



Partnership News

24 October 2010

Ordinary 30



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

9.30 am St. Mark's –Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Chris Izzard
Leadership - Mrs Avril Williams
Intercessions - Mrs Mary Stubbs

11am Putnoe – Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Chris Izzard
Leadership - Mrs Linda Hoar
Intercessions – Dr Tim Wilkes

31 October – All Saints

9.30 am St. Mark's– Holy Communion PCH

Preacher - Mr. Richard Ledger
Leadership – Mrs. Jean Bank
Intercessions – Mrs. Morag Stewart

11.00 am Putnoe - Holy Communion PCH

Preacher – Mr. Richard Ledger
Leadership – Mr. Gordon Evans
Intercessions - Mrs. Sylvia Cohen

Readings 1. Daniel 7:1-3, 15- 18, 2. Ephesians 1:11-23
3. Luke 6:20-31

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 Val Peacock in memory of her husband Trevor, and by Barbara Whittingstall with treasured memories of her loving husband Peter.

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 This Week

May it please you, O Lord,
to enlighten my heart
with the fire of your love.
I offer my hands to do your work,
my lips to sing your praise
and my life to proclaim your glory.
Look upon my neighbours in their needs
and guide me and bless me
as I serve you in them;
for Jesus' sake. Amen.
Hildegard of Bingen, 1098-1179

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

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

Deacon Jane Mason

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

The Reverend Charles Royden

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

For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website and may appear in other local media sources.

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417
Leadership Team Mrs Samantha Ware 304058
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator John Hitt 404186
Youth Worker Emma Gordon email - youth@thisischurch.com

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

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Avril Williams 360605
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 -11.45 am Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school

Head teacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

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

9.30-3.15pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634

(See website for more details)

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

9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights

Stephanie Smith ☎ 357787 or 07973174430

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mrs Berry

☎211955

10.30am U3A Play reading St Mark's J Birks ☎219607

12.00pm 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.

3.30pm Storybox Plus Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year olds.

Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then until 5pm stories, drama, singing & craft activities.

4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe Heights.

Margo Needham ☎843747 or 07881730747

4.15pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha

Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner

☎07720713738.

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week Pat

Nicholson ☎353518

7.30pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J

Dewhurst ☎01908 377020

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

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next

meeting—18 October - St. Mark's Judith Stanton. ☎

823313

7.30pm House group 30 The Ridgeway. The home of

Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.

8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane

Field ☎404976

Tuesday

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre

-school children. Renu Elston ☎07790296016

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights.

Judi Staughton ☎341821

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 Sally Banks

☎ 870357

1.15pm Sing and Stomp. For toddlers & their carers. Run

by the Putnoe Children's Centre. Putnoe Heights Majella

Atkinson ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's 4th Week in

month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs

Forrest ☎344043

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets

monthly. Morag Tomkins ☎356895

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

Janet King ☎313946

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting 19 Tea & Chat. October Harvest Festival. Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's

Fortnightly . Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs

Maureen Watling ☎262225

2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's

Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

3.45pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights.

Esther Richardson ☎295862 or 07917582468.

6.30pm Creative Card making. Putnoe Heights Church.

Carol Houghton ☎346718

6.30pm Yoga Putnoe Heights Veronica Lafferty ☎781466

or 07788750360

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

7pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King

☎07941 264885

7.30pm Hearts in Beds. Cardiac Support Group 1st

Tuesday in the month at St Mark's. Brian Ibberson ☎

403497

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights

Bible study & prayers. Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or

07866775515

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets

fortnightly. Next meeting October 26 'God's Acre'. Anne

Doody For more details call Janet King 313946

8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers St.

Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767

651767

Wednesday

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

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

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

hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.

10am Sewing & Chat. Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell

☎01462 815966

10am U3A Card Making. St Mark's Church. 4th week in

the month. Janet Fitch 838689

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly.

Next -27 October Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's.

Mr Barnes ☎261811

1.45 Scots Society Whist Putnoe monthly .All welcome

Nancy Barr ☎268147

2-5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179

1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft St Mark's 1st & 3rd week. Pat

Holland ☎262823

2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights

Mrs Webster ☎856966

3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's for children of

lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story,

crafts, singing and a meal. Monthly. Next meetings 10

November and 8 December. Wendy Waters 401834

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha

Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

☎219731

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

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

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

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

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice Loxley ☎347073

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

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

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club meet at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting 20 October. Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Graham 406359 or Rosemary 405594 for more details.

