

Methodist
Church

Partnership News

22 April - Easter 3



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 Sunday April 22

9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship
Preacher - Reverend Charles Royden
Leadership – Mrs Elizabeth Bean
Intercessions - Mr Chris Izzard

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship
Preacher – Reverend Charles Royden
Leadership – Mrs Veta Hudson Rae
Intercessions – Mrs Sam Ware

29 April – Easter 4

9.30am St Mark's - Holy Communion with PCH

Preacher - Deacon Jane Mason
Leadership – Mrs Morag Stewart
Intercessions - Mrs Morag Stewart

11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion with PCH

Preacher - Deacon Jane Mason
Leadership – Mrs Jenny Snelson
Intercessions – Ministers

Bible Readings 1 Acts 4: 5-12

2. 1 John 3: 1-7 3. John 10: 11-18

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 Alan and Diane Bayliss in celebration of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

The flowers at St. Mark's Church this week have been given by Myfanwy in loving memory of her sister Dr. Margaret Alice Longstaff.

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

Praise to you, our Lord and our God, for the jewel of our sight, the treasure of our hearing and the glory of our speech. Pardon our ingratitude and teach us to render you a thankful heart. Open our eyes to your glory, our ears to your word and our mouths to proclaim your goodness; both now and forever. Amen.

Thomas Traherne (c. 1636-1674)

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 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.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. Linda Hoar 782717
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator John Hitt 404186
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 - Laura Farthing 210892
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

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

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)

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 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

2.00pm U3A History Group St Marks.(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

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– 30 April 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 ☎07790206016

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 (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)

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

2pm U3A Photography Group 3 St. Mark's (1st Wk) (see 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.

4.30pm—6pm BIGG Writing Putnoe Heights Natalie John 07772184721

6.30pm Creative Card making. Putnoe Heights Church. Carol Houghton ☎346718

6.15pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher
☎0789187957

7pm—8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390

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

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting May 1 'Musical 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

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.(see 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)

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 25 April 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

1.45 Scots Society Whist Putnoe monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr ☎268147

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

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 18th April Wendy Waters401834

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha

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 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 meet at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be 2 May 2012. Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring ,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 .

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.

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

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Mrs. P. Cass ☎294220

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. St.Marks. (see contact details below)

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society St Marks 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 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 Whist St Marks. Patricia Holland.☎262823

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

6.00-7.00pm 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 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 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.

1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Sacha Ojo ☎07590597891 or www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's (not 25 March) Contact Adrian Felice www.bedfordtkd.com 07964356355

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 June
St Mark's Leadership Team - Thursday 17 May
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 28 May
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting
Putnoe Church Council - 11 June
Pastoral Group Meeting - Tuesday 19 June 4.00pm
Churchyard Committee -
Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -
Commemoration Service 4 November 3.00pm
Harvest Festival 30 September
Circuit meeting - 12 June
Deanery Meeting -
Woodland Burial Trustees– 12 May Open Day at wood
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting -Monday 21 May 1.15pm

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

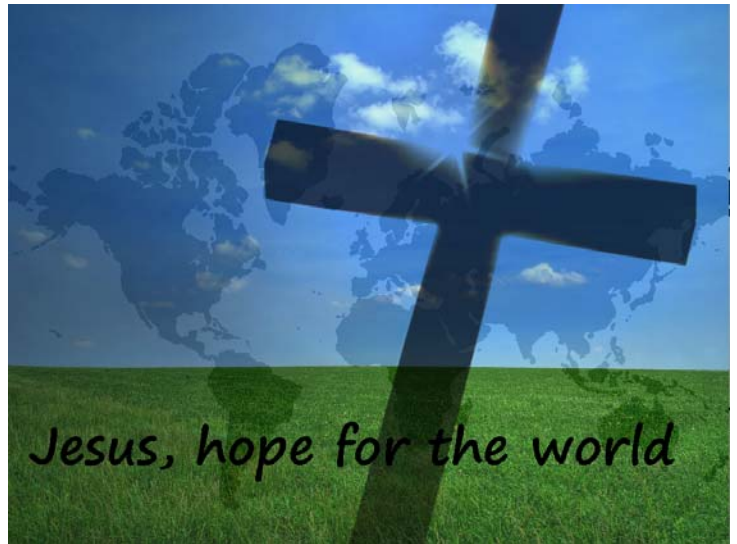
Easter 3

Opening Verse of Scripture .Psalm 118

I will exalt you, O LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. O LORD my God, I called to you for help and you healed me. O LORD, you brought me up from the grave; you spared me from going down into the pit. Sing to the LORD, you saints of his; praise his holy name.

