



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

## 21 October- 29th in Ordinary



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

### Today 21 October - 29 in Ordinary

**9.30am St Mark's –Holy Communion**  
Preacher - Reverend Charles Royden  
Leadership - Mrs Elizabeth Bean  
Intercessions – Mrs Morag Stewart  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion**  
Preacher -Reverend Charles Royden  
Leadership - Mrs Linda Hoar  
Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

### 28 October - 30 in Ordinary

**9.30am St Mark's – Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Mr Barry Owen  
Leadership - Mrs Laura Farthing  
Intercessions – Mr Chris Izzard  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Mr Barry Owen  
Leadership – Mrs Jenny Snelson  
Intercessions - Ministers

**Readings 1. Jeremiah 31: 7-9 2. Hebrews 7:23-28**  
**3. Mark 10: 46-52**

**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 Church this week  
have been given by Barbara Whittingstall with  
treasured loving memories of her husband Peter,  
who died on 18th October 2006.

*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 on the foyers.*

### Prayer for Sunday

Set our hearts on fire with love for you,  
O Christ our God,  
that in its flame we may love you

with all our heart,  
with all our mind,  
with all our soul,  
and with all our strength,  
and our neighbours as ourselves,

so that in keeping your commandments,  
we may glorify you,  
the giver of all good gifts. Amen

*A Manual of Eastern Orthodox Prayers*

#### The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR  
266952 Fax- 402624 nsm@thisischurch.com  
(Sam also works full time as a Vice  
President for Hewlett Packard)

#### Deacon Jane Mills

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

**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](http://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. Jean Kirk 317699  
**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** - Morag Stewart 360103

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

**9.15 –3.45 pm Mon and Wed/ 9.15-12.15pm Tues/Thurs/ Fri. Hazeldene Heights Pre-school.** See website for more details [www.ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com)

Head teacher Mrs Laura Leggett ☎326685

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

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

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** St Mark's (see contact details below)

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

**2.00pm U3A Relaxation & Meditation** at St Mark's 1st & 3rd week starting 1st October (see contact details below)

**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 Carolyn Morris [youth@thischurch.com](mailto:youth@thischurch.com) 365630

**1.30-2.45pm Chat and Make** For babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details email– [chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk) . Restarts on 10 September

**2.00pm U3A History Group** St Mark's (see contact details below)

**2pm U3A Music Appreciation** - (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 Fit for Life Yoga** - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher ☎07891879571

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

**Zumba** - Explosion Fitness—Putnoe Heights - Sam Baptista 07402965490

**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– 29 October Judith Stanton. ☎823313

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

**7.45pm Opus Choir** at St Mark's Mrs Sutherland ☎269100

**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 ☎07790206016

**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 Group.** St Mark's (see contact 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 below)

**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.

**3.45pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance.** Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson ☎295862 or 07917582468.

**6.15pm 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

**7pm Keep Fit.** St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455

**7pm MT Karate** [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎07941 264885

**7pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Sacha Ojo ☎07590597891 or [www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk](http://www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk)

**Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting Tuesday 30 October Quiz Evening Details call Janet King 313946

**8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers** St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

## Wednesday

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

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

**9.30am Discovery & 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 details 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 Heights (see contact details below)

**11am U3A Keep Fit.** - Putnoe Heights

**12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 24 October 2012 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**

**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 17 October. Wendy Waters401834

**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.

**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. Sylvia Woods 365095

**7.00pm Putnoe Guild** Putnoe Heights monthly Mrs O Holt ☎266004

**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** at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be 31 October Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Valmai ☎219555 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

**9.30am Thursday Prayer Group.** Putnoe Heights.

Valerie Capon ☎356306 No meeting on 1 November.

*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 term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Jo Garner ☎400071 or ☎07719670624

**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 (large hall) Children's Chatty Time** 0-5 years, Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information ☎340552.

**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. (see contact details below)

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

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

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

**7.00pm Club 2000** Putnoe Heights 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

**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 Pat Cass ☎294220

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

### Friday

**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

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

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

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

**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

**6.45pm Duplicate Bridge.** St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

### Sunday

**9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School** at St Mark's

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** – 19 Feb,11 June

**St Mark's Leadership Team** - 22 January

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** - 5 February

**Putnoe Heights Management Meeting**

**Putnoe Church Council** -

**Pastoral Group Meeting** -

**Churchyard Committee** -

**Brickhill Parish Council Meetings** -

**Commemoration Service** 4 November3.00pm

**Circuit meeting** -

**Deanery Meeting** - 16 November

**Woodland Burial Trustees**—

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting** -

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



## Ordinary 29

### Opening Verse of Scripture - Matthew Chapter 20:26

Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave-- just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

### Collect Prayer

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (*Common Worship Shorter Collect*)