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

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Valerie Capon ☎356306 .
Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. Emma Strangwick ☎211070

11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau at Putnoe Heights.

12pm Storybox . St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing . Lots of fun. Contact Jaana Swaby ☎363283

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

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

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

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

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins 07919402797

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

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

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale ☎406094

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

8 -10pm Bedford Folk dancers (formerly Barn dancers) Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights . Different guest callers each week. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments. More details Ron Law 825574.

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

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

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Julia Nicholson ☎353642

Friday

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

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

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

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

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

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

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

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

Saturday

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard ☎01234 782414

Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher ☎357198

2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry ☎01462 674792

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

Sunday

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

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

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

6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship & fun.

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 8 November
Partnership Council
St Mark's Leadership Team
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting - .
St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - 12 noon, 16th November
Putnoe Church Council - 25 October.
Pastoral Group Meeting -
Churchyard Committee
Putnoe Heights Mission Group
Brickhill Parish Council Meetings
Deanery Meeting - . 18 November at St Peter's
Circuit Property/Treasurers Meeting
Circuit Meeting
Woodland Burial Trustees –
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –

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

Ordinary 30

Opening Sentence from Scripture - Collect (Before we read we pray)

Collect Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and peace, you call your children to live together as one family. Give us grace to learn your ways and to do your will, that we may bring justice and peace to all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Jeremiah Chapter 14:7-10, 19-22

Although our sins testify against us, O LORD, do something for the sake of your name. For our backsliding is great; we have sinned against you. O Hope of Israel, its Saviour in times of distress, why are you like a stranger in the land, like a traveller who stays only a night? Why are you like a man taken by surprise, like a warrior powerless to save? You are among us, O LORD, and we bear your name; do not forsake us! This is what the LORD says about this people: "They greatly love to wander; they do not restrain their feet. So the LORD does not accept them; he will now remember their wickedness and punish them for their sins."

Have you rejected Judah completely? Do you despise Zion? Why have you afflicted us so that we cannot be healed? We hoped for peace but no good has come, for a time of healing but there is only terror. O LORD, we acknowledge our wickedness and the guilt of our fathers; we have indeed sinned against you. For the sake of your name do not despise us; do not dishonour your glorious throne. Remember your covenant with us and do not break it. Do any of the worthless idols of the nations bring rain? Do the skies themselves send down showers? No, it is you, O LORD our God. Therefore our hope is in you, for you are the one who does all this.

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

Second Reading 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

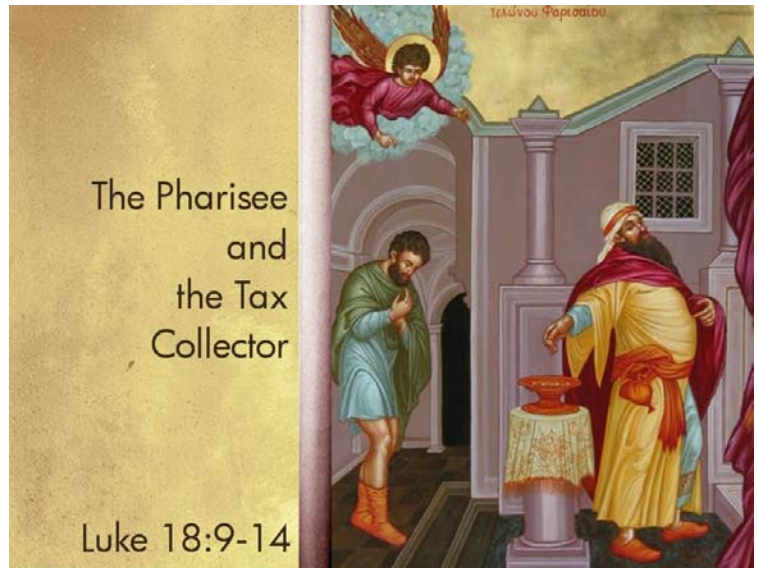
Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. At my first defence, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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

Gospel Reading – Luke 18:9-14

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men--robbers, evildoers, adulterers--or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

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



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 for Sunday (Please distribute Mission Praise and Morning Worship)

1. As the deer pants for the water **37**
2. Lord the light of your love **445**
3. Come let us sing of a wonderful love **94**
4. O for a heart to praise my God **495**
5. Great is thy faithfulness **200**

Commentary

In the parable of the Pharisee and tax collector at prayer, the Pharisee is often depicted in a negative light—he's the bad guy in the story. How vain and arrogant he is! But he wouldn't be seen as the bad guy to those listening to Jesus. The tax collector would be the villain in the story to them. His job meant he collected taxes for the Romans. When Jesus mentions his presence in the parable his hearers would have instinctively thought, "Traitor—lowest of the low!" What's more, if there were any doubt about the quality of their lives, both men stated their moral status quite clearly, as we can hear in their prayers.

