

Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

## 27 May - Pentecost



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 27 May - Pentecost

**9.30m St. Mark's - Morning Worship**  
Preacher – Mrs Wendy Waters  
Leadership - Mrs Elizabeth Bean  
Intercessions - Mrs Mary Stubbs  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship**  
Preacher – Mrs Wendy Waters  
Leadership - Mr Gordon Evans  
Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes

### Sunday 3 June - Trinity Sunday

**9.30am St Mark's- Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Deacon Jane Mason  
Leadership – Mrs. Margaret Appleton  
Intercessions - Mrs. Margaret Appleton  
**11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship**  
Preacher - Deacon Jane Mason  
Leadership – Mrs. Vita Hudson Rae  
Intercessions – Young People's Fellowship

**Bible Readings** 1. Isaiah 6: 1-8 2 Romans 8: 12-17  
3 John 3: 1-17

**Midweek Holy Communion** at St Mark's Chapel every  
Wednesday at 10.00am and at Sir William Harpur House on  
first Monday of every month at 10.00am

### Thank You

The flowers at St. Mark's Church this week have been given by Geoff & Margaret Appleton in celebration of their Wedding Anniversary and to thank everyone for their kindnesses following Margaret's recent falls.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Liz Hayward in memory of her Mum, Olive Betts; and also by Maureen and Bill Headland who were married at Putnoe 40 years ago this week.

### Prayer for the Week

O God, your eye is over all your people, and you have called them to a kingdom not of this world; send forth your Holy Spirit into every corner of our lives, to still and calm the noise of our daily toil; help us to carry faith to the doubting, hope to the fearful, strength to the weak, light to the mourners; and increase and empower the pure in heart who see, and reveal, more and more of God. Amen

#### 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.ThisIsChurch.com](http://www.ThisIsChurch.com)

#### Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator

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

#### Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

#### Putnoe Heights Church Centre

**Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm**  
**Tel/fax & Answering Service** 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com  
**Centre Manager** Mr Geoff Gypps 365630 mob 07947 902846  
**Leadership Team** Mrs. Jean Kirk 317699  
**Treasurer** Mr 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** - Morag Stewart 360103  
**Treasurer** - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

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

Head teacher Mrs Laura Leggett ☎326685

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

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

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634

(See website for more details)

**.9.45am - Body Control Pilates** –Putnoe Heights

Stephanie Smith ☎ 357787 or 07973174430

**10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group.** St Mark's Mrs Berry ☎211955

**10.30am U3A Play reading** St Mark's (see contact details below)

**12.15pm Story box** Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12.15 and 1.15 for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Carolyn Morris [youth@thischurch.com](mailto:youth@thischurch.com) 365630

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

**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– 18 June 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

**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](http://www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk)

**7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting May 29 Chaplain to the Fire Service Revd. Barbara Johnson 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 6 June 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 20 June Wendy Waters401834

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

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

**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 30 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](http://www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk)

**7-9pm Tae Kwon Do** St Mark's (not 25 March) Contact Adrian Felice [www.bedfordtkd.com](http://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** -  
**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**–  
**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting** -Monday 21 May 1.15pm

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

# Pentecost

## Opening Verse of Scripture Acts 2:17-18

In the last days, God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.'

## Collect Prayer *Before we read we pray*

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by that same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen



## First Bible Reading Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine." Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

" 'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'"  
(Reader: This is the Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God**)

## Second Reading - Romans 8:22-27

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

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

## Gospel Reading – John 15:26-27 & 16:4b-15

When the Counsellor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

I did not tell you this at first because I was with you. “Now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgement: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to judgement, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

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

## Post Communion Prayer

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## Hymns *(Please distribute Mission Praise)*

1. Spirit of holiness, wisdom and faithfulness
2. They were gathered in an upper chamber
3. Spirit of the living God - MP 613
4. Born by the Holy Spirit's breath - MP 61
5. The Spirit lives to set us free - MP 664

## Commentary

This commentary is based on a lecture given by Cannon Dennis Stamps, on 22 May, to Bedford area Readers and Local Preachers entitled: ‘Life in the Spirit: Paul’s Distinctive contribution to Christian Theology’.

‘When considering Paul’s contribution to ‘Life in the Spirit’ we must bear in mind his own story, his dramatic conversion from fervent persecutor of, to fervent preacher of the Gospel. After his conversion

Saul, later to be known as Paul, disappears for a while before being integrated into the Church. We do well to consider how the first Christians, many of whom had first hand contact with Jesus, might have viewed Paul at this stage. Perhaps with suspicion of his motives bearing in mind his reputation, not dissimilar to how in recent times terrorists have infiltrated organisations only to later wreak injury and death upon them. How would they have known that Paul had really changed?