### First Bible Reading - Isaiah 53 v 4 – 12

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken. He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors

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

### Second Bible Reading - Hebrews 5:1-10

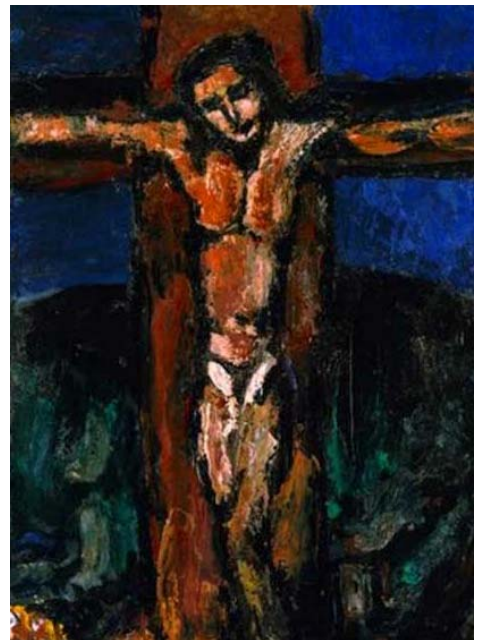
Every high priest is selected from among men and is appointed to represent them in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people. No one takes this honour upon himself; he must be called by God, just as Aaron was. So Christ also did not take upon himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father." And he says in another place, "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek." During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek

(This is the word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God** )

### Gospel Reading - Mark 10:35-45

*When the reading is announced* **All: Glory to Christ our Saviour**

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask." "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. They replied, "Let



"Can you drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"

one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory." "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?" "We can," they answered. Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared." When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (This is the Gospel of Christ- **All: 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. Amen

**Hymns** (*Please distribute Holy Communion and Hymns and Psalms*)

1. Jesus is Lord 260
2. A Man once came from Galilee (*On Partnership News Tune Tyrolese*)
3. O God you are the Father of all the human race (*On Partnership News Tune Ellacombe*)
4. Alleluia sing to Jesus (*Tune Hyfrydol*) 592

### **Commentary**

The scene is set, it is five days before Jesus' crucifixion, four days before his betrayal and trial, a few hours before the Triumphal Entry. It is time for the disciples to put into practice all the teachings which they have heard from Jesus. It is as if the coach has prepared the team and now it is time for the game to begin. If Jesus had thought that his team was ready for the challenge ahead, then he would have been greatly disappointed. James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask." James and John were brothers, Peter, James, and John are fondly referred to as the "inner circle" disciples. Their request is for a promise from Jesus, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory." The seats at the right hand and the left hand of a powerful person are positions of authority, from these seats James and John could exercise authority over others and be powerful. In Matthew's account, we are told that the mother of James and John (*Salome*) was pushing for the promotion of her sons. (Matthew 20:20). Some mother's are notorious in their ambitions for their children!

We are told that James and John came from a family where there were 'hired servants' (Mark 1:20). I have never had servants, but I imagine that it would be really nice to have a few from time to time! In truth we would all like somebody to do some serving around the place. Then we could have more time and things wouldn't be so frenetic. In truth we all like a bit of power too, the ability to make choices and not be always having our lives directed by others. The other disciples we are told were furious when they heard James and John making this request. Why were they furious? Not because they thought it was wrong to ask such a thing, I would guess. Rather they were angry that James and John beat them to it! They most probably wanted to be in powerful positions of service with servants too.

Jesus responds by asking whether they can share his cup and baptism. The cup in Old Testament thought was highly symbolic. The disciples may have thought of the cup of honour given to certain guests at the banquet, but it appears that Jesus had an entirely different cup in mind. Jeremiah 25:15-16 speaks of God's cup of wrath and judgment. Jesus echoes this interpretation of the cup in words about his own impending death in Mark 14:36, Matthew 26:39, and Luke 22:42. He will lay down his life to take the judgement of others. Jesus reverses human expectation, the rules are turned upside down. If you wish to participate in the Kingdom of God, then you must be the servant. The disciples knew that Jesus was going to reverse the human order, but they expected that would mean a revolution, a change in leadership with them at the top of the new regime. They could just not comprehend that Jesus wanted his followers to be

servants of others. The baptism of which Jesus spoke was also a reference to his suffering and death (Luke 12:50). Paul makes an allusion to this kind of baptism in Romans 6:3-6. Given the anxiety level of the disciples (Mark 10:32), it seems unbelievable that they agreed to enter into Christ's suffering. James, however, did drink the cup of suffering; he was the first to be martyred (Acts 12:2) when Herod had him executed by the sword.

