



Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church

27 October 2013 - Ordinary 30



8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights
2nd and 4th Sunday at St. Mark's Church

Today – 27 October

9.30 St Marks – Morning Worship

Preacher – Mr Chris Izzard
Leadership – Mrs. Margaret Appleton
Intercessions – Deacon Jane Mills
Organist - Miss Marion Prior

11.00 am Putnoe – Morning Worship

Preacher – Mr Chris Izzard
Leadership - Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions — Mrs Sylvia Cohen
Organist - Mr Alan Bunker

All Saints Day— Ordinary 31

9.30 St Marks – Family Worship

Preacher – Deacon Jane Mills
Leadership – Mrs Elizabeth Bean
Intercessions – Ministers
Organist -

11.00 am Putnoe – Family Worship

Preacher – Deacon Jane Mills
Leadership - Mrs Jean Kirk
Intercessions — YPG
Organist -

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

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 George Burton & family in loving memory of Joyce Burton 26.10.1925.

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

A Prayer for Sunday

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
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a Vice
President for Hewlett Packard)

Deacon Jane Mills

c/o Putnoe Heights Church Centre
Tel. 348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

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

Partnership News is sent out by email every Saturday in a colour edition. If you would like to receive a copy please send an email entitled 'Partnership News' to vicar@thisischurch.com. Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website and may appear in other local media sources.

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

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 Jenny Snelson 344417
Treasurer Mr John Hitt 404186 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Youth Team Leader Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mr Michael Ovenden 826738
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

Hazeldene Heights Pre-school. Sessional and Full Day care available—open Mon.—Fri. Full Day Care 8.30am to 5pm Sessional times 9am—12noon and 12.45pm - 3.45pm For more info please contact Laura Leggett 01234 326685 or www.hazeldeneheights.com

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

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

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery

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 Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)

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

12.15pm Story box Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com 365630

1.30-2.45pm Chat & Make For babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details email– chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk .

2pm U3A Music Appreciation Putnoe Heights(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-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher 07891879571

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

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 November Judith Stanton. 823313

7.30pm No Fear Bridge Club St. Mark's Mrs. Susan Ford 300218.

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

Putnoe Heights Children and Youth meeting - Monday 10th February 2014 at 1.30pm

Tuesday

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Charlotte Williams 07968 207442

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart 365507

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's. Helen Skinner 07989080389

10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group. St Mark's. Sally Cripsley 350704

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)

1pm –2.30pm Drop in Wiggles and Jiggles 0-5 years, Putnoe Children's Centre. Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552

1.15pm U3A Cinema Grp. St Mark's (contacts details below)

1.3pm U3A Choir. St Mark's (contacts 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) (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.

4.00pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights.. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

7.30-8.30pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 0789187957

7pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390

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

7.00pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory 328455

7.00pm Laughter Club. St. Mark's Meeting (meets monthly) 22 Oct/12 Nov & 17 Dec. Cheryl Green 354339 or 07729187399

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club (Meets fortnightly). 29 October Keech Hospice. Details Janet King 313946

Wednesday

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

9.30am Discover & Do (Childminders) St. Mark's. Clare Simmons 328380 or 07788824666

10am-2pm Open House at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.

10am U3A Gardening Group 3 St Marks. (contact below)

10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.

10am U3A Card Making, St Marks (see contact details below)

10am U3A Diet and Nutrition- Putnoe (contact below)

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe

12.30pm –4pm St Mark's Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 6 November Putnoe Heights Office 365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights (Fortnightly)

1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes 261811

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

2pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan Putnoe Heights

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 November Wendy Waters 401834

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

6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs C Warden 219731

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

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Yvonne Blain 350241

or Brian Sallows 407725

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society
Putnoe

Heights monthly. Sylvia Woods 365095

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every month except August Mrs Jo Street 344600

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Mike Del-Boyer 348378

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

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be 30October Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. 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

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon 356306

Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

9.30am Spanish for total beginners. —starting 7th Nov. Elena 01234 266968

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 07932616468

10.00-11.30am Gentle Yoga Putnoe For more details contact Helen Nicholson Tel.03003004305

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 342613

1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic 1st and 3rd Thursdays St. Mark's 267444

1pm-2.30pm Drop in (small hall) Next Steps 9-24months Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552. 2pm -Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

2pm U3A Current Affairs - Putnoe Heights

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. St.Mark's (contact below)

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

5.45pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Clare Martin 07805408811.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins .

