



# Partnership News

## Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church

### 20 October 2013 - Ordinary 29



**8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday**  
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights  
2nd and 4th Sunday at St. Mark's Church

#### Today – 20 October

##### 9.30 St Marks – Holy Communion

Preacher – Mr. Richard Ledger  
Leadership – Mr. Mick Ovenden  
Intercessions – Mrs. Mary Stubbs  
Organist - Mr Martin Thompson

##### 11.00 am Putnoe – Holy Communion

Preacher – Mr. Richard Ledger  
Leadership - Mr. Barry Southam  
Intercessions — Mr. Alan Bayliss  
Organist - Mr Alan Bunker

#### 27October — Ordinary 30

##### 9.30 St Marks – Morning Worship

Preacher – Mr Chris Izzard  
Leadership – Mr Edward Parry  
Intercessions – Mrs Morag Stewart  
Organist - Miss Marion Prior

##### 11.00 am Putnoe – Morning Worship

Preacher – Mr Chris Izzard  
Leadership - Mrs Sam Ware  
Intercessions — Mrs Sylvia Cohen  
Organist - Mr Alan Bunker

**Readings 1** Joel 2: 23– 32 **2.** 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18  
**3.** Luke 18: 9-14

**Midweek 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 this week are given by  
Christina and Paul Halsey in loving memory of  
Lesley Robinson.

*We are grateful when people make donations towards  
flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion such as an  
anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact  
Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St. Mark's) or Ann Hitt 404186  
(Putnoe Heights )or add your name to the rota in the foyers*

#### A Prayer for Sunday

On leaving this place,  
may the worship not end,  
nor the presence of God  
feel taken away.

On leaving this place,  
may we not forget  
the holiness of worship.

On leaving this place,  
may we always remember  
that we go to live among people  
created by God.

On leaving this place,  
may we carry the music of God within us  
and proclaim His glory as we go. Amen

#### The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR  
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com  
(Sam also works full time as a Vice  
President for Hewlett Packard)

#### Deacon Jane Mills

c/o Putnoe Heights Church Centre  
Tel. 348091 Mobile 07807 146535  
jane@thisischurch.com

#### The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

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

**Partnership News** is sent out by email every Saturday  
in a colour edition. If you would like to receive a copy  
please send an email entitled 'Partnership News' to  
vicar@thisischurch.com. Please note that any items submitted  
for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on  
our website and may appear in other local media sources.

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

#### Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator

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.*

#### Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

#### 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 Jenny Snelson 344417  
**Treasurer** Mr John Hitt 404186 treasurerph@thisischurch.com  
**Gift Aid Administrator** Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188  
**Youth Team Leader** Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com

#### St. Mark's Church Centre

**Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm**  
**Tel/fax & Answering Service** 342613 office@thisischurch.com  
**Centre Manager** Miss Wendy Rider 342613  
**Leadership Team** - Mr Michael Ovenden 826738  
**Treasurer** - Mr Ian Farthing 210892  
treasurer@thisischurch.com  
**Gift Aid Administrator** Jim Williams 360605

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

**Hazeldene Heights Pre-school.** Sessional and Full Day care available—open Mon.—Fri. Full Day Care 8.30am to 5pm Sessional times 9am—12noon and 12.45pm - 3.45pm For more info please contact Laura Leggett 01234 326685 or www.hazeldeneheights.com

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

**9.-3.45pm Top Marks** Mon-Fri St Mark's

**8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery**

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

(See website for more details)

**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** Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)

**2.00pm U3A Calligraphy** at St Mark's 2nd week (see contact details below)

**12.15pm Story box** Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com 365630

**1.30-2.45pm Chat & Make** For babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details email– chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk .

