



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

25 July 2004
17 in Ordinary

The Methodist Church & the Church of England in Partnership at both
Putnoe Heights Church & St. Mark's Church



Church of
England

Church Services Today

8.30am Service of Holy Communion

Held at St Mark's only

9.30am St Mark's Church – Morning Worship

Preacher - The Reverend Charles Royden

Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Parry

Intercessions - Mr Chris Izzard

11.00am Putnoe Heights – Morning Worship

Preacher - The Reverend Charles Royden

Leadership Team - Mrs Sue Allen

Intercessions—Ministers

18 in Ordinary — 1 August

8.30 am Service of Holy Communion

Held at Putnoe Heights only

9.30am St. Mark's Church – Family Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper

Intercessions – Mr Warwick Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team - Mrs Betty Wyatt

Intercessions - Ministers

Thank You

The flowers at St. Mark's Church this week have been given by Guy and Joanne Mortensen in celebration of the marriage.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Pam Crouch in loving memory of her husband, Jack, on his birthday.

Prayer for Sunday

Grant us, O Lord,
to seek first your Kingdom and your
righteousness.
Out of the abundance of your grace,
grant us sufficient light and strength
for our journey.
Forgive what we have been,
sanctify what we are
and order what we shall be,
in you and for you, now and for ever. Amen
Mary Tileston, 1820 -1895

Contact Details

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)

The Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman BA, CTM

(Day off Friday)

12 Hartop Close, Putnoe. MK41 8HE

326643 Minister@ThisisChurch.com

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.

Home 344536 Crossley@Thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

309175 Mobile 07973 113861 Vicar@ThisisChurch.com

Partnership News is now available each week on the
Partnership Website - www.ThisisChurch.com

Any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will
therefore automatically be posted on our website.

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 9am - 1.00pm Monday & Friday

9am - 4pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 www.ThisisChurch.com

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mrs Elizabeth Wyatt 350188

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Samantha Ware 313181

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 www.ThisisChurch.com

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Wendy@thisischurch.com

Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing 210892

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

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Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

- 9.30 - 12.00 pm Pre-school** (See website for more details) Mrs Janet Smith 326685 (Putnoe Heights) or Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634** (St. Mark's).
- 10.00 am Day Care Centre** at St. Mark's Church for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082
- 12.00pm - 1.00pm Storybox** at Putnoe Heights Church. Service for parents/carers & children under 5. Sandwich lunch, Bible Stories Children's activities songs and prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm!
- 4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms R.Mistry 01908 217555
- 6.00pm Brownies** St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
- 6.15 pm Brownies** Putnoe. Alison McEwen 358583
- 7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs. Jill Williams 357020
- 7.15 m Guides** -St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
- 7.30- 9.30pm Creative Needles** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Hayward 307648
- 7.30pm Whist Drive** - At St Mark's each month. Next 16 August St. Mark's Contact Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313
- 7.30pm Housegroup** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567.
- 8.00 - 9.00 pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit'** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field 404976

Tuesday

- 9.30am - 12.30pm Candlewicking** (Needlework) at Putnoe Heights - Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203
- 9.30am - 11.30pm Jo Jingles** at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Contact Renu Elston 01908 282866
- 10.00am - 11.00am - Keep Fit** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Mrs Stileman 822230
- 1.30 -3.00pm Putnoe Heights Church Toddlers Playtime** Contact Geraldine Skeel 406828
- 12 noon - 10.00 pm Slimming World** at St. Mark's. Sessions start at 12, 1.30pm, 4pm, 5.30pm & 7.15pm Contact Val Careless 345213.
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship** - Next meeting - 10 August Summer Meeting Contact Mrs Betty Wyatt 350188
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship.** Next meeting 27th July. Mr I. Cruse - The House of Lords Contact Lawrence Wyatt 350188.
- 2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Contact Mrs Joan Gravett 356911 and Mrs Marjorie Taylor 305709
- 2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's Church. Contact Mary Stubbs 406784.
- 3.30 - 4.30pm Putnoe Heights Church** Essential Stretch Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096
- 6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga** at Putnoe Heights. Contact