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe 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

7.30pm Gentle Birthing St Mark's. Pat Wood 07946 847231

8 -10pm Bedford Folk Dancers (formerly Barn dancers)

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers each week.Except August. Next meeting All welcome, cost £2.50 Including refreshments. More details Ron 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

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

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Pat Cass 294220

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

Friday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

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

10am -12.00 U3A Photography St Marks.(4th week) (see contact details below)

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St. Marks (see contact details below)

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

2pm U3A Italian-Putnoe Heights (contact details below)

2pm U3A Gardening - Putnoe Heights

4.50pm-8.15pm Stars School of Dance Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

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

7.00pm Meditation St Mark's starting 4th October. Cheryl Green 07729187399

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

Sunday

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

10 - 5.30pm Bedford Stamp Fayre. 1st Sunday Feb/ Apr/Jun/Aug /Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

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.

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's Adrian Felice www.bedfordtkd.com 07964356355

Messy Church Dates Weds 16 Oct; Weds 20 Nov,

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 –

St Mark's Leadership Team - 21 January 2014

Annual Congregational Meetings

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting

Putnoe Church Council -

Pastoral Group Meeting - 10 January at 10.00am

Churchyard Committee -

Commemoration Service Sunday 3 November 3 pm

Circuit meeting - Deanery Meeting - 14 November

Woodland Burial Trustees–

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting –10th

February 2014 1.30pm

New Year Lunch 19 January at Putnoe

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

Ordinary 30

Sentence of Scripture - Psalm 84:1

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

Collect Prayer for the Day — Before we read we pray

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.

First Bible Reading - Joel 2:23-32

Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the Lord your God for he has given you the autumn rains because he is faithful. He sends you abundant showers both autumn and spring rains, as before. The threshing floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

“I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten—the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm— my great army that I sent among you. You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the Lord your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed.

Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the Lord your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed.

“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days. I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, 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 dreadful day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved; for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem

there will be deliverance, as the Lord has said, even among the survivors whom the Lord calls.

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

Second Reading -Ephesians 4 :1-16

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called;

one Lord, one faith, one baptism;

one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

This is why it says:

‘When he ascended on high,
he took many captives
and gave gifts to his people.’

(What does ‘he ascended’ mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions?

He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.



From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

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— **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 (Please distribute Morning Worship & Hymns & Psalms)

1. Lift up your hearts Tune Woodlands 405
2. Make me a channel of your peace 776
3. (Before Sermon) O thou who camest Tune Hereford (Wesley) 745
4. (After Sermon) God of all power Tune Ombersley 726
5. Who would true valour see Tune Monks Gate 688

Commentary The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector:

The two characters represent positions at opposite ends of the social and spiritual scale. The Pharisee is respectable, the tax collector despised. The Pharisee stands to pray, the tax collector stood "afar off." The Pharisee recounts his accomplishments, the tax collector knows he needn't bother. The Pharisee begins by thanking God for having made him such a swell person, not like "others." He recounts his spiritual achievements, which include such laudable acts as double fasting and tithing on the entirety of his possessions. Quite obviously therefore set in its original context, the first hearers of this story would have expected the Pharisee, not the tax-collector, to be held up as a role model.

