



Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church
16 September 2018
Trinity 16 - Ordinary 24



Sunday Services

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

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

16 September 2018 - Trinity -16 Ordinary 24

9.30am St Mark's Church - Harvest Festival

Preachers - Adrian & Bridget Plass

Leadership - Mrs Laura Farthing

Intercessions - Mr Richard Ledger

Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds

11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion

Preacher - The Reverend Peter Littleford

Leadership - Mrs Sue Allen, Mrs Val Morgan,

Mrs Maureen Watling

Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds

23 September 2018 - Trinity - 17 Ordinary 25

9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship

Preacher - The Reverend Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership - Mrs Wendy Waters

Intercessions - Mr Ian Farthing

Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Local Worship

Leadership - Mrs Veta Hudson-Rae

Intercessions - Mrs Julia Bailey

Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds

Lectionary Readings:

1. Proverbs 31: 10-31 2. James 3: 13 - 4: 3.7-8a

3. Mark 9: 30-37

Mid Week Holy Communion at 10.00am at St Mark's Chapel every Wednesday and at Sir William Harpur House first Monday of every month

Thank you

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Barry and Sue Southam and Sue's sister Janet in memory of their parents.

We are always pleased 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

We bless your name, O God,
for all your servants
who have fought the fight
and kept the faith.
Grant us grace to follow
their good examples,
to continue their work
and to enjoy their fellowship
in the glory of your kingdom;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

John Hunter (1849-1917)



The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

Assistant Rural Dean of Bedford
107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Caroline Weaver

Putnoe Heights Church Putnoe Heights MK41 8EB
Tel: 348091

The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

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

Reader: Mrs Wendy Waters

Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator
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.

Partnership News is sent out by email every Saturday. To subscribe visit our Partnership News archive at www.thisischurch.com. Any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted weekly on our website and may appear in other local media sources.

Partnership News is also on www.ThisisChurch.com

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

www.putnoechurch.org.uk

Open Mon - Thur 9-4pm, Friday 9-1pm

Tel: 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com

Centre Manager: Krystyna Oborn 365630

Leadership Team: Mrs Sue Allen 407264

Treasurer: Mr Andrew Dennison

treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator: Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188

Youth Team Leader: Carolyn Morris

youth@thisischurch.com

<http://www.facebook.com/PutnoeChurch>

St. Mark's Church Centre

www.stmarkschurch.com

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm

Tel/fax: 342613 office@stmarkschurch.com

Centre Manager: Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team: Mr Edward Parry

Treasurer: Mr Ian Farthing 210892

treasurer@stmarkschurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator: Mr Jim Williams 360605

Churchyard Administrator: Mrs Avril Williams 342613

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Charity No 1164416

Regular Weekly Activities - Putnoe Heights Church

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 Nuru Lyria 01234 326685 or www.hazeldeneheights.com

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

2.00pm U3A Music Appreciation Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.00pm U3A Italian – fortnightly Rod Fewings 07718390188

4.15pm Kumon Maths Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

6.15 pm Brownies . Sharon Tanner 01767 699399 email firstputnoebrownies@hotmail.co.uk

6.15-7.15pm Pilates Jane Butcher 07891879571

7.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga Jane Butcher 07891879571

6.30pm-8pm Cubs Ages 8 –10.5 Michelle Davis 07711916870 email: michelle@putnoescouts.org

6.30pm Fit For All – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081

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

7.45-9.15 Get Fit Keep Fit Diane Field 01234 404976

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Jenny Snelson 344417

11-12.15am U3A Keep Fit Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. meets monthly.

