



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

17 June 2007

11th in Ordinary Time



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

9.30am St Mark's - Holy Communion

Preacher – Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper
Intercessions - Mrs Wendy Waters

Putnoe Heights Church

Special 50th Anniversary Weekend

11am Morning Worship -

Preacher—Rev Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley
Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

4pm Circuit Celebration Service - Preacher John
Payne Cook (Partnership Minister 1976-85)

5.30pm Bring and share buffet. Please see list in
Putnoe welcome area for ideas of food to bring.

12th in Ordinary - 24 June

9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mrs Laura Farthing
Intercessions - Mr Richard Ledger

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

Readings 1: 1 Kings 19:1 - 4, 8 - 15a, **2:** Gal. 3: 23 -
29 **3:** Luke 1: 57 - 66,80

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Margaret and Eddy Peck on the occasion of their wedding anniversary and Eddy's 70th birthday, and by Claire and Richard Peck in memory of Claire's Mum.

We are always grateful for any donations for flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion, an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St Mark's) or Miss Jennie Cooper 404950 (Putnoe Heights)

Prayer for Sunday

Be a light, O Lord to my eyes.

Music to my ears

and contentment to my heart.

Be sunlight in my day, food at my table
and rest to me in the night.

Take into your hands my body and my soul,
my freedom and my life.

Let me rejoice to be about your business and
let me live to your praise and glory,
now and forever.

John Cosin 1594 -1672

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
266952 Fax- 402624 NSM@ThisisChurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.
Home 344536 Crossley@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

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

For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in
Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website.

Partnership News is also archived on our
church website www.ThisisChurch.com

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am—5pm Monday to Friday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417

Leadership Team Mr Alan Cooper 365302 Mob 07989367604

Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Youth & children's worker - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5.00pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Parry 216724

Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30-12.00pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school

Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

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

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634

(See website for more details)

9.00am Clubhouse at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's

Mr Kellie ☎721063

12.00-1.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights church 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. ☎Liz 302349

2.30-4.30pm Bedford Arts Society at Putnoe Heights

Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741 (weekly from 25 September 2006)

4.00pm Storybox Plus Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. ☎Liz Spavins 302349

4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe

Heights. Miriam Adcock ☎01908 565044

4.15-6.00pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights.

Ms Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎364710

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs Pauline Parrott ☎768419

7.15 m Guides. St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

7.30pm Creative Needles. Putnoe Heights.

Jacky Hayward ☎307648.

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's each month next 18 June Judith Stanton. ☎823313

7.30pm Housegroup 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.

8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights.

Judi Staughton ☎341821

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's.

Helen Folbigg ☎351223

10.00am Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman

☎822230

1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights.

Andrea ☎210177 or Majella ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's. Last Tuesday of the month. Mr Austin ☎365184

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's (3rd Tuesday only)

Mrs Burman ☎364723

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Mrs C Allen ☎363878

2-5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 12 June 'Bedford in loom' Mrs.J.Fraser. Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's Meets fortnightly. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's Meets fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

3.45-5.30pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 0582468.

6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga Putnoe Heights.

Rachel Leontyne ☎783129

7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group at St Mark's, (1st Tuesday) Contact Kate Parsons 351150

7-8pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎214107.

7-9pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights.

Karen King ☎07941 264885

7- 10pm Card Makers Club meets fortnightly at St Mark's. Carol Houghton ☎346718

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe. Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr ☎360188 or 07866775515

7.30-10.30pm Chartered Management Institute St Mks

7.45pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets

fortnightly. Next meeting 19 June Charity Evening 'Five in Harmony' Details : Audrey Wilkins☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

9.00am Paint Tots at St Mark's Jacqui Harrahan ☎824475

9.30am Childminding Support Group.Putnoe Heights.

Mrs S Longman ☎313949

9.30am - Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights.

Stephanie Smith ☎357787.

9.00am Clubhouse at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.

10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel.

A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.

10am Sewing & Chat. Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966

10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation Putnoe Heights Fortnightly. Audrey Hancock ☎365915.

Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 27 June 2007 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.30-4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811

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

4.15-6pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights

Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's.

Mrs Carol Warden ☎219731

6.15-7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights

Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138

6.30-7.30pm Karate. St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's

Brian Sallows ☎407725

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

7.00pm Yoga St Mark's Dorothy Turner ☎721763

7.00pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly. Putnoe Heights.