Rachel Leontyne 01234 783129

- 6.45pm Guides** at Putnoe Heights - Liz Rix 363607
- 7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit at St. Mark's Church.** Contact Mrs Jan Gregory 214107.
- 7.30- 9.00pm Bibleway Church** at Putnoe Heights - Bible study & prayers. Contact Revd.Tarr 309881 or 07891095746
- 7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly . Next meeting 3 August Coffee Evening 7pm 18 Haylands Way (Hilda) Contact Mrs C Davies 219130.
- 8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong** (Self help healing) group) - Contact Mr F Steele 355937

Wednesday

- 10.00 am Childminding Support Group** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs S Longman 313949
- 10.00 am Day Care Centre** Putnoe Height Church for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082
- 10.00 am Holy Communion** at St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
- 10am Sewing & Chat** Putnoe Heights Contact Valerie Russell 01462 815966
- 12 - 1pm Putnoe Height Church** Total Body Toning Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096
- Luncheon Club** at St. Mark's meets fortnightly. Next one 8 September Contact St. Mark's 342613
- 1.30 - 4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired** - Meets weekly at St. Mark's. Mrs Truss Boyce 781133
- 4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths** at Putnoe Heights Contact Ms R Mistry 01908 217555
- 6. - 7.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe** Contact Mr James 07711 687449
- 6.00 -7.30 pm Brownies** at St Mark's Contact Mrs Carol Warden 219731
- 7.00pm St. Mark's Church** Bunyan Bridge. Contact Brian Sallows 407725
- 7-10pm Putnoe Guild** - Putnoe Heights 3rd Wednesday each month. Contact Mrs Dallas 212609
- 7.45 - 8.45pm Kick Boxing** Junior classes St. Mark's. Mr James 07711687449 or 07810234890
- 7.45pm Badminton Club** at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Contact Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

- 9.30am Thursday Prayer Group** at Putnoe Heights in the side chapel. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*
- 10.30am - 12.00am Brickhill Clinic** at St Mark's with **Fledglings 2.00pm—3.00pm** Contact 267444
- 10.00am - 11.30am Yoga** at Putnoe Heights Contact 244970
- 12 - 1.00 pm Storybox** at St Mark's Church. Service for parents, carers & children under 5.

Sandwich lunch, Bible Stories, Children's activities, songs & prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm.

1.30 - 3.00 pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group.

Contact Debbie Coppenhall 356828.

1.30 -3.00pm Putnoe Heights Church Toddlers

Playtime Contact Geraldine Skeel 406828

2.30 Bedford Arts Society at St. Mark's. Contact

Celia Maddison 782901

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.

Contact Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Mrs S Lewis 300198

7.30 - 9.30pm Club 2000 Putnoe 2nd Thursday of

the month. Contact Mrs Moreton 771261

6.15 - 7.30pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St.

Mark's Contact Mr & Mrs Pike 823795

7.30pm - 11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club at

St Mark's Contact Mr Hatton 824988

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild St Mark's- 3rd

Thursday month. Contact Mrs K Sage 771525

7.45pm. Housegroup-Meets fortnightly at 3 Little Headlands. Newcomers always welcome. Contact

Betty Wyatt 350188

8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle meets at St

Mark's Church 3rd Thursday each month. Contact

Mr John Broadhouse 740271

Friday

10.00 am Day Care Centre at St. Mark's Church

Contact K Stenton 07748 760082

6 -7.00 pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr

James 0771 687449 or 07810 234890

7. 30 - 9.30pm Young Peoples meeting Contact

Pastor Tarr 376841

7.30pm Music Group St. Mark's Church/monthly

6.30pm -8.30 pm Dog Training Classes at St.

Mark's Contact Mrs L. Laton 365601

Saturday

10.00am - 1.00pm & 2 - 5pm Theatre Train at St

Mark's -dancing acting, singing,- Kate Randle

304865

7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge at St Mark's

Contact Ann or Peter 212066

Peace Project Saturday School at Putnoe Heights.