Jo Fordham (President) 01234 217396

Margaret Bull (President) 01234 267866

Cheryl Gardner (President) 01234 261584

2.30pm. Ladies Tuesday Club (meets monthly) Next Meeting Tuesday 9 October Putnoe - Harvest.. 'Details Diane Bayliss 268101

2.30-4.30 U3A Play Reading Rod Fewings 07718390188

6.30pm– 8.00pm Cubs 6.30pm—8.00pm Ages 8-10.5 michelle@putnoescouts.org

Wednesday

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

11.00am U3A Keep Fit. Rod Fewings 07718390188

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Fortnightly. Contact Putnoe Office 365630

2-4pm U3A Ukulele Group. Beginners welcome. Contact Chris Fordham 217396

2.00pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Mrs Webster 856966

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Mrs Rakha Mistry 01908 392698

5.00–6.00pm Rainbows Gayle email : 1stputnoerainbows@gmail.com

6.15-7.15pm ATSK Karate Kevin Stark 01234 353865

6.15-7.45pm GKR Karate Daniel Freer 07931 504 712

7.00pm-9.00pm Scouts ages 10.5-14; Michelle Davis 07711916870 email:michelle@putnoescouts.org

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

7.15pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every month except August Mrs Jo Street 344600

Thursday

8.15-2.15pm Sing & Sign. Julie Warriner **01767 691488**

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

10.00-12pm U3A Painting & Sketching Rod Fewings 07718390188

1.30-3.00pm Little Fishes for the under 4's and their carers. Playtime, craft, story time, music and singing. For further details please contact Carolyn Morris tel 07751348925 or email storyboxplus@btinternet.com

2pm –4pm U3A Current Affairs Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.30pm-3.30pm U3A Spanish (Weekly) Rod Fewings 07718390188

5.15-8.15pm NHS Eat Smart Think Active contact : Laura Rocket 355122

6.00pm-7.30pm Beavers Ages 6-8 michelle@putnoescouts.org

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Brennan. 07919402797.

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Monthly second Thursday in the month. Sandra White 313645

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

8.00pm Bedford Folk Dancers (formerly Barn dancers) Meet weekly with different guest callers each week. Except August. All welcome, cost £2. Including refreshments. More details Ron 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

Friday

9.30pm Spanish Holiday Survival Elena 01234 266968

9.30am –12. 30pm Machine Knitting group 1st and second weeks per month. Contact Marion Sutton 217647

10am-12 U3A French Conversation Rod Fewings 07718390188

2pm U3A Gardening Rod Fewings 07718390188

6.30pm-8.00pm Beavers Ages 6-8 Michelle Davis 07711916870 email: michelle@putnoescouts.org

Saturday

2.15pm Society of Recorder Players G. Parry 01462 674792

Sunday

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior for the under 9's . A crèche is also available.

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council - 13 November
St Mark's Leadership Team - 6 November
St Mark's Church AGM - April 28 2019
Putnoe Leadership Team – October 9
Putnoe Management Meeting – October 4
Putnoe Church Council - October 30.
Pastoral Group Meeting – 25 September at 4.00 pm.
Churchyard Committee -
Circuit Meeting -
Deanery meeting - 29 November
Woodland Burial Trustees – 14 October
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting -
St Marks Messy Church -

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

Regular Weekly Activities - St Mark's Church

Monday

7.30am-6.00pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's

7.30am-6.00pm 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

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. Mrs M. Berry 211955

10.00am U3A Play reading Rod Fewings 07718390188

9.45am - 10.45am & 11.00am-12noon Pilates Liz Mason
07816522200

2-4pm U3A Meditation & Wellbeing Rod Fewings
07718390188

6.00pm Brownies Mrs C Mathew 826190

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's (1st week in month)

Mary Daly 217127

7.00-8.00pm Laughter Club on 2nd week each month Cheryl
Green 07729187399

7-9pm Rangers. Nikki Lake 07584028653

7.15pm Guides. Mrs Gill Lake 218091

7.30pm Whist Drive. Weeks 3 & 5 in the month. Judith
Stanton. 823313

Tuesday

9.15am-11.15. Chat & Make A term time group for Mums
and toddlers 0-5. For more details ring St Mark's Church
Office 01234 342613 or Janine 01234 297481

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World

9.30, 11.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30. Lorrie Pearson 340473

1.15pm U3A Cinema Group. Rod Fewings 07718390188

1.30pm U3A Choir. Contact Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.00pm U3A Book Group 1 (3rd Week in month) Contact
Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.00pm U3A Book Group 2 (2nd Week in month) Contact
Rod Fewings 077183901882