Collect Prayer *(Before we read we pray)*

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us also to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen. *Common Worship Shorter Collect*



First Reading - Acts 3: 12-19

When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see. "Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord."

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

Second Reading - 1 John 3: 1-7

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure. Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous

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

Gospel Reading – Luke 24:36b-48

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost.

He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ

will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

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

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

Hymns (*Please distribute Morning Worship and Hymns and Psalms*)

1. Love Divine All Love Excelling (*Love Divine*) 267
2. The King of Love my Shepherd is (*Dominus R. Me*) 69
3. Among us our beloved stands (*Tune Song 34mv*)
4. Facing a task unfinish'd Tune (*Aurelia*)
5. Thine be the glory 212 (*Maccabaeus*)

Among us our beloved stands

and bids us see his nail-pierced hands,
points to his wounded feet and side,
blest emblems of the crucified.

When at his table sits the Lord,
what generous food adorns his board;
when Jesus comes his guests to meet,
the wine how rich, the bread how sweet!

If now with eyes earth-bound and dim,
we see the signs, but see not him,
then may his love the veil displace
and help us see him face to face.
Charles H Spurgeon (1834-1892)

Commentary

The resurrection of Jesus turned the world upside down. For a man to be raised from death was not something new, Jesus had raised Lazarus from death. But the resurrection of Jesus was something different. The resurrected Jesus was not the same. His body was different and even those who had known him well were surprised. Jesus was able to appear through locked doors and yet his body bore the wounds and scars of the nails which held him to the cross and the spear which the soldiers plunged into his side. The resurrected Jesus ate fish with his disciples and yet they knew that this was no mere resuscitation, Jesus had changed. The risen Jesus was different, he had gone through death and passed through the other side, he would die no more. Jesus was now no longer just Jesus of Nazareth, he was their risen Lord. The resurrected Jesus gave them a challenge to tell the world about him and because he was no longer confined by the physical world, he would be with them spiritually wherever they went and whatever they faced. That is why these frightened disciples left their cowardice behind and became some of the bravest and most fearless people the world has ever known. The world was turned upside down and that resurrected Jesus has been present with his followers ever since.

Facing a task unfinish'd,

That drives us to our knees,
A need that, undiminished,
Rebukes our slothful ease,
We, who rejoice to know thee,
Renew before thy throne
The solemn pledge we owe thee
To go and make thee known.

Where other lords beside thee
Hold their unhindered sway,
Where forces that defied thee
Defy thee still today,
With none to heed their crying
For life and love and light,
Unnumbered souls are dying,
And pass into the night.

We bear the torch that flaming
Fell from the hands of those
Who gave their lives proclaiming
That Jesus died and rose.
Ours is the same commission,
The same glad message ours,
Fired by the same ambition,
To thee we yield our powers.

O Father who sustained them,
O Spirit who inspired,
Saviour, whose love constrained them
To toil with zeal untired,
From cowardice defend us,
From lethargy awake!
Forth on thine errands send us
To labour for thy sake.
Frank Houghton (1894-1972)

So we know why Jesus was killed. It was out of envy and greed by those in power who saw him as a threat to their wealth and status. They refused to allow this carpenter from Galilee, (wrong job, wrong place) to come in and upset the apple cart. They had a workable situation in spite of Roman occupation and Jesus put the whole thing in jeopardy by his words and his actions, such as the overturning of the money tables in the temple. Jesus was not killed because he threatened the power of Rome, he was killed because he challenged the temple, the priests and religious powers.

