



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

19 June 2011 – Trinity Sunday



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

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

19 June - Trinity Sunday

9.30 am St. Mark's - Holy Communion

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership – Mr Mick Ovenden
Intercessions – Mr Richard Ledger

11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership – Mrs Jenny Snelson
Intercessions – Mr Alan Burgess

26 June - Ordinary 8

9.30 am St. Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher Local Preacher
Leadership – Mrs. Margaret Appleton
Intercessions – Deacon Jane Mason

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher– Local Preacher
Leadership – Mrs. Vita Hudson-Rae
Intercessions – Mrs. Sylvia Cohen

Bible Readings 1. Genesis 22:1-14
2 Romans 6:12-23 3. Matthew 10:40-42

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

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Eddy and Margaret Peck on the occasion of their wedding anniversary.

The flowers at St Mark's Church this week have been given by Penny Puttock in memory of her mum Anne Leeper

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 the Week

To God the Father who first loved us and made us accepted in the Beloved Son.

To God the Son who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own Blood,

To God the Holy Spirit who sheds abroad the love of God in our hearts;

To the one true God be all love and all glory for time and eternity.

(Thomas Ken 1637-1711)

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)

Deacon Jane Mason

12 Hartop Close, Bedford MK41 8HE
348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden

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 and may appear in other local media sources.

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 Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Geoff Gypps 365630 mob 07947 902846
Leadership Team Mrs. Linda Hoar 782717
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator John Hitt 404186
Youth Worker Emma Gordon email - 07593266091 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 - Laura Farthing 210892

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

- 9.15 –3.45 pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school.** See website for more details www.ThisChurch.com
Head teacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685
- 8.30-5.30pm Pre-school** Mon-Fri St Mark's
- 9.30-3.15pm Top Marks** Mon-Fri St Mark's
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.
- 9.45am - Body Control Pilates** –Putnoe Heights
Stephanie Smith ☎ 357787 or 07973174430
- 10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group.** St Mark's Mrs Berry ☎211955
- 10.30am U3A Play reading** St Mark's J Birks ☎219607
- 12.15pm Story box** Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12.15 and 1.15 for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Emma Gordon ☎07593266091
- 2pm U3A Music Appreciation** - Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting Contact Linda Reed ☎ 216623
- 3.30pm Storybox Plus** Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year olds. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then until 5pm stories, drama, singing & craft activities.
- 4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness.** Putnoe Heights. Margo Needham ☎843747 or 07881730747
- 4.15pm Kumon Maths** Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698
- 6.00pm Brownies** St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew ☎826190
- 6.15 pm Brownies** Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎01767699399 or 07720713738.
- 6.15 Pilates** at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859
- 7.15pm Fit for Life Yoga** - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher ☎07891879571
- 7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson ☎353518
- 7.30pm Cancer Care Society.** St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst ☎01908 377020
- 7.15pm Guides.** St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091
- 7.30pm Whist Drive.** St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting—20 June Judith Stanton. ☎823313
- 7.30pm House group** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.
- 8pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit'** Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

- 9.30am Jo Jingles.** St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎07790296016
- 9.30am Candlewicking** (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart ☎365507
- 9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg ☎351223
- 10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group.** St Mark's. Sally Cripsley ☎350704
- 11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights** for the less mobile. Sally Banks ☎ 870357
- 1.15pm Toddlers Playtime/Sing & Stomp** - Putnoe Heights for toddlers and their carers. Run by Putnoe Childre's Centre Trudy Hamilton ☎340552
- 1.30pm U3A Cinema Group.** St Mark's 4th Week in month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461

- 2.00pm U3A Book Group.** St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs Forrest ☎344043
- 2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins ☎356895
- 2.00pm U3A Music Appreciation** fortnightly. Contact Mrs Reed ☎216623
- 2pm U3A Photography** (Group 3) St Mark's 1st Week. Contact John Farish ☎ 824984
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting June 21 Members Afternoon 'Favorite Hymns'**
For more details contact Betty Wyatt ☎350188.
- 2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** St Mark's Fortnightly . Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225
- 2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.
- 3.45pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson ☎295862 or 07917582468.
- 6.30pm Creative Card making.** Putnoe Heights Church. Carol Houghton ☎346718
- 6.30pm Yoga** Putnoe Heights Veronica Lafferty ☎781466 or 07788750360
- 6.15pm Pilates** St Mark's Church Jane Butcher ☎07891879571
- 7pm Keep Fit.** St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455
- 7pm MT Karate** [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎07941 264885
- 7.30pm Hearts in Beds. Cardiac Support Group** 1st Tuesday in the month at St Mark's. Brian Ibberson ☎403497
- 7pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Sacha Ojo ☎07590597891 or www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk
- 7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting June 28 'Bring and Share' For more details call Janet King 313946
- 8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers** St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

