of Kings."*

It is not so much the power, but the love of God which must conquer at the end when there will come a universe in which Jesus is supreme. But when this will be - well Jesus said that even he didn't know. In the meantime we are to hold fast to this hope for

*"he who promised is faithful."* (v23).

*Richard Ledger*

### **Meditation**

Eternal God, who committest to us the swift and solemn trust of life; since we do not know what a day may bring forth, but only that the hour for serving thee is always present, may we wake to the instant claims of thy holy will, not waiting for tomorrow, but yielding today.

*Collect from the Book of Common Prayer.*

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

O God, grant us in all our doubts and uncertainties the grace to ask what you would have us do; that the spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *William Bright (1824-1901)*

Lord God Almighty, shaper and ruler of all creatures, we pray for your great mercy to guide us to your will, to make our minds steadfast, to strengthen us against temptation, to put far from us all unrighteousness. Shield us against our foes, seen and unseen, teach us so that we may inwardly love you before all things with a clean mind and clean body, for you are our maker and our redeemer, our trust and our hope. *King Alfred (849-901)*

Lord of the Universe look with love upon your people. Pour the healing oil of your compassion on a world that is wounded and dying. Send us out in search of the lost, to comfort the afflicted, to bind up the broken, and to free those trapped under the rubble of their fallen dreams. *Sheila Cassidy*

Father, I cannot bring about justice worldwide, but help me to begin where I am. Make me honest and just in all my dealings, true in my words and actions. I cannot alter the course of a suffering and unjust world, but help me to light candles in the darkness in the name of Jesus Christ, who will bring the dawn of righteousness and peace at his glorious Day of Justice and Judgement.

The poor of the world are thirsty for justice and for peace; their journey is unending till hate and oppression cease.

The Lord of Heaven is thirsty for justice and for peace; his battle is unending till hate and oppression cease. *Pastoral team of Bambamarca*

To God the Father, who first loved us and made us accepted in the Beloved: To God the Son, who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood; To God the Holy Ghost, who sheds the love of God abroad in our hearts, Be all love and glory, From time and for eternity. *Thomas Ken (1637-1711)*

**Community Coffee Mornings** at Putnoe Heights Church at 10am on Wednesdays November 25, with the final one this year on December 9.

### **Thank you**

"I felt privileged to join with you for the All Souls service.....all the candles at the front of the Church gave such a blaze of light, collected together on the little table. I could really appreciate the symbolism of the flames, ..like the memories of the people they represented, glowing brightly in times of sadness.. These words were shared with me by a friend and with Delia's sermon, it really was a super service.  
*Pat Mitchell*

### **Messy Church Samaritans Purse Shoe Box Appeal 2015**

Following the success of previous years, by Messy Church and the wider congregation, we will be packing boxes at our Messy Church session on 18 November. We will be happy to accept donated items from now on. All items must be new. These include Toys, Educational supplies, Hygiene items, Other: Sweets sell by date at least March 2016. Gloves, scarves, sunglasses, hats, bangles, necklaces. Please do not donate: food ( especially chocolate), no hand knitted stuffed toys, medicine, no war related items, no clothing other than those above, no fragile items, no liquids. No sharp objects, no novels. We do not need any empty shoeboxes this year. Please see the Messy Church notice board for details of what can and cannot be put in the boxes. If you require further information please speak to Wendy Waters or Jean Bank.

**Open House** Congratulations to everyone who was involved in any way for Children in Need fund raising event on 11 November. A staggering amount of £867 was raised.

**Christmas Voices** Friday December 11 at Putnoe Heights. 7.30 pm Come and enjoy once more a selection of seasonal poetry and prose and a little music around the Christmas tree as some of our regular Putnoe readers help us capture the Christmas spirit. Mulled wine & mince pies during the interval. Admission free. Donations welcome for the Karibuni Appeal

**Partnership Quiz** to be held at St Mark's Church on Saturday 28 November at 7.30pm. Do come and bring/make up a team. Tickets £7 includes Fish and Chip Supper. Please put this date in your diary. Tickets available from Church Office.

### **St Mark's Weekly Offering Envelopes**

Replacement sets of Weekly Offering Envelopes are available after the service this morning. If you do not currently use the envelope scheme or would like to find out more about regular giving to the Church please contact Jim Williams tel. 01234 360605.