2.00pm U3A Photography Group 3 (1st Week in month)
Contact Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.30pm Knit & Natter Group. Meetings: 25/9,9/10,23/10,
6/11,20/11,4/12,18/12Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs
Maureen Watling 262225

2.00-3.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. A social
and Bible Study group. Meetings:18/9,2/10,16/10,30/10,
13/11,27/11,11/12. Mrs Jean Bank 355698

6-7pm Supple Strength Yoga Amanda Alcock
07769747393

7.15-8.15pm Pilates Jane Butcher 07891879571

7.30-9pm Faith Community Church Audua Ogilvie 01234
308644

8.00pm Hearts in Beds Committee (4th week in month) Mrs
N Aspey 309816

8.25-9.25pm Restoration Pilates Johanna Debnam
07753418170

Wednesday

10.00-2pm Open House for those with learning disabilities.,
their friends, family, carers and supporters 342613.

10.00am U3A Gardening Group 3 Rod Fewings
07718390188

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

10am U3A Card Making, Rod Fewings 07718390188

10-4pm Sewing group 4th week of the month. Contact Sue
Sewell 07979797747

1.15pm Social Bridge Club Mr Barnes 261811

2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft 1st week of the month Contact: Rod
Fewings 07718390188

3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. (3rd Week in month). for
children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based
story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 19
September. Wendy Waters 401834

6.00pm Brownies. Mrs C Warden 219731

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. Yvonne Blain 350241 or Brian
Sallows 407725.

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club at St Mark's
(1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting 19
September. Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1
including refreshments. Call Rosemary 405594 or Graham
406359 for more details or come and join our friendly group
and have a try.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club (Week 1 in the
month) Jill Cooper 357960

Thursday

9.30-10.40am Cook Stars Bedford fun cooking classes for
children between the age of 2-5yrs. Julia 07375472439

9.45am Chat and Play A term time group for Mums &
toddlers.0-5 St Mark's Church Office 01234 342613 or
Janine 01234 297481

12pm Storybox . Welcomes 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.. Contact Jaana
Swaby 342613

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society Jean Patterson 307210

5.15-6.45pm Weightwatchers Jodi Henderson 07449890830

6-7pm Supple Strength Yoga Amanda Alcock
07769747393

7-9pm Bedford Community Gospel Choir weekly meeting
starting on the 13th September. Contact 07554148540

7.00pm U3A Singing for Fun (1st & 3rd week in month)Rod
Fewings 07718390188

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

7.30pm Magpies. Meet on 2nd & 4 Thursday Next meeting
27 September - The Poppy Appeal Call Rosemary 405594
for more details.

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

Friday

10am -12.00 U3A Photography (4th week in month)
Contact Rod Fewings 07718390188

10.45am - 12 U3A Poetry & Literature St. Marks Contact
Rod Fewings 07718390188yh

2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist (2nd week in month) Contact
Chris Fordham 07940072202

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

6.30 -8.30pm Pakua Martial Arts John Waugh 07802755914

Saturday

9.00am Faith Community Church (1st week in month)
Audua Ogilvie 01234 308644

10.00am-1pm Theatretrain Dancing acting, singing. Kate
Howard 01234 782414

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. P Harris
01623 621143

11.30-2.30pm Faith Inspired Ministry. Pastor James
Mudokwani 07411154809

Trinity 16 Ordinary 24

Opening Verse of Scripture - Psalm 116:1-8

I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

Collect Prayer for the Day - *Before we read, we pray*

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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. CW

First Bible Reading - Proverbs 1:20-33

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out;

at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: 'How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?

How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? Give heed to my reproof;

I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you have ignored all my counsel

and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you,

when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord, would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices. For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.'