Wednesday

- 9.30am Body Control Pilates.** Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎357787 or 07973174430.
- 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 U3A Card Making,** St Mark's Church. 4th week in the month. Janet Fitch 838689
- 12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - June 22 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630
- 1.00-3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights .
- 1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired.** St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811
- 1.45 Scots Society Whist** Putnoe monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr ☎268147
- 2-5pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179
- 1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft St Mark's** 1st & 3rd week. Pat Holland ☎262823
- 2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster ☎856966
- 3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church.** St Mark's for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. 3rd Wednesday in the month.. Wendy

Waters 401834

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

6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden ☎219731

6.00pm Shooting Stars. Youth Group for 9-13yrs at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 26 January.

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

6-8pm Karate. St Mark's Karen King ☎079412 64885

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Brian Sallows ☎407725

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Vanessa Aykac 268098 or 07917385987

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice Loxley ☎347073

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Heights Mike Del-Boyer ☎348378

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

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club meet at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be June 29 2011 Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Graham 406359 ,Valmai 219555 or Rosemary 405594 for more details.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon ☎356306 .

Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. Jo Garner 400071 or 07719670624

11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau Putnoe Heights.

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 ☎363283

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

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293

1.45 Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games St Mark's Contact Radmila Dancer ☎404811

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society at St Mark's. Malcolm Smith ☎400741

4 - 7.00pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179

6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Mark's 2nd & 4th week in month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale ☎406094

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Pauline Lynham ☎01525 714517

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

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights . Different guest callers each week. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments. More details Ron Law 825574.

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week in month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Jean Birks ☎219607

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Pauline Hooper ☎350079

Friday

9.30-12.30pm U3A Photography (Group 1) St Marks 4th week in month Val Scrivener ☎346397

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

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St Mark's Joyce Fields ☎353086

12.15pm U3A Photography (Group 2). St Mark's 4th week in month. Sue Butler ☎354183

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

5-8pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Richardson ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

5.50-7.05pm Zumba at St Mark's. Contact Laura Harrow ☎07834529833

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights. Racheall Monton ☎297138 or 07910835994

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St. Mark's. Carol Brown ☎01438 233385

Saturday

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

7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

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

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



Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council –

St Mark's Leadership Team

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 5th September

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting - .3rd September

St Mark's Forum Meeting - 13 July

Putnoe Church Council - 17th October

Pastoral Group Meeting -

Churchyard Committee -

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Circuit meeting - 23rd June at Priory

Deanery Meeting - .

Woodland Burial Trustees –

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth – 4th July

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

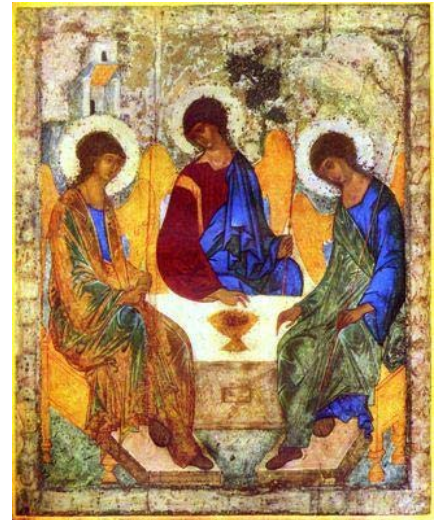
Trinity Sunday

Introduction

Listen to some people talk about God and you might be excused for thinking that they had just met him on the bus. They seem to know everything and you might think that you are really stupid. Well take comfort from the opening scripture in our bible notes today from Isaiah Chapter 40

'His understanding no one can fathom.'