There are two features of the resurrection which I do believe think stand out as significant. The first thing of importance is that we need to remember the anger which existed towards Jesus from the Jewish authorities. They hated him enough to murder him. Yet when the stories started to go around about the resurrection of Jesus the Jewish authorities were unable to produce a dead Jesus corpse.

It is true that the disciples might have stolen the body themselves but the fact remains that they were so energised by the truth of the resurrection appearances of Jesus that they fearlessly proclaimed his resurrection to the extent that they were not only prepared to die but willingly gave of their lives, some in the most cruel manner. It would be quite absurd to imagine that men and women would give their lives for something which they knew to be a deliberate deception. There is no more credible witness than one who is prepared to die rather than change their testimony. No wonder it is said that the death of the martyrs, or witnesses, was the seed of the church.

Jesus appeared to those who were thinking about him, who were looking for him. Today Jesus is still present to those individuals and groups who seek him. This is because the resurrection of Jesus is not just a historical event, an event bound in our physical world, the resurrection is a spiritual reality in which encounter is just as important as understanding. The transformation of the disciples into what we know now as the Christian church, occurred because of the resurrection. The broken hearted, disillusioned disciples left behind their fears and despair and changed from frightened cowards into fearless lions. They were unafraid because the spiritual resurrection of Jesus meant that Jesus was no longer confined to earth and time. This new Jesus was able to be with them when they were arrested, he was with them when they faced the Sanhedrin, Jesus was with them when they were put to death because they refused to deny the truth of the risen Jesus.

This is what the resurrection means today. We read about the encounters which Jesus had with those on the road to Emmaus, with Mary in the garden, the disciples in the upper room. But what really matters is that Jesus is someone we meet with and who is here with us today. *Charles Royden*

Meditation

Some of our sins are obvious to us, others are obvious to others, others are well known to both, and still others are known only to you, because we tend to be blind and in denial. Whatever their common knowledge or lack thereof, we ask for your pardon and cleansing.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Living God, you have given us a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead: grant that we, being risen with Him, may fix our hearts on heavenly things and share eternal life. Amen

Grant to us, O Lord, to pass this day in gladness and peace, without stumbling and without stain, that reaching the eventide victorious over all temptation, we may again praise you, the eternal God, blessed over all things now and for ever. Amen *Mozarabic Sacramentary, 10th century*

Risen Lord Jesus, who came to Your friends when all their hope was gone: come to us in the dark times. Come to those who despair, that they may feel your Easter presence in their hearts. Amen

God, our Father, open our eyes to see your hand at work in the splendour of creation, in the beauty of Church life. Touched by your hand our world is Holy. Help us to cherish the gifts that surround us, to share your blessings with our brothers and sisters and to experience the joy of life in your presence. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

100th Birthday. All friends are invited to a bring-and-share buffet lunch at Putnoe Heights on Sunday 29 April, 12.30 for 1.00 pm, to celebrate the 100th birthday of Miss Jennie Cooper. Please see Sue Allen for a list of suggested contributions to the meal. At Jennie's request, no presents or flowers but donations welcome to be shared by MHA and Church funds.

Putnoe Heights Prayer Group will meet on the 27 April at 1.45pm

Kempston Musical Society present an evening of Mozart, including Requiem at Kempston East Methodist Church on Saturday 28 April at 7.30pm. Admission £7.00. For further details telephone Bedford 781010 or email kempstonmusicalsociety@hotmail.com



The St Albans Woodland Burial Trust will be having an open day at Keysoe on May 12 from 12 noon to 3 All are invited to visit the woodland and enjoy refreshments.

St Mark's Prayer Board

The Prayer Board has been refitted to the wall in the foyer at St Mark's. Please do use it to ask for prayer requests for any matter for yourself or another person who has agreed for their name to be used. These requests may be used in intercessions in our services.