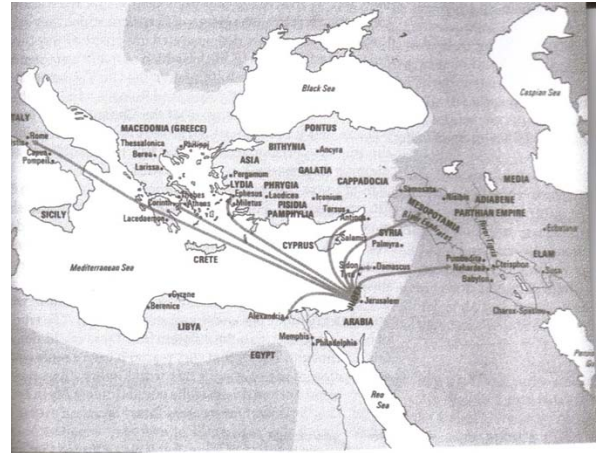
After what might be viewed as the ‘Antioch revival’ Barnabas sends for Paul to begin his public ministry as a missionary. Christianity begins to expand with the baptism of practising Jews. Paul then begins to wonder why those who follow Jesus’ teaching need to become Jewish and keep the Old Testament rules. He begins to tell non Jewish converts that they do not need to become Jewish and keep their rules. He is then called to Jerusalem to give an account of what he is saying (Acts 15). As a result some of the rules are amended e.g. Sabbath; some are partially stopped e.g. purity laws; some completely stopped e.g. circumcision of Gentiles.



During his second missionary journey Paul decides all that is necessary is for people to believe in Jesus, so he further explores how this fits with his past understanding of Jewish Law. He was faced with a dilemma of the old covenant which we see in the pages of the Old Testament and he developed his theology of justification by faith, not law (Gal 2:16).

The Jewish people had always believed in a covenant of grace, in that law was given to maintain the covenant not to establish it. So Paul is able to relate the theme of grace between the old and the new covenant. The new covenant is fulfilled in Christ and is open to all. (Acts 2:38, 1 Cor12:13,).

Paul also teaches that the gifts of the Spirit are there for the building up of the Body of Christ, not for our own personal benefit. The gifts are many and varied, see the variations in 1 Cor 12: 4 -11; Rom 12:4- 8; Eph 4: 1-16. In addition Paul teaches about principle of freedom of 'Life Controlled by the Spirit': 'Now the Lord is Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom' (2 Cor 3:17). This does not mean there are no boundaries but freedom guided by the Holy Spirit. His letters set out those boundaries. This idea of 'freedom' is open to all in those early days many slaves came to Christ, they were then equal with their masters (Eph 6: 5 -9). A new creation had begun, order had been disturbed for the good of all; all were to regard and respect one another; if one fails they are to be encouraged. The law of Christ is to be fulfilled by the law of love (Rom 13:8, Gal 6:2, 1 Cor. 13).' What a contribution and legacy has been left by Paul to 'Life in the Spirit!' *Wendy Waters* 15). As a result some of the rules are amended e.g. Sabbath; some are partially stopped e.g. purity laws; some stopped e.g. circumcision of Gentiles. During his second missionary journey Paul decides all that is necessary is for people to believe in Jesus so further explores how this fits with his past understanding of Jewish Law. He was faced with a dilemma of the OT and NT. From this he develops his theology of justification by faith, not law (Gal 2:16). Along with the OT perspective of the covenant of Grace, in that law was given to maintain the covenant not get it. In this way Paul re casts the OT covenant to the NT Covenant. Crucially, it being fulfilled in Christ, that this new covenant is open to all. (Acts 2:38, 1 Cor12:13,). *Wendy Waters*



## Meditation

Simple in himself, the Spirit is manifold in his mighty works. The whole of his being is present to each individual; the whole of his being is present everywhere. Though shared in by many, he remains unchanged; his self-giving is no loss to himself. Like the sunshine, which permeates all the atmosphere, spreading over land and sea, and yet is enjoyed by each person as though it were for him alone, so the Spirit pours forth his grace in full measure, sufficient for all, and yet is present as though exclusively to everyone who can receive him. To all creatures that share in him he gives a delight limited only by their own nature, not by his ability to give. *Basil the Great (392-379 AD)*