Today we find the Pharisee's self-righteousness irritating, but in his day, he would have been honoured for his piety. His extra fasting and his tithing would have placed him as a devout man and his attendance at prayer would have been regarded as an outward sign of his undoubted inner spirituality. In stark contrast, the tax-collector is seen as unworthy and would have been vilified for his work and collaboration with the Romans. Yet in his prayerful attitude and contrite words, in acknowledging his own failings, he is held up as an example of reliance upon God's mercy. God's mercy is part of the Divine Nature which reaches out to all who acknowledge their need and then seeks to heal that broken relationship. God is not a God impressed with pious acts and feelings of superiority. He is rather, a God of mercy who responds to the needs and honest prayers of people.

However the parable is less about prayer than it is about attitudes towards self and neighbour. The parable raises the question of how our assessment of people compares with that of God. It is common practice for us to judge other people as being somehow inferior to ourselves. We commit a sin of comparison and this is far from the mind of God. In excluding others we are actually excluding ourselves. Somehow it's not easy to admit our brokenness or its impact on others. It takes humility to acknowledge how we need to change to bring life and healing to our world and relationships. Unfortunately arrogance is far easier and far more common in our world. Even in the quest for justice, it is all too easy to become self-righteous and judgemental of those we must challenge or oppose. The parable goes to the heart of the matter: there is danger in self-righteousness and self-aggrandisement, and there is life to be found when we evaluate ourselves clearly, soberly and with humility.

The role of arrogance in creating injustice in our world is twofold. Firstly, injustice comes through the attitudes that society holds toward the 'greatest' and the 'least'. On the one hand, the poor and vulnerable are seen to be responsible for their own problems. They are thought to be lazy, weak and ignorant and so in some way they are thought to have deserved what life has given them. On the other hand, the powerful and wealthy believe that they deserve what they have because they are somehow better – be it wiser, harder working or whatever. Arrogance always robs the other of their humanity and dignity. Humility, on the other hand, results in an openness to the story of the other, to true compassion for the many complex causes of

their plight (many of which are beyond their control), and to a commitment to mutual care, learning and collaboration for the benefit of all. It is this humility which opens us to God's Spirit which works among us and in us as we serve one another, and which allows us to experience God's reign among us even now.

In the story the Pharisee and the tax collector represent two different responses to Jesus

1. Those who relied on their own righteousness and have hardened their hearts to Jesus
2. Those who recognise their own shortcomings and sinfulness and come seeking forgiveness and help to change their ways.

There has always been a tendency for Christians to be perceived as those who judge others, perhaps this has been unfair at times, but even when Christians seek to be compassionate we can come across as judgemental and "holier than thou." In difficult economic times there is always a bandwagon which gathers momentum and which blames the poor for their poverty, is inhospitable to immigrants, and seeks to limit things like health care and benefits. As Christians we have to make difficult decisions as to what we will say think how we will be heard, careful that we are mindful always of those who often through no fault of their own, find themselves struggling. The Gospel is most powerfully demonstrated when we are characterised not by hardness of heart but rather by humility and when we recognise that we have much to learn from those we seek to serve – even the poorest and weakest in our communities. It is this humility that drives us to our knees in prayer for God's empowering Spirit, that keeps us always mindful of our own shortcomings, failings and blind spots, and that opens our eyes to the signs of God's Reign that always precede our work in any place or time. *Charles Royden*

Meditation

The icon also shows the state of both men as they leave the temple. Following the words of Christ in Luke 18:14, the Publican has now been exalted in the kingdom of God because of his humility. He leaves the temple forgiven, and he shows that he remains open to the will of God. In contrast, the Pharisee leaves the temple unjustified, still in need of forgiveness. Because of his pride and lack of repentance, he will be humbled before God, the One who knows the condition of each person's soul and who will offer the gift of salvation to those who come to Him in true repentance.