So we are supposed to ask ourselves, 'Where do we want to sit?' Are we looking for prestige, and power, or are we willing to drink from the cup of self-sacrifice which Christ offers to us. Unfortunately even those of us in church ministry are tempted to want rank and positions of importance. Jesus' teaching today causes us to re-examine how we view success and importance both within and without church circles. In Jesus' kingdom-perspective, the "great" are those who serve others. Today's gospel opens our eyes to the true greatness that surrounds us in daily life. We will need to look again at those who, in quiet ways, serve without receiving praise; help without thanks and remain faithful to daily responsibilities without fanfare and awards. It has been said that the moral test of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable members. That is a good way to judge Christians, by how well we copy the example of Jesus in his life of service to the outcasts of society, the weak and vulnerable and those at the bottom of the social ladder. Jesus doesn't look for slaves to serve him, he is one. It is somewhat ironic that Jesus will soon be poignantly flanked on his left and right, not by the disciples, who will have fled, but by two criminals at Golgotha. *Charles Royden*

### **Meditation**

The story is told of St Theresa of Avila and other sisters travelling on a cart. The wheel of the cart becomes stuck in mud and Theresa and the other sisters push the cart in the mud. Encouraging the sisters Theresa said to them 'come on sisters this is how God rewards his friends.' One of the sisters replied, 'no wonder he has so few friends.' But Theresa had realised the truth that to share in the service of Christ was true reward in itself.

*Mahatma Gandhi, 20th century*

*The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.*

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

Thank you Jesus for your redeeming power. That you loved us and gave yourself for us: That you gave your life a ransom for many, a ransom for us. That you were obedient to death, even the death of the cross. We thank you O Christ. Forgive us if we treat your love lightly as a little thing, and if we ever fail to try to love you as you love us.

O God, you have called men and women of every land to be a holy nation, a royal priesthood, the Church of your dear Son; unite us in mutual love across the barriers of race and culture, and strengthen us in our common task of being Christ and showing Christ to the world He came to save. Amen

O Lord, let the church be truly your collective body in the world today, the Christ-community directed by your head, infused with your Spirit, loving and serving all people as you did when you lived your human life. Help the Church to give itself for the world, to that everyone may have the priceless treasure of your grace and love, O lord of the Church, O Saviour of the world. Amen

Set our hearts on fire with love for you, O Christ our God, that in its flame we may love you with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our soul, and with all our strength, and our neighbours as ourselves, so that in keeping your commandments, we may glorify you, the giver of all good gifts. Amen *A Manual of Eastern Orthodox Prayers*

**Service of Commemoration of the Faithful Departed.** We will be holding a special service of commemoration of loved ones who have died at St Mark's Church on 4 November. All are welcome to attend so please do encourage anybody you know who would appreciate this special service.

### **Advent Course**

This year we will be running a Partnership Advent Course at St Mark's for three weeks. The course will also be great for those considering confirmation in the 2013. Each session will start with refreshments at 7.30pm with the main meeting 8.00pm - 9.00pm More details to follow but put these dates in your diary.

#### **Thursday 29 November**

Coffee served in Chapel 7.30 - 8pm

Session in Church from 8pm

#### **Thursday 6 December**

In WREN room from 7.30pm

#### **Thursday 13 December**

Coffee served in Chapel 7.30 - 8pm

Session in Church from 8pm

**Putnoe Heights Refurbishment.** Starting at ½ term Friday 26 October The large hall will be given a new floor and new boilers will be fitted.

**Friends For Life** social evening on Wednesday 24 October at 7.15pm at Priory Methodist Church. Brief up-date on events and development of the project over the last 12 months followed by a buffet. Please let Joanne Barrow know if you will be attending on 01234 213038 or at joanne.barrow4ntlworld.com.

**Doris Cooper** would like to thank St Mark's for the beautiful flowers she received on Monday, It was a lovely surprise.

**Messy Church** This year, for the first time, our Messy Church families will be donating items for the Samaritan's Purse 'Operation Christmas Child' Shoe Box Appeal. If you would also like to contribute items for the 'Shoe box' presents there will be a container for them in church from 21st October to 18th November. A leaflet, which you can take as you leave church today, gives more details and most importantly lists what can and cannot be donated. For more information please contact: Wendy Waters 01234 401834, or Margaret Appleton 01234 354708.

**Esa & Aleta** would like to thank everybody who sponsored them for their walk in the summer.

**Volunteers needed** at Putnoe Heights. We need to do some extra cleaning of the Church premises and are looking for volunteers to help with Window Cleaning, Damp dusting of all rooms, Kitchen cleaning and also weeding around outside of the building. Jobs can be done at a time to suit you. Please see Jenny Snelson after the service, or contact on 01234 344417.