**2pm U3A Music Appreciation** Putnoe Heights(see contact details below)

**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

**6.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga** - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher 07891879571

**6.30pm Boot Camp** Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081

**7.00pm Sugarcraft Guild** St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson 353518

**7.00pm 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– 21 October Judith Stanton. 823313

**7.30pm No Fear Bridge Club** St. Mark's Mrs. Susan Ford 300218.

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

**Putnoe Heights Children and Youth meeting** - Monday 10th February 2014 at 1.30pm

## Tuesday

**9.30am Jo Jingles.** St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Charlotte Williams 07968 207442

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

**9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World** St. Mark's. Helen Skinner 07989080389

**10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group.** St Mark's. Sally Cripsley 350704

**11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights** (see contact details below)

**1pm –2.30pm Drop in Wiggles and Jiggles** 0-5 years, Putnoe Children's Centre. Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552

**1.15pm U3A Cinema Grp.** St Mark's (contacts details

below)

**1.3pm U3A Choir.** St Mark's (contacts details below)

**2.00pm U3A Book Group 1** St Mark's (3rd Wk) (see contact details below)

**2.00pm U3A Book Group 2** St Mark's (2nd Wk) (see contact details

**2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins 356895

**2pm U3A Photography Group 3** St. Mark's (1st Wk) (contact details below).

**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.

**4.00pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights..** Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

**7.30-8.30pm Pilates** St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 0789187957

**7pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing** Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390

**6.00-7.00pm Zumba at St Mark's.** Contact Denise Worker 07900 232648

**7.00pm Keep Fit.** St. Mark's Jan Gregory 328455

**7.00pm Laughter Club.** St. Mark's Meeting (meets monthly) 22 Oct/12 Nov & 17 Dec. Cheryl Green 354339 or 07729187399

**7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** (Meets fortnightly). 29 October Keech Hospice. Details Janet King 313946

## Wednesday

**9.30am Body Control Pilates.** Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430.

**9.30am Discover & Do** (Childminders) St. Mark's. Clare Simmons 328380 or 07788824666

**10am-2pm Open House** at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.

**10am U3A Gardening Group 3** St Marks. (contact below)

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

**10am U3A Card Making,** St Marks (see contact details below)

**10am U3A Diet and Nutrition-** Putnoe (contact below)

**11.15am U3A Keep Fit** Putnoe

**12.30pm –4pm St Mark's Nursery**

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

**12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 23 October Putnoe Heights Office 365630

**1.00-3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights (Fortnightly)

**1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired.** St. Mark's. Mr Barnes 261811

**2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft** St Marks.(see contact details below)

**2pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan** Putnoe Heights

**2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Putnoe Heights

Mrs Webster 856966

**3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church.** St Mark's (3rd Wk). for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 16 October Wendy Waters 401834

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

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

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

**7.00pm Bunyan Bridge.** St. Mark's Yvonne Blain 350241 or Brian Sallows 407725

**7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society**  
Putnoe

Heights monthly. Sylvia Woods 365095

**7.00pm Putnoe Guild** Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every month except August Mrs Jo Street 344600

**7.00pm Line Dancing** Putnoe Mike Del-Boyer 348378

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

**8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club** at St Mark's 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be 30 October Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Rosemary 405594 or Graham 406359 for more details.

**8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club** St Mark's 1st week in the month. Jean Ross 771870

### Thursday

**8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery**  
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

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

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

9.30am Spanish for total beginners. –starting 7th Nov.

**9.45am Yoga** Putnoe Heights Denise Green 244970

**9.45am Chat and Play** St. Mark's. A term time group for Mums & toddlers. 0-5 Jo Garner 400071 or 07932616468

**10.00-11.30am Gentle Yoga** Putnoe For more details contact Helen Nicholson Tel. 03003004305

**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** 1st and 3rd Thursdays St. Mark's 267444

**1pm-2.30pm Drop in** (small hall) Next Steps 9-24months Putnoe Children's Centre. Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552. 2pm -Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

**2pm U3A Current Affairs** - Putnoe Heights

**2-4pm U3A Indoor Games.** St. Mark's (contact below)

**2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society** St Mark's Mary Rich 272470

**5.45pm Weightwatchers.** St. Mark's. Clare Martin 07805408811.

**6.15pm Brownies.** Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins .

**7.00pm Club 2000** Putnoe Nina Ovenden 825059

**7pm U3A Folk & Poetry** St Marks (2nd and 4th week) (see contact details below)

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

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

**7.30pm Gentle Birthing** St Mark's. Pat Wood 07946 847231

**8 –10pm Bedford Folk Dancers** (formerly Barn dancers)

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers each week. Except August. Next meeting 5 September. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments. More details Ron 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

**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 Pat Cass 294220

**8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group** St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month Kay Logan 01234 309105.