## Prayers for week ahead

Holy Spirit of God, on the day of Pentecost you came once for all to the Church as the gift of the exalted Lord. Come to us in your grace and power today to make Jesus real to us, teach us more about him, and to deepen our faith in him; that we may be changed into his likeness and be his witnesses in the world, to the glory of God the Father

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost opened the way for the preaching of the gospel to people of every race and nation and tongue by the promised gift of the Holy Spirit: renew your Church in the power of the same Spirit, that its witness may reach to the ends of the earth, and all flesh may see your salvation revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord Jesus you were fully aware that we needed your Holy Spirit to enable us to fulfil your new commands to love one another, free from any form of inequality. Breath, we pray, your Spirit on us again so that we will be alert to discrimination within ourselves, our churches and our communities.

O Lord our heavenly Father, renew in us the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Increase our faith, strengthen our hope, enlarge our charity; and make us ever ready to serve you, both in body and soul, through Christ our Lord. Amen

**Bedford Town Band** Diamond Jubilee Celebration concert held at Priory Methodist Church, Newnham Ave., on Saturday 2 June at 7.30pm. All are very welcome. Tickets are £7 & £8 and available from John Lingings on 01234 306676, Frescoes Coffee House in Mill Street, The Central Box Office, Bedford 01234 269519 or at the door at Priory on the night. Come and enjoy an emotion stirring evening with a traditional English Brass Band.

**Anjulita Court Summer Fete** Saturday 30 June 11am-3pm. Admission 50p, children free. BBQ and refreshments, craft stalls, face painting, fun and games. Urgent need for donations towards raffle, bric a brac stall, book stall, tombola- bottles/ chocolate & sweets/toys/gift sets etc., prizes for games. If you feel you can help with donations, however small, they will be gratefully received. Please pass ant donations to a member of the Activities Team.

**Festival Weekend at St Mary's Church** Saturday 23 June from 11am to 4pm Summer Fete and Sporting Scarecrows. Entrance £1 (includes free raffle ticket) ,accompanied children free.

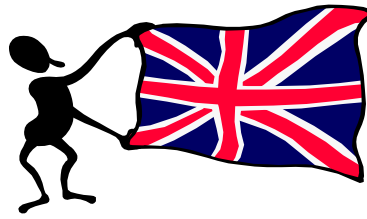
**Circuit Summer Celebration** Milton House, Milton Ernest (by arrangement with Mr & Mrs Clifton Ibbett) Saturday 14 July 2012. 3.00 pm games.5.30 pm Open Air Worship 6.30 pm Formal Finish (but people are welcome to stay on if they wish) Milton Ernest is a private house with extensive grounds (gardens, park and lake) in the heart of the North Bedfordshire countryside. We hope this summer event will be informal allowing people to enjoy the venue and one another's company and coming together at the end of the afternoon for worship. Please bring your own picnic chairs or rugs & umbrellas - limited provided seating is available. More details to follow.

**Circuit Walk** 2012 Saturday June 23 Approximate timings 10.00 -10.30. Meet at Cranfield Methodist Church.10.30 Leave Cranfield and walk to Lower Shelton 12.30 Lunch at Marston Shelton Methodist Church. (bring your own packed lunch. Drinks will be provided)1.30 Walk from Lower Shelton to Wootton 3.00 Arrive at Wootton Methodist Church for a welcome drink.. The morning walk is about 4 miles. With a judicious use of cars you can walk either the whole walk or just the first or second half of it. Further details from Geoff Talbot 07850 605719

**Footprints Walk** in Upper Dean and Swinehead on Sunday 10 June 2012. Meet at 2.30pm in High Street Upper Dean near the Church and Lower School for a circular walk of about 5 miles. Details from Barry on 01234 344417.

### **Car Boot - Monday 4 June 2012**

Many thanks for all the support from the last two car boots. We are hoping for a bumper on the 4 June (Diamond Jubilee Monday) therefore would like you all to look out any unwanted items that can be donated to our Church stall. They can be brought up to St Mark's anytime after 30



May 2012. We would also appreciate cakes, traybakes etc. for refreshments. If they can be decorated in the Jubilee theme that would be wonderful too. Last request if anyone can offer help on the day it would be gratefully received. Come along and have a bit of fun, it is not all hard work!!!! Many thank for your support. Avril & Car Boot Team

**Concert** St. Andrew's Church Saturday 9 June at 8pm. Carolyn Sampson (Soprano). 6.30 pm pre concert supper. Tickets Adults £16. concessions £15 students £11. Concert only £8, £7, £3. from St. Andrew's church office 216881.