When it comes to God we have not even begun to scratch the surface. God is so much beyond our human reasoning that it is only the arrogant and the stupid who claim to have all the answers. Perhaps nowhere is this more true than in the Christian belief in the Trinity. The Sunday after Pentecost is always a special day dedicated as Trinity Sunday. It is special because for once we are not looking back to a specific occasion, or remembering an event, instead we are celebrating who God is - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Trinity Sunday is a day on which we can focus on the extraordinary truth that God is three persons and yet still one. This wonderful truth about Trinity Sunday reminds us that God is above and beyond our attempts to explain or understand. Our rational human explanations for God collapse when we are confronted by the truth that that God is three and God is one. Nobody can ever understand God, God is a profound mystery and all human reasoning will always fail to encompass the glory of God. So we can stop worrying about our own lack of understanding and instead worship God the Father who showed his love for us in Jesus and lives in us today by the presence of the Holy Spirit



Early theologians used the word *perichoresis*, which literally means "dancing around" to express the ever vital, ever moving, ever interweaving of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Opening Verse of Scripture Corinthians Chapter 13:12--13

Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Collect Prayer (Before we read we pray)

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. *Common Worship*

First Bible Reading – Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27-end

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance? Who can fathom the Spirit of the LORD, or instruct the LORD as his counsellor? Whom did the LORD consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way? Who was it that taught him knowledge, or showed him the path of understanding? Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust. Lebanon is not sufficient for altar fires, nor its animals enough for burnt offerings. Before him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by him as worthless and less than nothing. Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God"? Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

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

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians Chapter 13:11-14

Finally, brothers, good-bye. Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints send their greetings. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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

Gospel Reading - Matthew 28:16-20

(When the gospel is announced **All: Glory to God our Saviour**)

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

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

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymns (*Please distribute Holy Communion Booklets and Mission Praise*)

1. Thou whose almighty word 699,
2. Go forth and tell 178,
3. Three in One (*On Partnership News*) Tune Capetown, Meter 7775
4. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty 237

Commentary

The Trinity seems to be one of the subjects that causes more debate among theologians than any other topic. An article in this week's Church Times which reviews three new books on the topic has the title, 'Three in One, One in Three, Theologians are still wrestling with this'. Is God one being with three facets or is He three components comprising one whole? Does it matter? Another article in the same edition of the paper starts off with the statement, 'Preachers are nervous on Trinity Sunday. This is not so much because of harbouring doubts about the doctrine of the Trinity... ..it is more because of having to check the complicated history of the fundamental expression of our faith'. For Christians the Trinity does matter, because how we understand the Trinity affects the way we look at our lives and our relationship with God, and makes a major difference as to how we look at ourselves as the corporate body of God on earth. Since the middle ages Trinity Sunday has been observed as a separate feast in honour of the Trinity but debates about the nature of the Trinity have gone on for many years before that, because the Trinity is so central to what we believe and who we are. Neither is the Trinity just a New Testament concept as we've seen in the Rublev icon. When God created the world back in Genesis it was a plural God that did so. When Abraham had the three visitors, as the Rublev icon demonstrates, it's often interpreted as a visitation from the Trinity, the Triune God. Tertullian, an early theologian around 200 AD, postulated that the Old Testament was the time of God the Father, the New Testament was the time of God the Son, and we are now living in the time of God the Holy Spirit, a model known as the economic Trinity. One God, three persons, three phases of dealing with the world. This is an unsatisfactory view because it ties the Trinity to a time and space framework and can present God as appearing in three different modes which is not helpful, nor correct. However, it is still a view that some have today. Augustine modified this and for him the primordial God was the Trinity and the three persons of the trinity exist in relationship to each other as the lover, the beloved and the love which flows between them. This is the view we still predominantly have today in the western churches. In the 20th century it was developed by one of the great theologians, Karl Barth, who expressed the Trinity as 'a revealer', 'the thing revealed', and 'the revelation'. However we try to conceptualise the Trinity it will remain a complex topic and one which will continue to keep theologians busy for years!

Trinity Sunday marks the end of two periods each of three festivals. We have Advent, Christmas and Epiphany followed by Lent, Easter and Pentecost each of which could be seen to embody the triune nature of God in themselves. From next week we move into Ordinary time when we look to live out the reality of the Trinity which has been present through the seasons from Advent in our lives. Like Augustine and many theologians even today we may not be able to understand fully the Trinity we do live in its reality. Our God is a triune God, and we are created in His image. So whatever we make of the Trinity, as John Wesley wrote, Let us adore the Father, the God of love; who created us; who continually preserves and sustains us; who has loved us with an everlasting love and given us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. Though He was rich, yet for our sakes, He became poor; He was tempted at all points as we are, yet without sin; He became obedient to death, death on a cross; He was dead and is alive for ever; He has opened the Kingdom of heaven to all who trust in Him. Let us rejoice in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life; by whom were born into the family of God; whose witness confirms us, whose wisdom teaches us; whose power enables us. All praise to you, Holy Trinity, for you live and reign, one God for ever and ever. Amen. *Sam*