### Friday

**8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery**

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

**9am -1pm Machine Knitting** group at Putnoe Heights, fortnightly . Contact Marion Sutton 217647

**10am -12.00 U3A Photography** St Marks. (4th week) (see contact details below)

**10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French** St. Marks (see contact details below)

**2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist** St Marks. (contact details below)

**2pm U3A Italian**-Putnoe Heights (contact details below)

**2pm U3A Gardening** - Putnoe Heights

**4.50pm-8.15pm Stars School of Dance** Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

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

**7.00pm Meditation** St Mark's starting 4th October. Cheryl Green 07729187399

**7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club.** St Marks (2nd week) 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

### Sunday

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

**10 - 5.30pm Bedford Stamp Fayre.** 1st Sunday Feb/ Apr/Jun/Aug /Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

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

**7-9pm Tae Kwon Do** St Mark's Adrian Felice www.bedfordtkd.com 07964356355

**Messy Church Dates** Weds 16 Oct; Weds 20 Nov,

**U3A** For information on the U3A groups meeting at St Mark's and Putnoe Heights Church please contact Yvonne Francis ☎405119



## Diary Dates



**St Mark's Church Council –**

**St Mark's Leadership Team -** 21 January 2014

**Annual Congregational Meetings**

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -**

**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting**

**Putnoe Church Council -**

**Pastoral Group Meeting -** 10 January at 10.00am

**Churchyard Committee -**

**Commemoration Service** Sunday 3 November 3pm

**Circuit meeting - Deanery Meeting -** 14 November

**Woodland Burial Trustees–**

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting –**10th

February 2014 1.30pm

**New Year Lunch** 19 January at Putnoe

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

# Ordinary 29

## Sentence of Scripture - Psalm 119:89

Your word, O LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures.

## Collect Prayer for the Day — Before we read we pray

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters, we do also for you. Give us the will to be servants of others as you were the servant of all; for you gave up your life and died for us, but live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever Amen



## First Bible Reading - Jeremiah 31: 27-34

"The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will plant the kingdoms of Israel and Judah with the offspring of people and of animals. Just as I watched over them to uproot and tear down, and to overthrow, destroy and bring disaster, so I will watch over them to build and to plant," declares the Lord. "In those days people will no longer say,

'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge.'

Instead, everyone will die for their own sin; whoever eats sour grapes—their own teeth will be set on edge. "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the Lord.

"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the Lord.

"I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbour, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the Lord. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

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

## Second Reading - 2 Timothy 3:14- 4:5

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

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

## Gospel Reading – Luke 18:1-8

(Please stand When the reading is announced '**Glory to Christ our Saviour**')

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care about men, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually wear me out with her coming!' " And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day

and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

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

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

1. Give to our God immortal praise 171
2. How good is the God we adore 244
3. Amazing Grace 31
4. Love Divine, all loves excelling 449

### **Commentary**

The gospel reading is the story of the persistent widow and has echoes of the story of the friend who came at midnight (Luke 11v5-8). Both are used by Luke to emphasise the need to pray seriously, but both are more than that. The central character in today's story is the judge— who neither feared God nor cared about men— but who did give justice to the widow who kept on at him! If the judge does that how much more certain is it that God will listen to the cry of the poor. He is moved to compassion ; he is compassion! Jesus is saying in these two parables that God will deliver the disciples from coming opposition and tribulation. We can trust God absolutely : nothing is more certain than his mercy for his own. Yes— how much more will God come to the aid of those who believe. As the song goes “ The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning: Great is thy faithfulness, O Lord.”