**Church Councils** Putnoe Heights Church Monday 11 June 7.30pm St Mark's Church Council Tuesday 19 June 7.30pm refreshments for 7.45pm start

**Christian Aid** Last week's house to house collection for Christian Aid week in Brickhill raised £469-79. Thank you to all the volunteers from St. Marks for making this possible and for giving their time to help people in the Third World. Jean Bank.

**Christian Aid** Putnoe Heights have collected £1446.75 this year. Thanks to all the collectors , counters involved.

**The Christian Aid Quiz** has, so far, raised between £40 between the two churches. (Putnoe £28. St Mark's £12)

**Action for Children** Could you be a box holder ? The children's charity of the Methodist Church is promoting newly designed, by children, League of Light home collecting boxes. Do add your name to the poster in the Church vestibule if you would like one. Please let Margaret Standley have your Action for Children Home collecting box by 10 June. The charity is grateful for the money you give this way and every penny will make a difference to the most vulnerable children we support.

**Thank you,-** to all who attended the Praise service last Sunday, and for the kind appreciative words. In response to the request for another such service, it is intended to hold a service of praise based on the theme of 'what the Cross stands for' on Sunday 9 September at 6.30p.m. at Putnoe Heights Church. (Eric Royden)



## Prayers for Pentecost Sunday

### For Pentecost

Holy Spirit, you worked in the hearts and lives of the first disciples at Pentecost. You took their weak and frail wills and you transformed them into a people who trusted in your promises of life. Men and women who feared to belong to Jesus were

willing even to give of their lives in service. So come Holy Spirit and warm our spirits with the power of God's love, that we might follow the example of service which has been set out before us by the saints who have gone before us. We pray that our own lives would be an example of your grace, that many would be brought to know Jesus as Saviour and Lord. Amen

### For our lives

Lord Jesus, you spent time in the wilderness choosing the pattern of life which you would follow. You agonised in the Garden of Gethsemane because you knew the pain of choosing the way of the cross. So be with us as we face choices in our lives. May we never be motivated by self-interest, help us to look outwards at the difficulties of those less fortunate than ourselves. Forgive us when we pretend that there is nothing which we can do and help us to see those who need our help. We remember the lonely, the sick and the isolated in our community. Those who would value our time if we volunteered to work with the disadvantaged, the weak and the homeless. We give thank for all of those who give of themselves in our community to work alongside children and families, young people, those with disabilities and the many charities and community groups based in our own church centres. Amen

### For our armed forces

Heavenly Father, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women in our Armed Forces at home and abroad. Stretch forth

your mighty arm to defend them day by day with your heavenly grace. Strengthen them in their trials and temptations and give them courage to face the perils that beset them. Support them in times of conflict, and in their rest and training keep them safe from all evil. Endue them with courage and loyalty; and grant that in all things they may serve without reproach; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### For our world

Lord God, you sustain all creation and every life is dear to you whatever race, religion colour or other mark which causes us to distinguish among ourselves. We pray for your children everywhere, remembering especially those in danger or suffering. We pray for all who yield authority, the dictators, the elected leaders, those who hold power by terror and wickedness. May the proud be brought low and those who seek wisdom be empowered to lead. we ask for your hand to be upon all who seek justice and peace, that the needy not might not be forgotten nor the hope of the poor be taken away. Strengthen your people that they might be instruments of peace and may your glory be over all the earth. Amen

### For the dying

Lord God, your creative love gave us life, and your arms enfold us in our death. Surround all who face death with your loving embrace, that the might know the strength of your compassion and knowledge of your fatherly goodness. Amen

### For the bereaved

Lord Jesus, you wept at the grave of Lazarus your friend and felt the deep loss of parting from those you loved. Surround also all those who mourn this day. You share our mourning and walk with us along the road of bereavement. So comforted by your presence with us, may we know never be overwhelmed by grief. In our affliction may we grow in faith and trust in your promise of life beyond the time and tears of this world. Amen

## 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.



**Philip Purvis Gilbert**  
**Alan Haylock**

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

**Partnership News is** sent out by email every Saturday in a colour edition. If you would like to receive a copy please send an email entitled **Partnership News** to [vicar@thisischurch.com](mailto:vicar@thisischurch.com). You will only receive church communications and we will not pass on your details.

## Forthcoming Funerals

Please remember these families and friends in your prayers.

**The funeral of Agnes Kathleen Sheridan** will take place at 12.15p.m. on Monday 28 May at the Crematorium