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

Second Bible Reading - James 3: 1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it

Take up your cross and follow me



we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

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

Gospel Reading - Mark 8: 27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

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

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. CW

Hymns - St Mark's

1. Come, ye thankful people, come
2. Autumn days when the grass is jewelled
3. Praise God for harvest of orchard and field
4. Praise and thanksgiving
5. We plough the fields and scatter,

Putnoe Heights

1. Be still for the presence of the Lord 20
2. I danced in the morning 247
3. Jesus Christ is waiting 251
4. Let us break bread together 592
5. You shall go out with joy (sung 'till exhaustion which means twice!) 487

Commentary

For the first human admission of who Jesus is, Mark shows Jesus travel from Lake Galilee to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Caesarea Philippi had originally been called Baalinas. It was the place where the worship of Baal was centered. Then it was called Paneas, a place where the Greek god Pan had been worshipped. Finally it was known as Caesar's city, because Philip had built there a tremendous white temple to the godhead of Caesar. It was also known as the source of the Jordan, Jesus is in the shadow of this great city, upon him look down the gods of Palestine and Greece, the history of Israel and the might of imperial Rome. In this shadow of greatness, Jesus the poor Galilean carpenter, asks his sorry bunch of disciples who they think he is.

Peter shows that God has been at work in his heart and he is able to recognise that Jesus was '*The Christ, the Son of the Living God.*' Jesus tells Peter that God has revealed this to him, and he calls him a 'rock' on which the church will be built. This means that Peter is the first person to discover who Jesus is and everyone who follows and makes that same discovery is another stone built on this foundation. Jesus does not want this message to be published at large at this time, in the 70 years before Jesus there had been 17 rebellions in which 57,000 Jews were killed. This was not time for another blood bath, and Jesus had a different plan. However Jesus at this point has reached a watershed, there was at this point that moment of no return. Jesus from here makes an inevitable journey to the cross.

There are two types of bravery, there is bravery when you do something almost without thinking, indeed if you thought about it you might not do it. People throw themselves into swollen rivers to save people and animals, often drowning as a consequence, they just see the need and jump. However there are other

situations when people have time to consider what they are doing, they face the danger and sacrifice, they could escape, but they do not. I have a great deal of respect for these people. A young man who offers his own bone marrow to help somebody who he has never seen, who goes through the hospital tests, arranges time of work, faces the operation—these types of things I admire greatly. In Homer's Iliad, Achilles is told by his mother Thetis that if he goes out to battle he will certainly die, and his answer is 'Nevertheless I am going on.'

William Tyndale gave the Bible in English to the English people. The church of the day did not want the common people to have the scriptures and they burned his Bible. Tyndale said, 'no doubt they will burn me too, if it be God's will.' It was eight years before they did eventually burn him, and he waited those eight years for his death. Jesus was in this mould. He knew the danger and what lay ahead and he refused to be put off course. This was not a particular gift of fore knowledge, anybody in their mind would know that if Jesus went to Jerusalem and continued to say the things which he was saying then it would end in his death. The Roman Empire was strong and powerful yet Jesus was completely lacking in awe of worldly power or values. Jesus created his own values.

This morning is not a day in which we simply admire Jesus. He has a call to each one of us also and he makes it in this passage. He tells us that we must be like him

"Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it."

Today we seek to model ourselves on Jesus - When surrounded by the power of influences which surround us. Are we able to live independently by God's values and not conform to the world around us? Would we be prepared to do so if it brought us directly into situations of conflict? Are we prepared to consider and think through our ideas and values, to make sure that we are being transformed to live more like Jesus wishes us, rather than conforming to the prevalent opinions of our day?

This is so difficult in our time because we are surrounded by powerful influences which tempt us to have a distorted view of life which is not according to the teaching of Jesus. We do not live in the shadow of Caesarea Philippi but there is substantial pressure from powers about us. We are called to be in the world, not to retreat into solitude like the pillar saints, but to be in the midst of the chaos of our society. In the shadow of the malevolent forces which seeks to corrupt us and are society are we prepared to stand against the tide? Are we prepared to say like Jesus that if we seek self fulfilment we will never be fulfilled. Jesus tells us that it is only as we serve and give to others that we are truly filled. Is it any wonder that our society is so lacking in fulfilment?