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead



Lord, teach us that your Son died to save us, not from suffering but from ourselves; not from injustice, but from being unjust; and not from dying but so that we might die to ourselves; and this we ask through the same Christ our Lord. Amen. *George MacDonald (1824-1905)*

Lord, I bring the poverty of my soul to be transformed by your beauty; the wildness of my passions to be tamed by your love; the stubbornness of my will to be conformed by your commandments and the yearnings of my heart to be renewed by your grace; both now and for ever. Amen. *Catherine of Genoa, 1447-1510*

Save us gracious God, from a spirit of complaining and grant us instead a spirit of thankfulness and praise; grant us faith to receive all that comes with acceptance and to offer it back to you with gratitude, that you may take it and redeem it for your praise and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Teach us, Good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *St Ignatius Loyola*

Commemoration Service. Details of our service are advertised on Partnership News. This year we are sending our four hundred letters of invitation to those who have suffered a bereavement in recent years. Please will you excuse us for not sending our invitations to church members and instead please accept this as our invitation to you.

We're going to the Cappuccino Bar, Come and Join Us. Putnoe Men would you be interested in joining us for a meal at a local restaurant on Tuesday 12 November. The meal will cost £15.00 for two courses including a drink. If you are interested in joining in with other men from our church for an evening of good food & fellowship please let me know as soon as possible. For further information please email me or see me after church on a Sunday morning if you have any questions. Barry Southam Leadership Team. Tel: 07860639595 or 01234 219714 Email: barrysoutham@aol.com

Putnoe Heights Church Tabletop Sale Saturday 9 November 10 — 12 MD. Refreshments available Entry Adults 50p. Children free. £6 for tables booked in advance. On the day £8. For further information call Church Office 01234365630 or Jenny Snelson 01234344417.

Date for your Diary Partnership Quiz will take place at St Mark's on Saturday 16 November. Do come and make up a team.

Footprints Walk.

There will be a ribbon walk, starting at 2.00pm on Sunday 3rd November 2013. The start is in the retail car park in Rope Walk outside PC World and finishing near Robinson Pool. We will be able to take 3/4 drivers back to the start to pick up their vehicles, or you can arrange with friends to have a vehicle at either end. It's an easy walk about 3 miles on mainly tarmac surface through town. Taking in The Kings Ditch, painted windows, water tower and a wild life country park. We hope you can make it any queries to Alan or Margaret 327219.

Putnoe Art Group are holding their annual winter exhibition and sale of original paintings on 2 November 2103 at Putnoe Heights Church, Putnoe Heights, Bedford from 10.30am-4.00pm. Tea & coffee & home-made cakes available for you to enjoy. Free entry and all are welcome.

Dementia Support in Bedfordshire: Alzheimer's Society provides a vital confidential network of support services for people with dementia, their families and their carers. If you are affected by dementia, the following services are available to you:

- Peer Support – a support group for people with dementia and their carers
- Singing for the Brain – a singing group for people with dementia and their carers
- Cognitive stimulation Group – specifically for people with dementia
- Dementia support – support and information to people living with dementia, their carers and families
- National Dementia Support

line: 0300 222 1122 - support and information to people living with dementia, their carers and families and to professionals.

Please note some of these services require a small contribution to go towards the running of the service. Bedford office: Alzheimer's Society, 2a Duke Street, Bedford, MK40 3HR Phone: 01234 327380 email: bedfordshireandluton@alzheimers.org.uk

Creating Safer Space.

London Rd Methodist Church, Tuesday 19 November 6.45 for 7.00pm until 10.00pm. Training session available to all churches in the North Beds Circuit. Suitable for church stewards, local preachers, office volunteers and keyholders. Details from Mairi Perks 01525 860797 mairiperks@btopenworld.com or Dave Heseldine 01462 813284 david.heseldine@methodist.org.uk

Samaritans' Purse Shoe Box Appeal 2013

Once again we have been delighted with the enthusiasm shown by the congregations for this appeal. To date, with the help of our Messy Church congregation, we will be sending at least 54 boxes to Samaritans Purse! Thank you very much for your all your support. If anyone still wishes to donate a full box please ensure it is given to Janet Day, Jean Bank or Margaret Appleton by 1 November

Advent Readings - Copies of readings for the lighting of the advent candles are available this morning and on the church website

Bedford Town Band would like to invite you to an Autumn Concert to be held at Putnoe Heights Church on Friday 8th November at 7.30pm. Tickets available at door £8 & £7.