Meditation

Many people think that the Icon of the Trinity painted by Rublev, similar images of which date from the 5th century, is one of the greatest ever created. This Rublev icon was painted by a Russian monk called Andrew Rublev in the fifteenth century, hence its name. Interpretations of this icon vary but importantly Rublev's icon shows a single small tree in the background, to represent the oaks of Mamre where Abraham's encounter with the Trinity took place. It therefore places this as an Old Testament image of the Trinity. However, on the left of the icon is an architectural structure to represent the Basilica that Constantine erected as one of the first four Christian churches to be built in Palestine, which also places the icon in a New Testament context. The chalice on the table contains not wine but a small calf, mirroring the offering that Abraham brought for the 'angels' to eat, and symbolising too the reality of what we drink at communion represents the Christ who offered Himself as a sacrifice for us. The central angel is wearing a purple Imperial robe, suggesting that He represents Christ Himself. He sits on the right hand of the Father, so the angel on the right of the picture could represent the Father, wearing as He does a green cloak, perhaps representing creation. On the left is an angel wearing a blue robe covered with a pink cloak, suggestive of the Spirit. Together they represent the circular image of the unity of the Trinity. It is sometimes said that as we place ourselves in front of icons such as this is prayer, we both have a window which helps us see God and also experience a gentle invitation to participate with God in His world and to enter into communion with Him. In the case of the Rublev icon, we're invited to join in the intimate conversation that is taking place among the three divine angels and to join them around the table in the Eucharistic celebration to which we are all invited. It is said that not only do we see God through the window and image of icons, but God also sees us through these images. If that is so, how does God see us through the 'icons' we have in our own lives and the windows, images and lenses through which we see God.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

We bind unto ourselves the name, the strong name of the Trinity, by invocation of the same, the three in one and one in three, of whom all nature has creation, eternal Father, Spirit, Word; praise to the God of our salvation; salvation is of Christ the Lord. **Amen** *St Patrick*

Phos Hilaron: Now as the sun sets in the west, soft lamplight glows as evening starts; thus light from light, God's Son all blest comes from the immortal Father's heart; we therefore sing our joyful songs to the Father, Holy Spirit, Son, to whom in every age belongs by right all praise from every tongue. Lord Jesus, Son of God, from you all life, all joy come forth this night; the world, and each soft glowing hue, reflect the glory from your light. Praise be to the Holy Trinity for ever and ever and to the ages of ages. **Amen**
O Lord, whose way is perfect, help us always to trust in your goodness, to walk in the way of faith, and to follow in the path of simplicity. Teach us to cast our cares on your providence, that we may possess a quiet mind and a contented spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Holy and blessed Trinity, between you there is mutual respect and care. Hold in your triune grasp all who look for wholeness to be restored and in all our sufferings deepen our hope in you. **Amen**

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

The Partnership Pastoral Support Team

The Partnership Pastoral Support team works across our churches to visit the sick at home or in hospital, take communion to the housebound and meet with the bereaved. If you know of anybody who is in hospital then please do let us know so that we can make sure they are visited. We do want to make sure that anybody from our churches who goes into hospital for a period of time is visited by a minister so please always let us know. An email or telephone call to the Ministers and or the church offices is greatly appreciated. Mary Stubbs co-ordinates the team and can be contacted about any pastoral concerns. The following appears on every edition of Partnership news

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.

Visit to Rwanda Our granddaughter, Charlotte is spending 9 days in Rwanda with a group from her school next February. They will be working with children and young people still suffering from the effects of the genocide. We are helping her to raise money and are having a coffee morning/afternoon on Saturday 25 June from 10-12am and 2-4pm. Light refreshments, raffle, bring and buy, plants, books etc. Come and join us at 30 The Ridgeway. Margaret & Eddy Peck

There will be a Putnoe Children and Youth meeting on Monday 4 July

Circuit 'Farewell' for Martin Hounsfeld 3pm Service and lunch Sunday 17 July at Priory Methodist Church.

Circuit Service - celebration of Bedford North circuit 6.30pm Sunday 7 August at Priory Methodist Church.

Flower Festival and Bedford Town Concert Brass at Priory Methodist Church .