Janice ☎Loxley 347073

7.45pm Badminton Club.Putnoe Heights

All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867

8.00-10.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club St Mark's, 1st ,3rd & 5th Wednesday. More details Graham ☎406359 or Danny ☎401668.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's (1st

week) Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen ☎343424
Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

9.30am-12.30 Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips ☎01582 485333

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

9.45am-11.30am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.50 for first child + 50p for each extra child over 2 years. More details from St. Marks Office ☎342613 or Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30pm-3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic. St. Mark's ☎267444

12pm Storybox. St Mark's Church 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 Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Andrea ☎210177 or Magella ☎325293.

2- 4.30pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

5.30-7.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's.

Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Helga Nash ☎218521

6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's

Mr & Mrs Pike ☎823795

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights

Sheila Jakeman ☎261935

7-9pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's (Fortnightly starting from 26th April) Contact Doug Ovenden ☎825059

7.30pm-11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club St Mark's Mr P Housden ☎376597

7.30-9.30pm Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's

3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby ☎344442

7.30-9.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible Studies every 2 Thursday- Pastor Tarr ☎360188

7.45pm Housegroup meets fortnightly

Betty Wyatt ☎350188

8.00-10pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st

Thursday each month. Mr Broadhouse ☎740271

8.00-10.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's (2nd & 4th weeks) Mrs Cotchin ☎402089

8.00pm Brickhill Wives St Mark's (1st and 3rd weeks) Mrs Woods ☎404702

Friday

9.30am & 12.30pm U3A Photography Group (4th week) Joyce Fildes ☎353086

9.00am Clubhouse St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.

1.30-2pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

6.30-9.00pm Line Dancing. St Mark's A night of fun Christine Rushton ☎782360

7-10pm Bedford Arts Society fortnightly Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

7.30pm Youth Club for age 10-15. St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey ☎349179

Saturday

9.00- 12.00pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe

Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

10.00am - 1.00pm Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Randle ☎01234 782414

7.15-10.30pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Ann or Peter ☎212066

Sunday

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

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

1 - 3pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515

6-7.30pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. Liz ☎302349.

6 -7.30pm T.X.T Putnoe. for 13 + fortnightly, join us for fellowship, debate & discussion. Liz ☎302349

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 12 November

St Mark's Leadership Team – 26 June Linda Parry

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team –25 June at Lawrence Wyatt's.

St Mark's Church Management Meeting - 20 June.

Putnoe Heights Centre Management - 16 July

Putnoe Church Council -

Pastoral Group Meeting –

Churchyard Committee - 5 September 11am

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting.

Partnership Council -

Brickhill Parish Council

Meetings on 7 June, 5 July

Deanery Meeting - 13 September St Paul's

Circuit Meeting

Woodland Burial Trustees - 18th June 7pm

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth–

Calendar dates appear on our church website

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

Telecare



Telecare

It is extremely helpful to the Ministers to be able to have feed back, especially if somebody is poorly or in hospital. If you have not yet put your name down on the Telecare scheme, please do so. Additional members of the

Pastoral Team are sharing the task of making telephone calls. Please do not be concerned if a new person calls.

11th in Ordinary

Opening Verse - Psalm 8:1

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

Collect Prayer for the Day

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. (Common Worship contemporary language)



First Bible Reading—1 Kings 21: 1-10, 15-21a

Some time later there was an incident involving a vineyard belonging to Naboth the Jezreelite. The vineyard was in Jezreel, close to the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. Ahab said to Naboth, "Let me have your vineyard to use for a vegetable garden, since it is close to my palace. In exchange I will give you a better vineyard or, if you prefer, I will pay you whatever it is worth." But Naboth replied, "The LORD forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my fathers." So Ahab went home, sullen and angry because Naboth the Jezreelite had said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers." He lay on his bed sulking and refused to eat. His wife Jezebel came in and asked him, "Why are you so sullen? Why won't you eat?" He answered her, "Because I said to Naboth the Jezreelite, 'Sell me your vineyard; or if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard in its place.' But he said, 'I will not give you my vineyard.'" Jezebel his wife said, "Is this how you act as king over Israel? Get up and eat! Cheer up. I'll get you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite." So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, placed his seal on them, and sent them to the elders and nobles who lived in Naboth's city with him. In those letters she wrote: "Proclaim a day of fasting and seat Naboth in a prominent place among the people. But seat two scoundrels opposite him and have them testify that he has cursed both God and the king. Then take him out and stone him to death." As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned to death, she said to Ahab, "Get up and take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite that he refused to sell you. He is no longer alive, but dead." When Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, he got up and went down to take possession of Naboth's vineyard. Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite: "Go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who rules in Samaria. He is now in Naboth's vineyard, where he has gone to take possession of it. Say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: Have you not murdered a man and seized his property?' Then say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: In the place where dogs licked up Naboth's blood, dogs will lick up your blood—yes, yours!'" Ahab said to Elijah, "So you have found me, my enemy!" "I have found you," he answered, "because you have sold yourself to do evil in the eyes of the LORD. I am going to bring disaster on you. (This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