Kempston Musical Society light concert, Saturday 9th November at St Martin's, Clapham Road, Bedford at 7.30pm.

Fairtrade Advent Calendars If you have ordered one of these they are now available for you to collect from Putnoe Office. Carolyn has a few spares if you would like one and you can email her on youth@thisischurch.com

amazon.com
and you're done.

When you start Christmas shopping please shop at [www. ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com)

Thank you for shopping using the link on ThisChurch.com to shop through Amazon. Please be careful to make sure that you never access Amazon direct but always use the link on ThisChurch.com, this ensures we get a donation every time you make a purchase. Please also remember the Easyfundraising link. This is really a very good way to shop as it has lots of voucher codes which can save you a fortune on purchases.

Mission Project 2013 Ethiopian Honey Appeal

Every year we have an appeal where we raise money to help people in our own community or across the world who are in need. This year we are joining with the St Albans Diocese and Christian Aid to help the Ethiopian Honey Appeal. If we help provide farmers in Ethiopia with the equipment they need to keep bees, then they will be able to make honey and enough money to be able to provide for their families and develop a sustainable community. Bees are vital pollinators; flying from flower to flower, they make connections that are fundamental to the life of our planet. The Bishop's Harvest Appeal is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our connected world and to make life changing, loving and lasting connections with people in Ethiopia. The appeal will end on December 1 - *Thank you for helping* Please take one of Harvest Appeal leaflets with a gift aid form and donation envelope.

- £3.50 can buy a honey knife
- £14 buys a net and gloves
- £85 Pays for a modern hive
- £207 pays for a community honey extractor for harvesting honey from the hives effectively

Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Sunday 3 November at 3.00pm

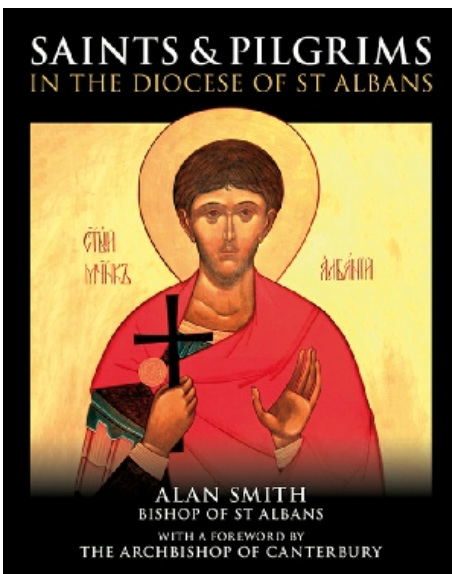
Have you lost a loved one ?

You are invited to our service to remember and give thanks to those we have entrusted to God's safe keeping.

Release of doves in church grounds immediately before service. Children may come from 2.30pm to see the doves.

Preacher
The Reverend Eric Royden

St Mark's Church, Calder Rise, Bedford.
MK41 7UY www.thisischurch.com
office@thisischurch.com



Saints and Pilgrims

For the centenary year of the Diocese, Bishop Alan has produced an excellent book which takes you through the year one day at a time reflecting on the lives of men and women who have shaped the history of the Church. It is a big beautiful book which costs £25 and it would make an excellent present for Christmas. Special signed copies can be seen at church this morning and can be purchased at a special introductory price of £20.

Bishop Alan explores the lives of 366 Christian men and women from all across the area, and from hugely diverse backgrounds. Amongst the Saints and Pilgrims included are Gaye Perry, Trevor Huddleston, John Donne, Margaret of Antioch, Bridget Adams, and of course John Bunyan. A number of the pages are illustrated with rare and unusual images. Each entry has been meticulously researched and features a short biography, a poem or extract of writing from the individual, and a prayer written by *Bishop Alan*.

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.

Maurice George Halsey
Robert John Langley

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 Patricia Jean Casling will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 12.15pm on Tuesday 29 October.

The funeral of June Mary Lewis will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 7th November at 2.30pm