You might think that the message of the sermon today is that we must be brave like Jesus. Well no, it's not. Jesus was able to continue resolute in his ministry because he depended upon God's strength. If we are to dare to stand out as lights in the dark places of our world and demand kingdom values and witness to the Gospel of Christ, then we do not need to be strong or courageous, we need to be faithful. God will give to us the strength that we need to carry out his will for our lives.

Charles Royden



The Reverend
Caroline Weaver

Putnoe Heights welcomes new Methodist Minister The Reverend Rev Caroline Weaver

Caroline is a minister in the North Bedfordshire Methodist Circuit. She has pastoral responsibility for

- Her Majesty's Prison, Bedford
- Cranfield Methodist Church
- Lidlington Church
- Putnoe Heights Church

Caroline says: Called into ministry from a career with Herts. Libraries, I was ordained in 2001 and served the Hemel Hempstead and Berkhamsted circuit and the Mount Prison before moving to N. Beds in 2011. I love God, people, music, words and colour. I enjoy sewing, complicated knitting. and gardening. Contact details for Caroline are on the front of Partnership News.

Little Fishes is a new children's group at Putnoe Heights Church for our under 4 year olds and their carers, in the small hall at 1.30 to 3pm. play time, craft, story time, rhymes, songs and musical instruments. refreshments. All welcome. If anyone would like to help with refreshments or craft please speak to Carolyn Morris. Further details email: youth@thisischurch.com

Putnoe Thursday Prayer Group. Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

Community Coffee Morning at Putnoe. Restarted 12 September.

Harvest Festival and Lunch at Putnoe Heights will be held on Sunday 7 October. Tickets for lunch now available .

'Welcome and Inclusion' - a practical day exploring our welcome in church and inclusion of people living with mental ill-health Saturday 6 October 2018, 9.15 am - 3.00 pm at Norton, St George's Church & the Parish Centre (Common View, Letchworth SG6 1DA). Please speak with the ministers if you wish to know more.

New Launch Bedford Community Gospel Choir will be meeting at St Mark's Church weekly starting on Thursday 13 September 7-9pm. Cost £5 per session. Contact 07554148540

Partnership Quiz Night to be held at St Mark's Church on Saturday 6 October 2018 at 7.30 pm. Tickets £7.50 each (includes Fish & Chip Supper). Teams of up to 8, can be arranged on the night. Bring your own bottle. A raffle will also be held.

Putnoe Heights Church Members List We have a responsibility to keep our Members List accurate

and up-to-date in order to be able to contact you and to offer pastoral care. If you have changed your address, phone number or e-mail address, please let me know. If you didn't complete a membership form last year, or are unsure if you are a Church Member, please ask. Membership Forms are available in the welcome area. This does not affect your rights under GDPR. If you are interested in finding out more about what Church membership means please speak to one of the ministers. Chris Nixon, Church Council Secretary.

Get Fit / Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights

Come and join my exercise to music class. Price £4. Monday 8pm-9.15pm in the large hall. Suitable for all ages, abilities, shapes and sizes. Join my fun, friendly, long established (22 years) exercise class. No gimmicks. Wear suitable footwear and bring a drink and a towel or mat for floor work. Diane Field 01234 404976

Friends for Life are holding their AGM on Wednesday 17 October - 7.30pm. We are hoping this will be in the new Christchurch Halls on Dudley Street. But as the new manager of the halls doesn't start work until 1 October... this is a provisional booking which we will confirm. Come along - listen- mingle- mix- drink tea and eat cake!! RSVP by 8 October - Pauline Carter <pauline@friendsforlifebedford.org.uk>

Putnoe Heights Fairtrade Stall - the next stall will be November 4th. The new season catalogues will be available shortly from the table in the foyer. Orders happily taken at any time - see the slip inside the catalogue for more details. Traidcraft are currently facing challenging trading conditions so your support is greatly appreciated. Please see <https://fairtradegoldingtonputnoe.wordpress.com/2018/09/12/update-from-traidcraft/> to find out more.