The parable contrasted God and the judge. But some people see God himself as a stern judge who dispenses justice (punishments) if we break the rules. At the other extreme are those who see God as a sort of indulgent, favourite uncle—a soft touch— who says 'never mind' and always lets us off. In between is the picture of God that Jesus gives us as a loving, compassionate father—the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep. Yes, Jesus died for love of us. And this has led to some debate recently when a Christian denomination in the USA (Congregational , I believe) was bringing out a new hymn book. They wanted to include the Stuart Townend & Keith Getty song “In Christ alone,” which has the lines in it “till on the cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied— They asked to change it to “till on the cross as Jesus died the love of God was glorified”. Permission was refused. I find the decision disturbing and sad. John tells us “God is love”. And in John's gospel we read “God so loved the world that he gave his only son so that whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his son into the world to be it's judge, but to be it's Saviour.” (John 3 v16-17) So love is stressed again—that is steadfast, dependable, and “knows neither measure nor end” as we sing in a hymn today. So how can God send Jesus to die to appease his own wrath - if he is love? Adrian Plass, the humorous Christian writer summed up his thoughts on the topic like this. “God is nice and he likes me. I want people to know that God loves them so that they can serve him with a glad heart. God must be at least as nice as my mother— perhaps even a little nicer— and his grace inhabits that wonderfully mellow country that lies between the craggy rocks of being told off and the deceptive swamps of being let off. You might like to read Luke 23v39-43. Was the dying thief penitent? Did he deserve paradise? Do we ever deserve God's grace? Finally, Jeremiah 31. A wonderful chapter! A gospel before the Gospel almost. Words like “ I have loved you with an everlasting love”, “He will watch over his flock like a shepherd”, “ I will make a new covenant”, “I will write my love on their hearts”. And then “I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more”. Yes—with God – the slate is wiped clean. What a promise of Good News! Our generous God is always taking initiatives of love. *Richard Ledger*

### **Meditation**

**Psalm 46** :- God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. The Lord Almighty is with us , “the God of Jacob is our refuge “.

**Psalm 121**:- I lift my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He will watch over your coming and going now and for evermore.

All the way my Saviour leads me;  
What have I to ask beside?  
Can I doubt his tender mercy,  
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,  
Here by faith in Him to dwell!  
For I know, what'er befall me,  
Jesus doeth all things well (*Frances van Alstyne*)

## Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart, there to remain so indelibly engraved, that no prosperity, no adversity shall ever move me from your love. Be to me a strong tower of defence, a comforter In tribulation, a deliverer in distress, a very present help in trouble and a guide to heaven through the many temptations and dangers of this life. *Thomas a Kempis (1380-1471)*

Thank you, Lord Jesus, that you will be our hiding place whatever happens. *Corrie ten Boom*

We humbly beseech thee, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities, and for the glory of thy name turn from us all those evils that we most righteously have deserved; and grant that in our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in thy mercy and evermore serve thee in holiness and pureness of living, to thy honour and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. *From the Book of Common Prayer (1549)*

O Lord, renew our spirits and draw our hearts unto yourself, that our work may not be to us a burden but a delight; and give us such a mighty love to you as may sweeten our obedience. O let us not serve you with the spirit of bondage as slaves, but with cheerfulness and gladness, delighting in you and rejoicing in your work. *Benjamin Jenks (1647-1724)*

Lord of the loving heart, may mine be loving too,  
Lord of the gentle hands, may mine be gentle too.  
Lord of the willing feet, may mine be willing too,  
So may I grow more like you  
In all I say or do. *From All our Days.*



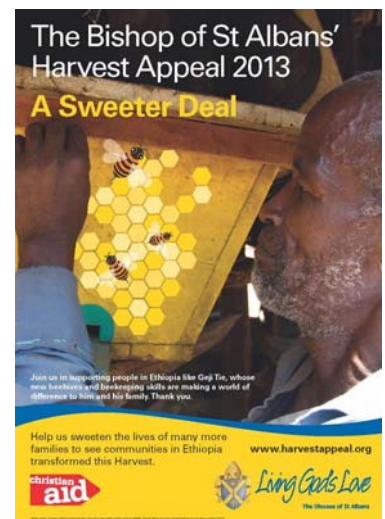
**A new course material suitable for home groups has been prepared called Pilgrim**, which is being promoted as "a course for the Christian journey." Comprising eight six-session short courses, it is divided into two stages, "Follow", for enquirers or newcomers to the faith, and "Grow", for those who want to learn more. In the first stage, the courses are structured around four key texts: the credal questions asked before baptism, the Lord's Prayer, the Commandments, and the Beatitudes. Besides passages from the Bible, there are readings from sources such as St Augustine, Julian of Norwich, and St Anselm.