A Partnership Service Of Hymn Praise

At 6.30p.m. on Sunday 20 May, there will be a service of praise at Putnoe Heights Church. This form of service has been very well on received on previous occasions, and such further services were suggested during the Lent Course. Prior to our Lord's Ascension He commanded his Apostles to wait in Jerusalem for the giving of the Holy Spirit at

Pentecost. At this service on the Sunday between the Ascension of Jesus and the day of Pentecost, the theme of the service will be 'Waiting for the Spirit'. This date is also the anniversary of the spiritual experiences which Charles and John Wesley received in May 1738. I invite all who enjoy singing will join us at this service, and of course any friend you would like to bring would also be welcome. *(Eric Royden)*

The Pilgrim's Progress will be performed at the Bunyan Meeting Church on Tuesday 8 and Wednesday 9 May at 7.30pm Tickets £12 (concessions £10) available from Central Box Office 01234 269519. or The Word Christian Book Shop, Castle Road. John Bunyan Museum open until 7pm both nights. Free admission to the museum. Refreshments available before the show.

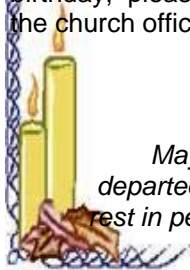
Putnoe Heights Church Council. There will be a meeting after the service on 6 May to consider Heating and other refurbishment work plans.

Footprints Walk:- 2.30pm on Sunday 6 May 2012. A 3 to 4 mile walk round Thurleigh. Suggested parking, at the playing field in Keysoe Road, or if busy on road parking nearby. Keysoe Road is on the left of the High St from the direction of Milton Ernest. Meet at the junction of "The Close" and the High Street. Rough under foot in places, a couple of prickly, awkward stiles but a cup of tea at The Farm Centre near the end. Any problems contact Margaret or Alan on 327219

St Mark's Chat and Make starts Monday 1.30-2.45pm. A baby ,toddler group 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story, refreshments more information - email chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk

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.



Norman Fuller

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

The funeral of Margaret Scorer will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 24th April at 1.45pm

Partnership Churches Annual Congregational Meetings

The Annual Congregational Meetings take place next Sunday 22 April after worship, 10.30am St Mark's and 12 noon Putnoe. Everybody is invited and encouraged to attend. This is a business meeting at which we appoint officers of the church, report back, receive an annual report and also the financial accounts of the church. Please note matters concerning the life of the church should be referred to members of the Church Leadership Team for their attention, to be brought subsequently to Church Council. If you would like to be a member of either church council then we very much would like to encourage you to complete a nomination form available this morning. Do not worry if you are not sure who to ask to nominate you, simply give the form to a member of the Leadership Team.

Agenda

Opening Prayers

Preliminary Matters Appointment of minute secretary to the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Record of number of persons present

(Please note no record is required of those present or apologies for absence)

Giving Thanks Expressions of thanks to any leaving office

Elections to Office

1. Election of Church Leadership Team
2. Election of Deanery Synod representative
3. Election of Church Council representatives

Presentations

1. Presentation of Terrier and Inventory
2. Presentation of current church policy documents
3. Presentation of August church accounts
4. Presentation of membership lists (Electoral roll etc.)
5. Presentation of Annual Review by Church Leadership Team.

This will be presented in form and then circulated and placed on the church website

Closing Prayers

Church Membership

It is important for us to have accurate membership information for our church. It is helpful 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 check the church membership list this morning. If your details require amendment then complete the form below and return it to the church office, a minister or a member of the Leadership Team. Alternatively please email one of the Ministers and we will ensure that you name is added. It is now very helpful to have your email address. We would like to be able to use this to communicate with you. Please consider giving us this information if you have not already done so. Please be assured we do not release your details to any other organisations.

Church Membership Details

Please enrol me as a member of the Partnership, Putnoe Heights and St Mark's Church

Name (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms etc..)

Address..... **Telephone**

Church which you usually attend (St Mark's or Putnoe)

Denominational background (if any) which you may have eg Methodist / CofE / Baptist / R Catholic /

Please feel free to leave blank.....

Email This is increasingly helpful for us for church use such as reminding you of important events.

We promise never to disclose it to anybody else

(You can return this form to a member of the Leadership Team or send an email to a minister)