The Pharisee is a good person who would have been admired by his contemporaries. He was so "holy" that he did more than was obliged by religious law. Deuteronomy required that a tithe be paid on the fruits of the flock and the harvest. Note that the Pharisee tithes his "whole income." He was going above and beyond what he was obliged to do.

So, we can presume that his description of his moral life is accurate: he is, "not like the rest of humanity—greedy, dishonest, adulterous." He leads a better life than "even this tax collector." His problem isn't that he is not a good and observant person. People observing the Pharisee leave the Temple after prayer that day would have agreed with his self assessment. He was to be admired for his exemplary behavior; while the tax collector would be despised for his morally bankrupt life. The lines are clearly drawn—case closed.

Not so fast! Remember Jesus is telling a parable and parables never go in the "proper" direction—the one we anticipate and consider inevitable. Trying to use mere human logic and reckoning never really works with the parables. The parables don't conform to conventional human wisdom. Today's parable is a good example that when we enter into the world of the parable we are in a whole new reality. It's called "the kingdom of God."

No one could ever call the kingdom Jesus came to proclaim "logical." Thank God! What chance would we have if logic and pure human justice were applied to our lives? Instead, today's parable shows us once again that God's ways are illogical by human reckoning. God's justice is about grace, and grace is not measured out using balancing scales like the kind depicted in the hands of our famous legal statute of Blindfolded Justice. Today's parable is about God's justice—it's given to the truly sorrowful and missed by those who think they have to earn it.

If what the Pharisee said about himself was true, what's the problem? Well, he is looking in the wrong direction. He is praying with his focus on his own life. Notice for example, how many times he refers to himself—"I". God seems no more than an outside observer to the man's prayer and his list of accomplishments.

Some people think our prayer can change God's mind. Actually, true prayer will change us. But there was no chance that the Pharisee's prayer would have any transformative effect on him. He seems to think that his extra good life has earned him the reward of salvation; that God owes him a reward for his religious good works. People seeing the Pharisee leave the Temple that day would have seen a very satisfied person who had performed his religious duties.

But can you recognize the heresy of works in his focus on his own achievements? Where is the gift of God in the man's life? The Pharisee is so focused on his good works that he fails to see God's activity in his life. The source of a person's goodness doesn't begin in the person, it comes from God. God is the gift giver and our goodness reflects God's goodness in us.

Luke tells us that Jesus address this parable "to those who were convinced of their own righteousness...." It's a cautionary tale about a tendency we religious people and religious institutions can have: the conviction that we alone possess the truth and know the way people should behave. The self-righteous Pharisee condemns anyone who does not meet his standards. The "righteous" draw a conclusion about the sinner and leave no room for dialogue and open exchange.

The tax collector focuses not on who he is, and not what meritorious things he has done, but on who he is not and what he has failed to do. In fact, unlike the Pharisee, he quickly turns his gaze away from himself and towards God. He is in need of God's blessing and cannot achieve it on his own. He is totally reliant on

God and surrenders himself into God's hands. When he left the Temple that day he would look the same to those observing him. But Jesus marks the difference they would not be able to see in him—he "went home justified." In biblical language that means he was delivered from his sin. How did that happen? What did the tax collector do to "merit" this forgiveness? Nothing. He was a sinner who turned completely to God for forgiveness and God's mercy responded.

The person who is in touch with his or her humanity will know that our relationship with God and others is a gift from our good God. But, if we are in touch with our humanity, we also know how fragile and sometimes fickle we can be and our potential to sin. So, the tax collector's prayer today is our prayer as well, "O God, be merciful to me a sinner." We have placed our trust in our God who has created us and provided us with ample reason to give praise for all the beauty and goodness within and around us. We also know we can trust the same God to forgive us when we have turned away and made ourselves the primary focus of our lives—like the Pharisee.