There are video materials to accompany the course notes and we have obtained copies of the two components Turning to Christ, The Lord's Prayer and a leaders Guide. Please contact Charlie if you are interested in using this material

*"The Pilgrim course is a journey to the heart of God and a living relationship with Jesus Christ."  
The Archbishops of Canterbury and York*

*Thank you to everybody who has already contributed towards the Harvest Appeal 'A Sweeter Deal.' We will continue collecting until the Gift Service on 1 December. There are special bees available this morning, they are particularly useful for interesting children in our appeal*

If you have not already done so, please take one of our mission leaflets and envelopes and make your contribution to our mission appeal. The appeal will run until the first week of December when we will make our contribution as a church towards the Harvest Appeal 2013 'A Sweeter Deal'



**Commemoration Service.** Details of our service are advertised on Partnership News. This year we are sending our four hundred letters of invitation to those who have suffered a bereavement in recent years. Please will you excuse us for not sending our invitations to church members and instead please accept this as our invitation to you.

**We're going to the Cappuccino Bar, Come and Join Us.** Putnoe Men would you be interested in joining us for a meal at a local restaurant on Tuesday 12 November. The meal will cost £15.00 for two courses including a drink. If you are interested in joining in with other men from our church for an evening of good food & fellowship please let me know as soon as possible. For further information please email me or see me after church on a Sunday morning if you have any questions. Barry Southam Leadership Team. Tel: 07860639595 or 01234 219714 Email: berrysoutham@aol.com

**Putnoe Heights Church Tabletop Sale Saturday 9 November 10 — 12 MD.** Refreshments available Entry Adults 50p. Children free. £6 for tables booked in advance. On the day £8. For further information call Church Office 01234365630 or Jenny Snelson 01234344417.

**Action for Children** A big thank you once again to the 15 volunteers who knocked on 506 doors for this September's House to House Collection on behalf of Action for Children. I know that collecting can, at times, be a disheartening task but the total raised in our St. Mark's/Brickhill area was a very worthwhile £580; a 9% increase on last year. Action for Children will be able to claim a further £54 from HMRC as a result of completed Gift-Aid forms. Once again the average content in the 280 envelopes collected has increased by almost 7%; this despite the continued pressure on family finances. So thank you also to those who gave so generously. Mike Elliott

**Date for your Diary** Partnership Quiz will take place at St Mark's on Saturday 16 November. Do come and make up a team.

### **Footprints Walk.**

There will be a ribbon walk, starting at 2.00pm on Sunday 3rd November 2013. The start is in the retail car park in Rope Walk outside PC World and finishing near Robinson Pool. We will be able to take 3/4 drivers back to the start to pick up their vehicles, or you can arrange with friends to have a vehicle at either end. It's an easy walk about 3 miles on mainly tarmac surface through town. Taking in The Kings Ditch, painted windows, water tower and a wild life country park. We hope you can make it any queries to Alan or Margaret 327219.

**Putnoe Art Group** are holding their annual winter exhibition and sale of original paintings on 2 November 2103 at Putnoe Heights Church, Putnoe Heights, Bedford from 10.30am-4.00pm. Tea &

coffee & home-made cakes available for you to enjoy. Free entry and all are welcome.

**Dementia Support in Bedfordshire:** Alzheimer's Society provides a vital confidential network of support services for people with dementia, their families and their carers. If you are affected by dementia, the following services are available to you:  
•Peer Support – a support group for people with dementia and their carers  
•Singing for the Brain – a singing group for people with dementia and their carers  
•Cognitive stimulation Group – specifically for people with dementia  
•Dementia support – support and information to people living with dementia, their carers and families  
• National Dementia Support line: 0300 222 1122 - support and information to people living with dementia, their carers and families and to professionals. Please note some of these services require a small contribution to go towards the running of the service. Bedford office: Alzheimer's Society, 2a Duke Street, Bedford, MK40 3HR Phone: 01234 327380 email: bedfordshireandluton@alzheimers.org.uk

### **Creating Safer Space.**

London Rd Methodist Church, Tuesday 19 November 6.45 for 7.00pm until 10.00pm. Training session available to all churches in the North Beds Circuit. Suitable for church stewards, local preachers, office volunteers and keyholders. Details from Mairi Perks 01525 860797 mairiperks@bopenworld.com or Dave Heseldine 01462 813284 david.heseldine@methodist.org.uk