For details contact Mrs.E.Tarr 309881

Sunday

1- 3pm & 7-9pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe

Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 309881

Mob. 07891095746

News, Views and Information

The Calendar

Putnoe Centre Management 26 July

St Mark's Church Council

October 13 2004, February 1 2005

Churchyards Committee

Next meeting Monday 6 September, 10am

St Mark's Centre Management Meeting

Monday 26 July, Wednesday 29 September,

Wednesday 10 November

St Mark's Leadership Team

Wednesday 8 September

Putnoe Church Council

11 October 2004, 7 February 2005

13 June 2005, 10 October 2005

Pastoral Group Wednesday 15 September at

2.30pm

Calendar dates now appear on our church website

www.ThisChurch.com. Please advise us if you have

a date to be added to the church calendar.

Summer Holy Communion

Please note the 8.30am Holy Communion will be

alternate in July and August. The first occasion will

be July 18 when we will meet at Putnoe Heights

Church. Dates can be found on the church website

25 July at St. Mark's Church

1 August at Putnoe Heights Church

8 August at St. Mark's Church

15 August at Putnoe Heights Church

22 August at St. Mark's Church

29 August at Putnoe Heights Church

5 September Normal practice resumes

NCH House to House Collection will take place as

usual in the first 2 weeks in September. St Mark's

Church has the responsibility for covering most of

Brickhill! Last year we raised over £750 for this well

respected National Children's Charity. If you could

spare a few hours during early September to put out

envelopes and collect them in the Brickhill area or

would just like some more information then please

contact me. Thanks. Mke Elliott Tel: 342507

Storybox Due to popular demand, Storybox will

continue through August this year .Lunch will not be

available so please bring a picnic lunch.

Management Committees at both of our churches

take place this Monday.

St Mark's Church Hall has just been fitted with a

new heating system using money raised from the last

Christmas Fayre. The old hot air blown heaters were

the original units and were worn out and costly to run

and repair. Thank you to all of those who helped last

year to raise these funds.



Bible Notes Ordinary 17

Opening Verse of Scripture Colossians 2:6

Continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness



prayer

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Gracious God, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of life and the word of your kingdom. Renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Genesis 18 : 20 –32

Then the LORD said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know." The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the LORD. Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

The LORD said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake." Then Abraham spoke up again: "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes, what if the number of the righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city because of five people?" "If I find forty-five there," he said, "I will not destroy it." Once again he spoke to him, "What if only forty are found there?" He said, "For the sake of forty, I will not do it." Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?" He answered, "I will not do it if I find thirty there." Abraham said, "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?" He said, "For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it." Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?" He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it." (Reader: This is the word of the Lord—All: **Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading Colossians 2: 6-19

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ. Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you for the prize. Such a person goes into great detail about what he has seen, and his unspiritual mind puffs him up with idle notions. He has lost connection with the Head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

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

Gospel Reading Luke 11: 1-13

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.' " Then he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.' "Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs. "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

"Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Reader: This is the word of the Lord - All: **Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, whose Son is the vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymns (*Please distribute Morning Worship and Mission Praise*)

1. O Lord my God 506
2. Seek ye first 590
3. What a friend we have in Jesus 746
4. Christ be our light (See page 7)
5. I heard the voice of Jesus say 275

Commentary

After the sacrament of baptism, the Lord's Prayer is the best-known bond of unity among Christians of every tradition. The name Lord's Prayer was given because it was a prayer which Jesus taught his disciples when they asked him 'Teach us how to pray.' Clearly there was something about the prayer of Jesus which made the disciples feel they were missing the mark, their prayers lacked the power and meaning Jesus' had. In Matthew Jesus gives the prayer as a type of prayer which complies with the instructions which he has given about prayer in general. In Luke however the prayer is not only an example which complies with his teaching, it is also a specific prayer which must be prayed by his followers.

Our We have all heard the phrase 'I am a Christian but I don't go to church.' The word 'Our' is very poignant, it makes the Christian faith a shared experience, not an isolated one. You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and mean it and then be a private Christian. The following is a simple poem but it does have a strong message about the shared nature of Christianity

You cannot say the Lord's prayer, and even once say "I".
You cannot pray the Lord's prayer, and even once say "my".
Nor can you pray the Lord's prayer and not pray for another.
For to ask for "our" daily bread, you include your sister and brother!
All God's children are included in each and every plea.
From the beginning to the end of it, it does not once say "me".