**Vicarage Christmas Party.** Members of our Partnership Council are invited to the Vicarage on Sunday 20 December at 1.00pm. Please respond to Corinne if you are able to come and join us corinneroyden@gmail.com

**Christmas Carols in Harpur Square 4pm Sunday 6 December** Hope is organising a Christmas Carol event in the centre of our town in the lead up to Christmas. The Borough have kindly agreed to our being able to use Harpur Square for this. We would like to encourage as many as possible from our churches to come and bring praise to God and join in witness to the wonder of the Christmas story. As well as singing traditional Christmas carols, we will also have a few short drama presentations relating some of the events of the Christmas story and a short preach from Gavin Calver, the new director of Mission at the Evangelical Alliance. Towards the end of our time (we will run for a maximum of 1 hour) we plan to pass candles across the square and have a blaze of light and heat (from the candles!!) across the square as we sing our final carols. Volunteers of those who could help with stewarding would be most welcome. Please contact Simon Mushonga  
simon.mushonga@threeriversbedford.uk  
Three Rivers Church Bedford  
Tel: 01234 217 519 Mob: 07508 449 042

**Doris Cooper** was delighted to receive the flowers from St. Mark's this week and sends her thanks to those concerned.

### **Putnoe Provender Sunday 6th December**

Sales of the ever popular Christmas puddings, cakes, mince pies, jam, marmalade and much more in the Welcome Area after Morning Service. All contributions gratefully received.  
John and Sally Gunning

### **Hymn for Sunday**

Praise the Lord, his glories show, Alleluia,  
all that lives on earth below; alleluia,  
angels round his throne above, alleluia,  
all who see and share his love. alleluia!

Earth to heaven and heaven to earth Alleluia,  
tell his wonders, sing his worth; alleluia,  
age to age, and shore to shore, alleluia,  
praise him, praise him evermore. alleluia!

Praise the Lord, his mercies trace, Alleluia,  
praise his providence and grace; alleluia,  
all that he for us has done, alleluia,  
all he gives us in his Son! alleluia!

Strings and voices, hands and hearts, Alleluia,  
in the concert play your parts; alleluia,  
all that breathe, your Lord adore, alleluia,  
praise him, praise him evermore! alleluia!

## St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre – 21 November 10.30am-3.30pm

Just one week to go before the Craft Fayre. Items for the stalls below can be brought up to Church from Monday 16th November.

### New Tombola

New and unused items needed so please look in your cupboards etc. Please see Ian Farthing or John Day if you have any questions.

### Homemade cake Stall

This is a great fundraiser. If you are able to make a cake for this stall please see Milly Rollinson .

### Secondhand Bookstall

Books in good condition plus any jigsaws (with all the pieces) please. All books can be brought up to Church week beginning 16 November

### Indoor Outdoor Plant Stall

Co-ordinated by Wendy Waters/Marion Prior

### Refreshments

Donations of tray bakes to sell with our teas and coffees will be very welcome please bring up to Church from Friday 20th November

**Christmas Prize Draw** Co-ordinated by Wendy & Mick Ovenden. Any new items suitable for raffle prizes would be really welcome. Raffle tickets are on the table in the foyer. Please take some home to family and friends and bring the stubs and money back by 21. Let's see if we can top last year's record ticket sales.

**Christmas Hamper:** There is a list for a Christmas Hamper on the table in the foyer. If anyone would like to donate a suitable item please put your name on the list. If we get duplicates we will pass them on to the Raffle itself.

There are a few more street leaflets to be delivered, and we do have some left over so, if you live out of the area, it would be good if you could take them for your road.

Many thanks to those who have already supported the Fayre. We will be setting up on Friday at around 4.30p.m - 5.00p.m. There is always lots to do with setting up the tables, creating a Father Christmas Grotto, sorting out the Church Stalls, folding raffle tickets etc. We would love to see you if you can

make it. There is also a Fish and Chip supper around 6.30p.m.

Please please help us with any of the above stalls, raffle tickets and A5 leaflets.

I am sorry that this is rather long but it is our biggest fund raiser of the year and it would be good have a worthwhile and successful day. I would also like to thank you in advance for all your help and support. It is ALL greatly appreciated. *Avril Williams*

## Christmas Online Shopping

Please shop at [ThisisChurch.com](http://ThisisChurch.com)  
Use Amazon and Easyfundraising

**SHOP ONLINE?**

Raise funds for free with [easyfundraising](http://easyfundraising.org.uk)

SIGN UP  
NOW

[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

On our website homepage you will see these banners. Please shop by using these links on our website and make a point of always going to Amazon through the link on [www.ThisisChurch.com](http://www.ThisisChurch.com). If you look at an item through Amazon direct they put a cookie on your machine and we don't get any commission! Please make it a habit to always go through the church website. This costs you nothing and we get a bit of commission.

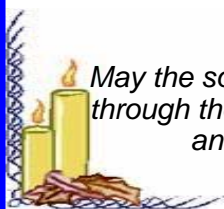
**ww.easyfundraising.com.** This works exactly the same when you shop with over 2,500 shops including John Lewis, M&S and a whole host of other main shops. This has an added benefit that you will also get some special offers - you can't lose ! Please click the link on the church website go online and sign up now.

Both of these cost you nothing and we can receive commission so please sign up please always go shopping on Amazon through the link on [www.ThisisChurch.com](http://www.ThisisChurch.com). This costs you nothing and we get a bit of commission on each purchase.

## 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

**Keith Bunday**



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

## Forthcoming Funerals



**The funeral of Mr Richard George Marriott** will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 20 November 2015 at 1.45pm

**The Funeral of Mr Patrick Oliver McNamara** will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 20 November at 4.00pm