**Putnoe Art Group** are holding an Exhibition of New Paintings on Saturday 10 November 2012 from 10.30.am. Tea and cakes only £1.00 For details contact Bob on 01234 406094

**Storybox** at Putnoe Heights Church is flourishing this term. Our catering team would welcome new volunteers to help once a month. For further details please talk to Carolyn Morris or Val Peacock.

### **Footprints Walk – Sunday 4 November**

Our next walk will be centred on the river and surrounding areas. Please meet in Priory Church car park for a 2pm start. The walk will be mainly on good paths and should be no more than about 3 miles. We shall end at Priory for a cuppa and cake. Contact Sue Butler (Priory) if you need any further information.

**St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre** There are only 5 weeks left to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 24 November 2012. We would be grateful for any help with the following:-**Raffle Tickets** – Are now on sale in the Foyer after church. Please take a few books home to family and friends returning the week before the Fayre (19) or on Saturday 24 November. **Tombola** – Any NEW unwanted gifts\Christmas present etc. for our Tombola Stall. **Cake Stall** Millie is kindly co-ordinating the cake stall again this year. She would be very grateful for any offers of cakes. If you are able to bake a cake for this stall please contact Millie via the Church Office. **Refreshments** – We would very much appreciate donations of traybakes to sell with tea and coffee. Ploughman's lunches will be on sale at lunchtime as usual. Volunteers to help in the kitchen on the day would be very much appreciated. To put your name down please see Avril Williams. Any help gratefully received. **Secondhand Book Stall** – We are again this year having a secondhand bookstall so please have a look in your cupboards for any unwanted books. We do ask that they be in good condition please. **Indoor Plant Stall** – After the success of last year's Indoor Plant Stall we are doing the same again this year. If you have any indoor or outdoor plants or have split any plants and would like to donate them to our stall we would be very grateful. All donated items for the above stalls can be bought up to Church anytime week beginning 19 November. Finally we will need lots of help on the day especially when the Fayre finishes at 3.30p.m. Many hands make light work and it would certainly be appreciated in getting the Church back for the Sunday morning service. This is one of our main fundraising events of the year and we are hoping to make it an even bigger success than last year, with your help I am sure we can achieve this. It all helps in keeping the doors of St Mark's Community Centre open for Brickhill and surrounding areas. Many thanks. Avril



## Hymns for Sunday

**A Man once came from Galilee,**  
No Man so great as He.  
We left our work and went with Him,  
His followers to be.  
Lord Jesus, be our Teacher now,  
And may we learn from You  
To love and serve the Father God  
And other people, too.

We saw our Master heal the sick;  
We saw His love for men.  
We saw His power reach out to touch  
And bring to life again.  
Lord Jesus, be our Healer now,  
And make us whole and strong  
That we may share Your love and power  
And serve You all day long.

They nailed Him to a cross of wood;  
They scoffed and watched Him die.  
And we could not at first believe  
That He would reign on high.  
Lord Jesus, be our Saviour now,  
And may we all repent  
And hate the sin that brought You down  
To bear our punishment.

We saw the stone was rolled away  
Before the empty grave.  
We met the risen Lord of life  
The one who came to save.  
Lord Jesus, You are God and King;  
Oh, may we all obey  
And glorify You, risen Lord,  
In all we do each day.  
*Tune Tyrolese*

**O God you are the Father of all the human race**  
The God of all creation, who rules in time and space.  
Despite our faults and failings your love remains the same  
And you alone we worship and praise your holy name.

Lord Jesus Christ we love you - our Saviour and our friend,  
Your life you gave to save us by love which knows no end.  
As God and man you showed us just how we ought to live,  
So Lord, in glad obedience, our lives to you we give.

We thank you, Holy Spirit, for gifts of many kinds,  
New life and love and power that changes hearts and minds;  
We praise you for the comfort and strength you bring each day  
As one who stands beside us and helps us as we pray.  
*(Tune Ellacombe)*

---

**Social Evening.** Tickets are now available for an evening of music and entertainment with special guest Vittorio at St Mark's on Saturday 17 November.

---



**St Mark's Messy Church .**  
Future dates: all 3.45 to 5.30pm  
Wednesday 21 November  
Wednesday 12 December.



### Thank you for Shopping at [WWW.ThisChurch.com](http://WWW.ThisChurch.com)

Thank you for shopping using the links on thisischurch.com. Please always use the link on ThisisChurch.com to shop through Amazon. Please be careful to make sure that you never access Amazon direct but always use the link on ThisisChurch.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 and help raise money.



### 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.

**Frank Patrick Sheridan**  
**Peter Whittingstall**

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



### Forthcoming Funerals

Please remember these families and friends in your prayers.

We were saddened to hear of the death on Saturday of Bert Abram, one of our loyal church members from St Mark's. The funeral will be held at St Mark's. Our thoughts and prayers and with the family.