Father Jesus must have amazed those around by addressing God as "Father". The Pharisees never used such a title to address God. We can be sure that not until Jesus does it become characteristic to speak to God as Father. God was close to Jesus and this is shown clearly by his choice of this word. Moreover Jesus wants this level of intimacy to be shared by us all. A relationship so personal that we can call the Creator of the universe 'Father'. God is somebody we can approach as we go to a human parent and share the good times and the bad, the success as well as the failure, the joys and sorrows. As 'Father', God is concerned for the needs of his children.

Hallowed be your name Hallowed means to treat as holy, to reverence, to be pure, sacred. There is an acknowledgement of the fact that God is 'worthy.' This is about the essential quality of God which is beyond our imagination. In calling God 'Holy' we acknowledge that God is 'other worldly' and that there is much about God which is above and beyond us: We cannot expect to place an infinite God into the container of our human finite minds. This is also a prayer for the mission of the church, we are seeking that all people would reverence God.



Your kingdom come Jesus expresses our longing to have the kingdom fully now, not just a taste of it. Our deepest longing is to see the day when the triumphant, sovereign lordship of our loving God will no longer be a mere hope clung to desperately by faith, but a manifest reality in all human affairs. We all long to see the end of death and pain and suffering, this prayer seeks the time when all these things will come to an end.

Give us each day our daily bread. We are half-way through the prayer before Jesus allows us to ask for anything for ourselves! This phrase reminds us of where our priorities must be. It reminds us of our daily dependence upon God and calls us to simplicity of life. As we pray these simple words we pray that we will live just one day at a time and we also acknowledge that all things come from God. (Deut 8:18, 1 Cor 4:7, James 1:17). True prayers are born of present trials and present needs. Bread, for today, is bread enough. As every day demands its bread, so every day demands its prayer. No amount of praying, done today, will suffice for tomorrow's praying. This part of the prayer is also about NEEDS not GREEDS. Jesus acknowledges that our physical needs must be met but it is not a prayer for luxuries. To pray for 'our daily bread' is to remind ourselves that in a wealthy society we should not be asking for more than that, anything else is a bonus! Indeed for many people daily bread itself would be a real luxury.

Forgive us our sins In this prayer we admit that we are sinners! By sinning we have incurred a moral and a spiritual debt to God who has authority over our lives. So we ask for forgiveness as a gift, for we can never earn or merit God's forgiveness. Some would say that we should be praying forgive me 'my' sins. There has been a tendency to become over excited about our individual sins: Of course the ones that we get really excited about are sexual sins and sins of morality. Jesus is not so focused on individual but rather corporate sin. It is actually harder to say forgive us our sins, since when we take shared responsibility for corporate sins it challenges us in a new way.

As we forgive those who sin against us Think about the things God has forgiven you for. Now with all that forgiven how can you not forgive someone who has sinned against you? Jesus does not suppose that God's forgiveness is contingent on our forgiving. Rather, he simply assumes that as we pray we will understand the need to forgive. Once our eyes are opened to the enormity of our offence against God, the injuries done to us appear by comparison to be trifling. If we exaggerate the offences of others then the chances are that we have a minimized our understanding of our own ! Forgiving others shows that we are living out the kingdom standards in our own lives now.

And lead us not into temptation Does God lead us into temptation? We can all be sure from personal experience that he does allow us to be tempted, to go through difficult circumstances. We are told in scripture that God will not allow us to be tested beyond what we can endure and that he will help us through it (1 Cor 10:13). Perhaps we could say that this prayer asks God to help us avoid sin, and that our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into sin of any kind. If we continue to say this prayer each day, then we will find it hard to live knowingly with sin each day. It is interesting that when people do things which they know to be wrong they frequently find a reason to avoid confronting their sin. They will perhaps leave their church which challenges such behaviour, sometimes finding fault in the church itself as an excuse. Our prayers will challenge us not to live a double life. *Charles Royden*

News, Views and Information

Meditation

Schools should be allowed to do away with daily collective worship in favour of weekly or monthly assemblies, says the Chief Inspector of Schools, David Bell. "I struggle, as do my inspectors and most secondary schools, with the requirement that every school day shall include an act of collective worship," Figures from Mr Bell's department show that 76 per cent of secondary schools fail to comply with the regulations for collective worship; many say they lack the physical space to hold an assembly, or they cannot squeeze worship into their timetable. Mr Bell says he tried to crack down on schools' failure to comply — but "ran into a firestorm of protest", because school inspectors found themselves having to declare schools that met every other standard "unsatisfactory", simply because they were failing to implement the daily act of worship.