### **Samaritans' Purse Shoe Box Appeal 2013**

Once again we have been delighted with the enthusiasm shown by the congregations for this appeal. To date, with the help of our Messy Church congregation, we will be sending at least 41 boxes to Samaritans Purse! Thank you very much for your all your support. If anyone still wishes to donate a full box please ensure it is given to Janet Day, Jean Bank or Margaret Appleton by 1 November



**When you start Christmas shopping please shop at [www. ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com)**

Thank you for shopping using the link on ThisChurch.com to shop through Amazon. Please be careful to make sure that you never access Amazon direct but always use the link on ThisChurch.com, this ensures we get a donation every time you make a purchase. Please also remember the Easyfundraising link. This is really a very good way to shop as it has lots of voucher codes which can save you a fortune on purchases.

## Mission Project 2013 Ethiopian Honey Appeal

Every year we have an appeal where we raise money to help people in our own community or across the world who are in need. This year we are joining with the St Albans Diocese and Christian Aid to help the Ethiopian Honey Appeal. If we help provide farmers in Ethiopia with the equipment they need to keep bees, then they will be able to make honey and enough money to be able to provide for their families and develop a sustainable community. Bees are vital pollinators; flying from flower to flower, they make connections that are fundamental to the life of our planet. The Bishop's Harvest Appeal is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our connected world and to make life changing, loving and lasting connections with people in Ethiopia. The appeal will end on December 1 - *Thank you for helping* Please take one of Harvest Appeal leaflets with a gift aid form and donation envelope.

- £3.50 can buy a honey knife
- £14 buys a net and gloves
- £85 Pays for a modern hive
- £207 pays for a community honey extractor for harvesting honey from the hives effectively

## Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Sunday 3 November at 3.00pm

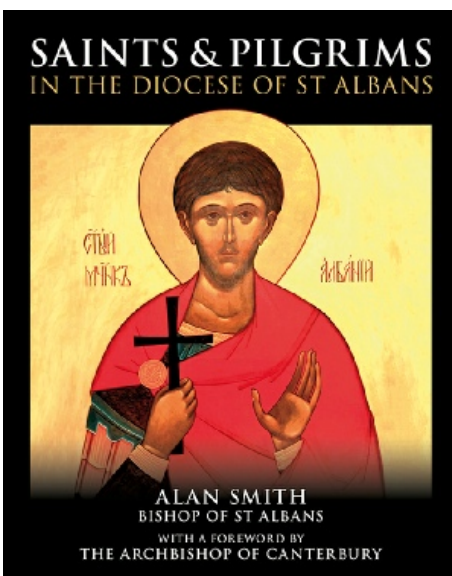
### Have you lost a loved one ?

You are invited to our service to remember and give thanks to those we have entrusted to God's safe keeping.

Release of doves in church grounds immediately before service. Children may come from 2.30pm to see the doves.

Preacher  
The Reverend Eric Royden

St Mark's Church, Calder Rise, Bedford.  
MK41 7UY [www.thisischurch.com](http://www.thisischurch.com)  
[office@thisischurch.com](mailto:office@thisischurch.com)



### Saints and Pilgrims

For the centenary year of the Diocese, Bishop Alan has produced an excellent book which takes you through the year one day at a time reflecting on the lives of men and women who have shaped the history of the Church. It is a big beautiful book which costs £25 and it would make an excellent present for Christmas. Special signed copies can be seen at church this morning and can be purchased at a special introductory price of £20.

Bishop Alan explores the lives of 366 Christian men and women from all across the area, and from hugely diverse backgrounds. Amongst the Saints and Pilgrims included are Gaye Perry, Trevor Huddleston, John Donne, Margaret of Antioch, Bridget Adams, and of course John Bunyan. A number of the pages are illustrated with rare and unusual images. Each entry has been meticulously researched and features a short biography, a poem or extract of writing from the individual, and a prayer written by *Bishop Alan*.

### 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.

*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 Robert John Langley** will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 11.30am on Friday 25 October

**The funeral of Maurice George Halsey** will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 10.45am on Wednesday 23 October.

**The funeral of Patricia Jean Casling** will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 12.15pm on Tuesday 29 October.