John Shea recalls the revelatory experience Thomas Merton had standing on a street corner in Louisville, Kentucky. Merton was overwhelmed by his love for all the people around him and how much he was not separated from them, but one with them. He said, "Thank God, thank God that I am like other [people], that I am only a man among others." Then, in further wonder, Merton exults in praise that, "God... is glorified in becoming a member of the human race. A member of the human race!" So, while we "humble self" as Jesus recommends, we remember with praise that we are not only united with each other in our humanity, but also with God who, in the great act of humility, became one of us in Jesus Christ.

Meditation

Gene Roddenberry created 'Star Trek', the science-fiction series. In an episode of 'Star Trek The Next Generation', the people who live on two moons are about to go to war with each other. With the help of the crew of the 'Enterprise', an ambassador persuades representatives of each group to trade places for a week, so that they will understand the others' point of view more clearly.

Having swapped places, both grow in their understanding of the other group. War is averted and they all live in peace. The Sioux Native Americans had a custom that, before leaving to visit members of another tribe, individuals would raise their hands and pray these words: "Great Spirit, help me never to judge another person without having first walked in their moccasins for two weeks."

Let us pray to be free of prejudices: Lord, lead me not to be hasty in jumping to conclusions about people. Influence me not to stereo-type individuals or make sweeping generalisations. Free me from prejudices which leave no-one free. Help me to appreciate that there are other ways of looking at things, realising that others can have as equally valid a view as mine. Inspire me to grow in the ability to understand others and think as generously of them as I would like them to think of me.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Eternal God, you have been our resting-place through the ages. Generations come and pass away, but you abide forever. We praise you for your presence among us. You bring us comfort amid our trials - clarity where confusion persists - peace in the midst of conflict - and hope of eternal life. Hear us now as we pray for your Church and the needs of the world, for you are the God of our lives. We pray for the Church of Jesus Christ; that, begun, maintained and promoted by the Holy Spirit, it may be true, engaging, glad, and active, doing your will. Let your church be always faithful, O God, and ready to promote the cause of compassionate love and peace.

We pray that as Christian disciples we may be a faithful witness in word and deed to the Good News of Christ's Love.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world. We pray that everywhere upon this earth there may be justice and peace. We continue to pray for peace in the world, especially those involved in the fight against terrorism and those struggling to provide humanitarian aid.

Lord, we pray for all people in their daily life and work - for our families, friends, and neighbours, and for those who are alone. We name before you individuals and families experiencing personal hardship or facing an uncertain future, those who are separated from loved ones, those who grieve this today, and those who are sick in hospital or ill at home. Hear us Lord as we now lift up those people and those situations you have placed upon our hearts.

Sankey Moody Evening at Putnoe Heights Church 31st October at 6.30pm. A hymn extravaganza. Come and enjoy singing favourite hymns of yesteryear.

Home for Christmas? Would you share your festivities with an international student at a UK university who might otherwise be stuck on an empty campus? HOST is looking for invitations for 2 or 3 days for students from China and many other countries. Hosting makes a worthwhile contribution to international goodwill. Please see www.hostuk.org or call HOST's voluntary regional organiser Paul Ryall on 01692 630710.

St Mark's 'Messy Church' Our next sessions are at 3.45pm on Wednesday 10 November and 8 December. For more information speak to Jean Bank or Wendy Waters. If anyone has a projector stand that we could borrow for our next session on 10 November please contact Jean Bank or Wendy Waters.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal The youth team at Putnoe Church are launching the Christmas Shoebox Appeal again this year. Via the Samaritan's Purse organisation filled shoe boxes will be delivered to some of the worlds poorest children, boys and girls between 2 to 14 years, in time for Christmas. If you could please donate any of the following items soft toys, jigsaws, building blocks, cars, dolls, soft balls, stationery items, stickers, puzzle books, toothbrushes/paste, soap, hairbrushes, hats and caps, necklaces, sweets (long sell by dates), bangles, sunglasses. We will also need empty shoeboxes and Christmas wrapping paper. Please leave at Putnoe Office for the youth team. Any question, contact Emma Gordon. Thank you." Alternatively if you would prefer to donate some money this can be used towards postage. The boxes need to be completed by the beginning of November.

Faith in Action. The £100 raised at a recent coffee morning has been allocated to the Lewis Kaire Mosquito Net Fund.