This Sunday we think about prayer and the need to create space in our busy lives. If schools stopped having PE, games or sports lessons, I wonder if then they would be allowed to drop sport from the curriculum in schools? I would suggest that such an idea would be utterly rejected. The fact that Mr Bell has made this statement shows that spiritual activity is regarded as of less importance than physical activity. ! If we remove from our children an awareness of things which are spiritual, what kind of people will they become? Is it merely coincidence that in a society where we are removing the spiritual focus, that we are seeing less and less respect for others and a degeneration in the behaviour of children and young people. If schools feel able to break the law so wilfully, is it any surprise that children in those same schools are morally confused? *Charles Royden*

Prayers. For Sunday and the week ahead

Watch, Lord,
with those who wake or watch
or weep tonight,
and give your angels charge
over those who sleep.

O Holy Spirit, come as the wind to forward our goings. Come as the dove to launch us heavenward. Come as the water to purify our spirits. Come as the cloud to abate our temptations. Come as the dew to revive our languor. Come as fire to purge our souls; for your truth and your name's sake. Amen
Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894

God, you have poured the Spirit of your Son into our hearts so that we may call you Father. Give us grace to devote our freedom to your service that we and all creation may be brought into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Partnership News on the website.

Partnership News is available on the church website. It will be easily accessible from the home page in Adobe format. Adobe is a free programme which can also be downloaded from the website.

Christ be our Light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people
Light for the world to see.

*Christ be our light!
Shine in our hearts
Shine through the darkness
Christ be our light.
Shine in your Church
gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us
Make us your living voice.

Christ be our light!

Longing for shelter, many are homeless,
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

Christ be our light!

Many the gifts, many the people
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another
making your kingdom come.

Nova Property Services Ltd.

57 Murdock Road, Manton Lane Industrial Estate, Bedford. MK41 7PL

Tel 01234 217702 Fax 01234 767827

www.Novapropertyservices.co.uk Email: office@Novapropertyservices.co.uk

Dave Allen is pleased to announce the opening of his new company Nova Property Services Ltd. We cover every aspect of building requirements from minor building repairs and property maintenance, to complete refurbishment of residential and commercial property. We will meet the individual needs of all our customers, large or small. We will be pleased to visit and provide a written quotation to meet all your building requirements. Contact us for a competitive and individual quotation, with all work fully guaranteed.

Plumbing * Carpentry * Flooring * Tiling * Roofing * Plastering
Painting and decorating * Electrical repairs and installations *
Garden landscaping and maintenance * General building work



Tip! A great looking kitchen should be well designed to make the most of your available space. It should meet all your needs as far as possible, within your budget. Bespoke kitchen suppliers can fulfil your desires, but often such satisfaction comes at an enormous price. Excellent prices can be obtained from some stores, but they may try to recoup the discounted kitchen units by making high charges for fitting. At Nova we will be pleased to give you our advice regarding the best kitchen design for you. We are not tied to certain manufacturers and we are able to find the most competitive source for the best quality products. We can then fit your kitchen using professional plumbers and electricians to provide you with the right kitchen at the right price.

If you would like a free kitchen survey and quotation, call Dave Allen at Nova

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.

Stanley Cuthbert

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

We publish the banns of marriage and pray for the marriage of

Christopher Neil Twidale of this parish but on the electoral roll of Souldrop Parish Church and Emma Jane Morgan of the parish of St Peter's Rushden but on the electoral roll of Souldrop Parish Church.

This is for the second time of asking.

The following funerals have been arranged

The funeral of Mr George Edward Pearson will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Monday 26th July at 11.30am

The funeral of Mrs Angela Elaine Holding will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 30th July at 145pm