Second Bible Reading — Galatians 2: 15-21

We who are Jews by birth and not 'Gentile sinners' know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified. If, while we seek to be justified in Christ, it becomes evident that we ourselves are sinners, does that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not! If I rebuild what I destroyed, I prove that I am a lawbreaker. For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"
(This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

Third Bible Reading – Luke 7: 36-8:3

(After the Gospel is announced—**Glory to Christ our Saviour**)

Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is--that she is a sinner." Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said. "Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he cancelled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt cancelled." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said. Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven--for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little." Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." After this, Jesus travelled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; Joanna the wife of Cuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means

(This is the Gospel of Christ - **Praise to Christ our Lord**)

Commentary

We tend to think of Pharisees in the Gospel stories as 'baddies.' It is true that they were frequently some of the most fierce opponents of Jesus, however in Luke 13:31, it was Pharisees who warned Jesus that Herod was planning to kill him. Then in John 3, it was Nicodemus, a Pharisee, who comes to Jesus by night saying, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." It is perhaps not surprising therefore to find Jesus in the home of a Pharisee, having been invited for dinner. The dinner would be a more public affair than in our homes today, perhaps in a house with a courtyard area, where people could wander in and observe those eating. Simon might have been interested in Jesus, this young prophet Jesus, with a growing reputation. He might have wanted to see what Jesus had to say, even if he did not agree with him.

At the dinner Jesus and his friends are reclining around the room, perhaps on cushions. It is as Jesus is lying down that a woman approaches him and starts to wash his feet. But, she doesn't stop there, she goes on to perform a particularly sensuous and provocative act of kissing the feet of Jesus and wiping them with her hair. Custom prohibited women from letting down their hair in the presence of any man except their husband, and husbands are permitted to divorce wives who violate that rule. We can only chuckle to think how all of the highly religious people around the room would have responded to this. But it gets worse. Not only was the woman carrying out these actions, she was also known by the men there to be lacking in the area of her own reputation. We do not know if she was a prostitute, but clearly she was no angel. Who knows how the men came by this knowledge of the moral condition of the woman!

Lets us look at all of the characters in the story

The woman is a sinner, she knows it, the Pharisees know it and so did the disciples of Jesus. However the woman obviously believes in her heart that sin does not prevent her from loving and being loved by Jesus. She sees in Jesus somebody who can look beyond the appearance of sin and offer to her acceptance and forgiveness. The woman would know exactly what the men would say about her, if she was a prostitute she would also have a good understanding of the hypocrisy of men who judged her. She was not prepared to allow the criticism of others, human boundaries or rituals, to restrain her emotional outpouring.

Simon, the Pharisee, was just doing what he had always been told to do. He wants to do the right thing, and this woman was behaving inappropriately. Sadly for Simon, Jesus doesn't have much time for people

who judge others and who think well of themselves. His self-righteousness resulted in an ambivalence towards Jesus, demonstrated in his failure to give to Jesus sufficient courtesy, so much so that Jesus felt able to refer to it publicly. Jesus shows that it was not the woman but Simon who had fallen short. The woman had felt forgiveness and responded in love, Simon had clearly not come to terms with his own needs of forgiveness.

Jesus is quite relaxed about the incident itself, for him social conventions can be easily dispensed with in the light of God's kingdom. He recognises that the touch of the sinner does not make him unclean, rather contact with him offers to all people fresh hope. Jesus refuses to push the woman away, he is concerned not for his own reputation but rather to acknowledge the love shown towards him.