Harvest Festival Gifts at St Mark's on Sunday 16 September will be donated to Bedford Food Bank.

There a permanent Food Bank collection facility for you to donate goods to Bedford Food Bank at St Mark's Church in the foyer. There are shortages of the following items this month ; - Cup-a-soup, Tinned Casserole Meat, Tinned Rice Pudding, Jam Teabags (40's, 80's & 160's) Jars of Pasta Sauce, Tinned Vegetables, Rice, Tinned fruit, Toilet Rolls, Squash, UHT Fruit Juice, Washing Up Liquid. Many thanks for your continued support. Chris

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Father in heaven all good gifts come from you. You send the sunshine and the rain, and it is through your love and care that we enjoy all that we have. Thank you for providing so richly for our needs and help us to share the good things we have with those who have little or nothing.

Bring to fruition Creator God, the work of your kingdom in our lives. Make us part of that joyful harvest in which your loving purpose is completed. Help us to realise how important the smallest words and deeds are. Thank you for others who have set before us an example of true Christian living and who have sown the seeds of faith hope and love in our lives.

Your Son Jesus Christ is the first-fruits of the resurrection and will reap the harvest of the dead at the end of time: we pray that he will gather us all together with those who have gone before in the banquet of the age to come. *Merciful Father*

Meditation From Bishop Richard

Birmingham, Liverpool, Brighton, Cardigan, Bristol, Glasgow. What's the link? They are the venues for this year's Political Party Conferences: occasions that are often mired in the minutiae of party wrangling, but which offer the opportunity of the renewing and retuning of vision. A time to tackle some of the bigger issues such as those addressed by the recent IPPR report 'Prosperity and Justice: A Plan for the New Economy' to which the Archbishop of Canterbury contributed. A time for purposeful and hopeful direction post-Brexit.

Sadly the run up to this year's conference season has at times been focused on what divides us as a nation, rather than on the essential interdependence of what should be an united and flourishing people. In particular, significant concerns about anti-Semitism and Islamophobia, have dominated the agenda. As important, as internal party issues, has been a wider context of growing concern about hate crime, extremism – not least on the far right – and racism.

Dame Helen Hyde, the former Head of Watford Grammar School for Girls recently wrote of her concern about the growing anti-Semitic threat and commented that 'The same-old anti-Semitic myths and conspiracy theories are spreading openly and seem to be equally acceptable to educated people on the left and the right'. Tell Mama, which measures anti-Muslim attacks, has recorded growing numbers of incidents in recent months. The Brexit related debate about national identity often acquires a Xenophobic character.

As I enter my fifth and final year as Co-Chair of the national Inter Faith Network, which works to bring together the faith communities of our country to enhance understanding, co-operation and good relations, in order to promote the common good, I am all the more concerned that we champion a society where all are welcome; all are valued. Celebrating this, affirming this and furthering this should very much be the Rt Revd Richard Atkinson agenda of the party Bishop of Bedford conferences. At its heart it is the fundamental call to love our neighbour which Christ commands.

Later this year it will be the tenth national Inter Faith Week which runs from November 11th to November 18th www.interfaithweek.org

Each year since 2009 growing numbers of organisations from within and without the faith communities have come together in local events and activities to build co-operation and understanding. Is this the opportunity for you with colleagues in your congregation, and through groups in the community to which you belong, to reach out to brothers and sisters in other faith traditions? Why not take the opportunity to do something that strengthens the bonds of friendship and society? For then we begin to model that just, integrated and harmonious living together that ought to be the priority for those gatherings in Birmingham, Liverpool, Brighton, Cardigan, Bristol, and Glasgow. **Bishop Richard, Bedford**



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.

**Mr Graham Elliott
Mrs Joan Dunning**

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



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Forthcoming Funerals

The funeral of Mr Melvyn Frost
will take place at 11am on
Tuesday 18 September at The St
Albans Woodland Burial Ground



*All funerals at Bedford
Crematorium
can be found @
www.bedford.gov.uk/obituaries*