Brass Band concert Friday 1st July, 7.30pm Admission £5

Flower Festival open Friday & Saturday 11-5pm, Sunday 2-5.30pm. Refreshments throughout. Proceeds to Karibuni Trust.

Hymn Praise In response to requests, a hymn praise service will be held at Putnoe Heights Church at 6-30p.m. on Sunday 11 September. Anyone who would like a favourite hymn included

please email eric.royden@gmail.com or phone 294496.

Bedford Community Chamber Orchestra will be performing at Putnoe Heights on Saturday, 9 July from 7.30pm. Featuring a diverse programme including the overture from Romeo and Juliet by Tchaikovski, this is the second of three concerts that the BCCO will be performing this year. The final concert of the year will be in early December and will be focussed on children. The BCCO continues to be extremely grateful for the support received from the Putnoe Heights and surrounding community and look forward to seeing you on the 9th. Tickets £7 (£5 concessions) available on the door or contact : www.boco.org.uk or 07895266389

Putnoe Heights 'Spring Clean' will be on Saturday 23rd July.

Coffee Rota -St. Mark's Many thanks to Pat Gregory who has stepped down from the coffee rota after many years service. New volunteers always welcome - see Milly for more information.

Friday Prayer Group will not meet on 24 June. The next meeting will take place on Friday 8 July at 1.45pm Eileen Brown

Brickhill Scout Group Charity Golf day in aid of Brickhill Scout Group, kindly hosted by Colmworth Golf club on 23 July. Contact Gemma 01234 783490 or gpledger82@hotmail.co.uk for full details and tickets

Flowers at Putnoe Heights anyone wishing to contribute towards the cost of flowers at Putnoe on any Sunday during the next six months, is invited to enter their name on the rota on the notice board in the welcome area.

Asylum Monologues, Wednesday 22 June from 7pm to 8pm, at St Peter's Church. Ice & Fire present The Asylum Monologues, a first hand account of the UK asylum system in the words of people who have experienced it.

Professional actors give a rehearsed reading of these powerful and thought provoking stories. After a performance in Bedford in 2008 by local actors, audience members commented "before now I wasn't aware there was a refugee week. It really brought to life some really difficult issues"

8.00pm: Human Library Post-show discussion with refugee speakers and Case Workers. Refreshments available.

St Mark's Clubhouse has been providing day care services for people with learning difficulties for the last six years. We took over the service when funding issues caused the closure of the Gold Charity. Following complete withdrawal of funding from Central Beds, transitional funding only has been put in from Bedford Borough Council. As a result Clubhouse will **only** operate one day a week on Wednesdays after our last session on Friday 15 July 2011. After this date access to Clubhouse will only be possible by those who have arranged their own funding with their local authority. This is part of the move to personalised budgets. It is hoped that keeping Clubhouse operational every Wednesday will allow us a period of time for transition for people to sort out their funding, but only until 1 October 2011.

A Hymn for Sunday

1. Three in One and One in Three,
Ruler of the earth and sea,
hear us while we lift to thee
holy chant and psalm.
2. Light of lights! with morning shine,
Lift on us thy light divine;
and let charity benign
breathe on us her balm.
3. Light of lights! when falls the even,
Let it sink on sin forgiven;
fold us in the peace of heaven;
shed a vesper calm.
4. Three in One and One in Three,
darkling here we worship thee;
with the saints hereafter we
hope to bear the palm.

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.

Leslie Wilson Allan

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 John Jonston will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 12-15p.m. Wednesday 29 June

The Funeral of Samantha Jane Newnham will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 2.30pm on Friday 24th June



St Mark's Church and Putnoe Heights Church Membership Form

It is helpful and important for us to have accurate membership information for our church. Our financial contributions to the Church of England or the Methodist Church are based upon membership. It is therefore important to have an accurate records to enable us to pay our share. It is also helpful to have up to date details if we need to make contact with you, perhaps when a pastoral situation arises. If you consider yourself to be a member of this church, please would you kindly complete this form and return it to the church office, a minister or a member of the Leadership Team. You can also Email your details direct to Avril Williams aj56@btinternet.com. Please be assured we do not release your details to other organisations.

Name and Title <i>(Please use the name by which you would like to be known, i.e. Fred, Betty etc.)</i>	
Address	
Telephone	Email
Denomination <i>(Which denomination if any you have an attachment to, this might be the church in which you were baptised or grew up.)</i>	
If you have children under 16, or a partner who does not wish to complete a membership form, please enter their details below, as a church friend.	