Ourselves It is a marvellous story and it tells us lots about Jesus and his opponents. It also challenges us to ask ourselves, 'how would I have behaved?' Would we be like the Pharisees or Jesus? Or to ask the question in a more pertinent way, 'how do we behave today?' We could be judgemental and self-righteous like Simon, or we could be overwhelmed by the forgiveness shown by Jesus—like the woman. The story reminds us that we are all sinners, all reliant upon the goodness of God to overcome the failure of ourselves. Sadly we so often forget this and become judgemental towards others, thinking that there are levels and degrees of sin. None of us must imagine ourselves to be immune from this kind of spiritual pride. *Charles Royden*

Meditation

A father was watching his young son trying to dislodge a heavy stone. The boy couldn't budge it. "Are you sure you are using all your strength?" the father asked. "Yes, I am," said the exasperated boy. "No, you are not," the father replied. "You haven't asked me to help you."

On this Father's Day, let us take time to thank God for fathers who give their lives in caring for their families and others. Let us remember the sacrifice which being a good father entails. Praise God for all that they do for us and the care which they show towards their families. By acknowledging fathers, may we encourage all men to be examples to their children of courage and commitment.

Post Communion Prayer Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns (Please distribute Mission Praise) (Morning Worship Putnoe/Holy C. St Mark's)

1. O bless the God of Israel (Tune: Morning Light) On Partnership News Page 9
2. I have decided to follow Jesus 272 Mission Praise
3. Rock of ages 582 (Tune: Toplady)
4. Like a mighty river flowing On Partnership News Page 9
5. I know not why 279 Mission Praise

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

We thank you for the love that you have given in Jesus Christ--love that looks beyond our sin. O God, give us the grace to pass on the love that you have given us. Give us the wisdom to see where that love needs to be given and give us the boldness and courage to give it. In the name of Christ we give you thanks and praise. Amen

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves; when our dreams have come true because we dreamed too little; when we arrive safely because we sailed too close to the shore. Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly — to venture on wider seas where storms will show your mastery; where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars. Sir Francis Drake (c.1540-96) (attrib.)

Jesus, we ask that you would shape us by your presence among us that we might be a church that exhibits your hospitality and forgiveness toward others. May our life together reflect your great love for all people. Amen.

Dear God: We are all in need of care. We thank you for the care you give to each of us, and we ask that fathers may feel your care this day. We are grateful for these men who in so many ways help us grow and care for us. We thank you for all the qualities of our fathers which make us feel proud. Bless our family. Help us show more patience than impatience; more laughter than anger; more understanding than disregard; more care than indifference. Amen.

Help Required. Storybox at St Mark's needs help with refreshments for about an hour over lunchtime. If anyone feels they could lend a hand once every six weeks, Emma would love to hear from you. If you leave your telephone number at the office Emma will get back to you or ring Emma 211070. Thank you.

TNT Sunday 24th June focusing on prayer. Sunday 8 & 22 July cooking/ rounders depending on weather.

Two Day Summer Special—'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'. We invite all our young adults (under 100yrs!) and children (over 5 years) throughout the Partnership, to join us at Putnoe Heights on Tuesday 21 & Wednesday 22 August between 9.30 and 3.30 for two days of fun. We will learn about Joseph and his family relationships through story, discussion, games, crafts and under the direction of Clive Simmonds put together the 20 minute musical performance. More details will follow. Liz

50th Anniversary Pens ! Why not buy a special pen to mark the 50th Anniversary of Putnoe Heights Church ? The pens are black and come in a smart box. Available now at Putnoe, price £3 or phone Jenny Emsley 360397

Storybox plus now meets at Putnoe on a Monday afternoon between 3.30 and 5.00. If any children aged between 4 and 9 years old within the Partnership would like to join us as we "Follow the Year" please contact Liz

Tuesday Club Charity Concert Tuesday 19 June at 7.30pm by Five in Harmony (formerly Albany Concert) in aid of Hearing Dogs for the Deaf. Admission £5, including refreshments and lucky programme, all welcome.

Need a cleaner? Highly efficient, trustworthy cleaner, has own car. Excellent references. Telephone: Naseem 363189

"The Great Gappo" children's entertainer at Putnoe Heights on Monday 23 July 12 -3pm .Sandwich lunch, games and crafts. Tickets £1 at Story Box & Story Box Plus or Junior church. £2 on the door. All welcome. See Liz or Emma.