Emergency Relief Fund thank you to everybody who collects small change for us. If you would like to join us simply see the collector at the door before the service. So far we have sent £300 to Haiti and £300 to the Pakistan flood appeal. Sylvia Cohen Tel.343424

Thank you all so very much Putnoe Heights Congregation for the gorgeous autumn flowers for my husband Kevin and I which brighten our days and living room. A huge expression of gratitude to the partnership for all the sincere and caring prayers

said on behalf of Kevin and I (Deborah) during our recent illnesses. An extra special expression of appreciation to Thursday morning prayer group and Monday house group at Wendy Waters House for all their prayers. Much appreciation for all the gifts given to our family during this extremely difficult time of food, plants, flowers, cards, letters, books, phone calls, hospital and home visits.

Kevin is home from Papworth Hospital and starts cardiac rehabilitation in 1 November. I am so thankful to know our precious Holy Jesus as my Lord and Saviour to guide me through our family's recent difficult times. I pray heaven's blessing upon each one of you in the partnership all our love from *Kevin, and Deborah, Wallace and Sons*

Sylvia Cohen After many years of service to Missions at Putnoe Sylvia Cohen has decided to retire; we are sorry to hear this, but would like to thank not only Sylvia but all of her fellow workers on the Mission Committee. The Leadership Team are looking for a replacement for Sylvia and, although we realise this is a hard act to follow, think this is an opportunity for someone who is interested in the wider world as well as that close to home. This would involve supporting our current venture, including beds at Kisiizi, receiving literature relating to this and also coordinating fund raising for any new projects. This is important work which people at Putnoe have supported for many years and this support is still needed. Anyone interested in this important position please see Jean Kirk or other members of the Leadership team.

Goldington Family Centre Fundraising Event.

Join us for a fun night out dancing to 80s Disco music; dress up in style, there will be a prize for the best male and female outfit. All proceeds to Goldington Family Centre, which is raising funds for a children's outside play area. Friday 29th October 7.30pm at Goldington Middle School. £18 (to include a welcome drink, buffet and quiz) Call 01234 341977 for tickets.

Vacancy Putnoe Heights Church have a vacancy for a 'Community Centre Manager'. This is a salaried position of 20 hours per week. Duties include general office management as well as all other aspects of ensuring the smooth operation of a busy church community centre. We are looking for an enthusiastic, organised, computer literate and friendly person able to start in January 2011. This post requires CRB clearance. For further details and a job description please contact the Church office at Putnoe Heights Bedford 01234 365630 or Deacon Jane Mason by email at Jane@thisischurch.com by 12th November 2010.

St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre

Only 5 weeks left to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 20 November. We would be grateful for help with :-

Tombola – Any new unwanted gifts\Christmas present etc. for our Tombola stall.

Raffle – Raffle books will be available shortly We would also be grateful for any new items suitable for the raffle.

Cake Stall - Milly is kindly co-ordinating the cake stall again. If you are able to bake a cake for this stall please contact Milliy 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.

Secondhand Book Stall - Delia kindly volunteered to co-ordinate the secondhand book stall again this year so please have a look in your cupboards for any unwanted books.

Indoor Plant Stall -We are having an Indoor Plant Stall. If you have any indoor plants or have split any plants and would like to donate them to our stall we would be very grateful. Please contact Wendy Waters or contact the Church Office.

All donated items for the above stalls can be brought up to Church anytime week beginning 16 November. We will need lots of help on the day especially when the Fayre finishes at 3.30pm Many hands make light work and it would certainly be appreciated. 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.

Brickhill Parish Council Public Meeting

Great Bus Service? Public Open Meeting 7.30pm on Monday 1st November 2010

Organised by Brickhill Parish Council and taking place at St Marks Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford, MK41 7UY

Regarding the Number 10 Stagecoach Bus Service between Woodlands and Bedford Town Centre

- ~ Happy with the new bus service?
- ~ Unhappy with the new bus service?
- ~ Do you like the route?
- ~ How do you feel about the position of the stops?

Please come along to the open meeting which is for residents to share their views, concerns and ideas with representatives from Stagecoach and Bedford Borough Council, both of whom want to hear your opinions.

Putnoe Heights Friday Prayer Group will not be meeting on 29th October. Meetings take place on 2nd and 4th Friday of the month in the quiet room. Eileen Brown 267909

Putnoe Art Group presents a one day exhibition of paintings at Putnoe Heights on Saturday 13th November 2010 starting at 10.30am. Free Entrance

As well as using Amazon on thischurch.com please sign up for Easyfundraising. You will receive special offers and promo codes to buy everything you ever need online! Remember, never click on Amazon direct, always click on Amazon via the link at thischurch.com, then we obtain 5%



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.

Charles Leslie Bruty
Mary Daniels

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 Frank Diemer will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 10.45am on Wednesday 27th October.