We would be grateful for any help in stacking the chairs after morning service each Sunday. Many thanks.



Belief Courses A Day Retreat at Turvey Abbey on Saturday 24th November 2007. The suggested Fee will be £30.00. For information contact Stephen Heap 01234 216181. Cheques payable to BELIEF.

Getting to grips with Matthew's Gospel. Speaker - Dr Jeffrey John at St Andrew's Church, Kimbolton Road.. 23rd February.2008 Forms available from St Mark's Church Office

The Methodist Circuit are considering an extension of Rev. Dr. Joan Crossley's Ministry at Putnoe Heights Church for 3 years from August 2008-2011. The Leadership at both St.Marks & Putnoe Heights would welcome your consideration on this matter. Please talk to us before 4 July, many thanks, Leadership Teams of Putnoe & St. Marks.

Putnoe Heights flowers. Anyone who wishes to donate flowers for Sundays during the next few months is invited to enter their name(s) on the rota on the notice board in the welcome area at Putnoe.

Thank You to everybody who has helped with the 50th Anniversary Weekend at Putnoe. This has been a marvellous celebration which has evoked so many happy and special memories of the past. We are grateful to all of those who have contributed to our weekend. We are also mindful and full of gratitude to those people who gave many years of Christian service to make Putnoe the very special Church that it is today.

Bedford Cricketing Saints & Warthogs.

Interested in playing? There is a busy fixture list of matches both home and away, on Sunday afternoons and mid-week, plus a tour in July. Contact Adrian Quarry on 409612 or Mike Cooper at St. Mark's.

Leslie Griffiths will be preaching at Clapham, at a circuit service, on July 1st 2007. This is likely to be a popular service and may attract worshippers from outside our usual fellowship. Please let Linda or one of the Leadership team know if you are going to attend.

St Mark's Coffee Shop. There will be a tea and coffee shop open at St Mark's every Sunday 2pm—5.00pm afternoon, starting from 1st July. This will last at least until October, and depending upon the success of the venture it may be extended throughout the year and cover weekends. It will be held in the WREN room in the new centre. Initially we would like to try and cover every Sunday afternoon with volunteers. We would therefore be grateful for volunteers who would be willing to give a Sunday afternoon. Please sign your name in the rota in the foyer. We would like to have two volunteers on duty if possible each Sunday. And don't forget to come along and enjoy great teas, coffee's and cakes!

Rotas—Please take or check the new rotas which are available this morning

Hymns for Sunday

- 1 O bless the God of Israel,
who comes to set us free,
who visits and redeems us
and grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy,
of rescue and release;
God shall fulfil the promise
to bring our people peace.
- 2 Now from the house of David
a child of grace is given;
A Saviour comes among us
to raise us up to heaven.
Before him goes the herald-
forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation,
the messenger of Day.
- 3 Where once were fear and darkness
the sun begins to rise-
the dawning of forgiveness
upon the sinner's eyes,
to guide the feet of pilgrims
along the paths of peace:
O bless our God and Saviour,
with songs that never cease!

*After The Song of Zechariah
Tune Morning Light*

- 1 Like a mighty river flowing,
like a flower in beauty growing,
far beyond all human knowing
is the perfect peace of God.
- 2 Like the hills serene and even,
like the coursing clouds of heaven,
like the heart that's been forgiven
is the perfect peace of God.
- 3 Like the summer breezes playing,
like the tall trees softly swaying,
like the lips of silent praying
is the perfect peace of God.
- 4 Like the morning sun ascended,
like the scents of evening blended,
like a friendship never ended
is the perfect peace of God.
- 5 Like the azure ocean swelling,
like the jewel all-excelling,
far beyond our human telling
is the perfect peace of God.

(New Mission Praise 419)



Wedding

We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of Claire Eley and Donald Joseph Phillips. Both of this parish. This is for the second time of asking.

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.

Joseph Watts

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



Rest in Peace

The funeral of Irene Maxfield will take place at Putnoe Heights Church on Monday 18th June at 10.45 am followed by the committal at Bedford Crematorium at 11.30am. (Crossley)

The funeral of Marcie Lester will take place at St Mark's Chapel on Wednesday 20 June at 11.30am followed by burial at St Albans Woodland, Keysoe. (Royden)



The funeral of Jack Laxton will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Thursday June 22nd at 11.30am. (Crossley)