



Partnership News

28 March 2010

Palm Sunday



Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

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

9.30am St. Mark's – Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Eric Royden
Leadership - Mrs Avril Williams
Intercessions –Mr Richard Ledger

11.00am Putnoe Heights – Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd Eric Royden
Leadership — Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions –Ministers

Easter Day

9.30am St. Mark's – Family Communion

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership –Mr Michael Ovenden
Intercessions – Mrs Alison Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights– Family Communion

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership – Mrs Wendy Nash
Intercessions – Mr Tim Wilkes

Readings 1. Acts 10:34-43 .2.. 1 Cor 15: 19-26
3. John 20:1-18

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Dorothy Billingham in memory of her husband Ridley, and by Val Parker in memory of her husband Bill.

The flowers at St. Mark's Church this week have been given by Milly Rollinson in memory of her parents, Hilda and Raymond.

We are grateful when people make donations towards flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion such as an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St Mark's) or Ann Hitt 404186 (Putnoe Heights) or add your name to the rota in the foyers.

Prayer

Gracious God, in our vulnerability point us to the cross, in our struggle for faith assure us of your presence and in our arrogance melt our hearts by your love. Amen. Stuart Burgess, Chair, York & Hull District



St. Mark's

Good Friday Service

Friday April 2 at 9.30am
Stations of the Cross
(With Coffee & Hot Cross Buns!)

Easter Day

Sunrise Holy Communion 6.00am
Holy Communion 8.30am
(At Putnoe Heights Church)
Family Communion 9.30am

Monday of Easter Week

Holy Communion at Sir William Harpur House First
Monday of every month at 10.00am.
All are welcome to attend.

Easter Services

Putnoe Heights

Good Friday Service

Friday April 2 at 11.00am
Stations of the Cross, (with coffee & hot cross buns!)

Good Friday Children's Special

2 April 12.15 to 1.45. The Easter Story, Easter and Spring crafts and light refreshments £1.50 per child with accompanying adult. Suitable for all ages.

Easter Day

Sunrise Holy Communion 6.00am
(At St Mark's Church)
Holy Communion 8.30am
Family Communion 11.00am

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.15 -11.45 am Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school
Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

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

9.30-3.15pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634
(See website for more details)

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

9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights
Stephanie Smith ☎ 357787 or 07973174430

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

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

12.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Liz ☎ 302349

1.30pm U3A History Group St Mark's. David Fowler ☎ 824474

2pm U3A Drama St Mark's 1st & 2nd week. Mr Ovenden ☎ 825059

4.00pm Storybox Plus Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. Liz Spavins ☎302349

4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe Heights. Margo Needham ☎843747 or 07881730747

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

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎ 07720713738.

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson ☎353518

7.30pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst ☎01908 377020

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

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting March 29 -Royal Marsden Hospital. Judith Stanton. ☎823313

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

8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎07790296016

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg ☎351223

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

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights Sally Banks ☎ 870357

1.30pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

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

month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs Forrest ☎344043

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

2pm U3A Photography (Group 3) St Mark's 1st Week. Janet King ☎313946

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting March 30 Tea and Chat Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's Fortnightly . Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225

2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

3.45pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎295862 or 07917582468.

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

6.30pm Yoga Putnoe Heights Veronica Lafferty ☎781466 or 07788750360

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

7pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎ 07941 264885

7.30pm Hearts & Beds. Cardiac Support Group 1st Tuesday in the month. Brian Ibberson ☎403497

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or 07866775515

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting April 6 Easter Bunny Hunt Details from Janet King 313946

8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

Wednesday

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

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

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

10am Sewing & Chat. Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966

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

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - 31 March Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

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

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

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

1.30-4.30pm U3A Craft St Mark's 1st & 3rd week. Pat Holland ☎262823

2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster ☎856966

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

6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden ☎219731

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

6-8pm Karate. St Mark's Karen King ☎079412 64885
7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Brian Sallows ☎407725
7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. Vanessa Aykac 268098 or 07917385987
7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice Loxley ☎ 347073
7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Heights Mike Del-Boyer ☎348378
8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott ☎214867
8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club meet at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next Meeting AGM 31 March 2010 Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Graham ☎406359 or Alan 345312. or Rosemary 405594 for more details
8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016
7.45 for 8pm God talk - women's group monthly meeting for worship and friendly chat at Wendy Nash's Contact Majella Atkinson ☎325293

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen ☎343424 .
Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.
9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green ☎244970
9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. Emma Strangwick ☎211070
 11am-12noon Citizens Advice Bureau at Putnoe Heights.
12pm Storybox . St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing . Lots of fun.Next meeting 22 April Contact Jaana Swaby 01234 363283
1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic St.Mark's ☎267444
1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293.
2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991
2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society at St Mark's. Malcolm Smith ☎400741
4 - 7.00pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer. ☎349179
6.15 pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph ☎01767 224978.
6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Caroline Morgan ☎07786508351
7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059
7pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's 2nd & 4th week in month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059
7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale ☎406094
7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Pauline Lynham ☎01525 714517
8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week in month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193
8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Jean Birks ☎219607
8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Julie Nicholson ☎353642

Friday

9.30-12.30pm U3A Photography (Group 1) St Marks 4th week in month Val Scrivener ☎346397
9.00am Clubhouse St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St Mark's Joyce Fields ☎353086
12.15pm U3A Photography (Group 2). St Mark's 4th week in month. Sue Butler ☎354183
5pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468
2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875
6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights. Racheall Monton ☎297138 or 07910835994
7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St. Mark's. Carol Brown ☎01438 233385

Saturday

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard ☎01234 782414
Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher ☎357198
2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry 01462 674792
7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School at St Mark's with crèche for under 3's
11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for our young adults. A crèche is also available.
1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515
6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship & fun. Please see Liz ☎302349 .

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 22 June, 8 November.
St Mark's Leadership Team – 20th April.
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – 7 June at the Manse, 18 October
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting ; 24 May
St Mark's Church Forum Meeting -
Putnoe Church Council - 21 June, 25 October.
Pastoral Group Meeting - 20th April at 4.30pm
Churchyard Committee - 26 May at 11am.
Putnoe Heights Mission Group—
Partnership Council—TBA
Brickhill Parish Council Meetings
Deanery Meeting - 5 May, 17 June.
Circuit Property/Treasurers Meeting
Circuit Meeting 8 March at Oakley
Woodland Burial Trustees – Sunday 16th May AGM
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –

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

Palm Sunday

Opening Verse of Scripture -Matthew 21: 9.

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!



Collect Prayer for the Day - Before we read we pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading – Isaiah 50: 4-9a

The Sovereign LORD has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught. The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears, and I have not been rebellious; I have not drawn back. I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who is he that will condemn me?

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

Second Reading – Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let Israel say: "His love endures forever." Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter. I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation. The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. O LORD, save us; O LORD, grant us success. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you. The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine upon us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever

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

Gospel Reading –Luke 19: 28-40

After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it.'" Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They replied, "The Lord needs it." They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

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

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymns - *(Please distribute Mission Praise, service sheet, baptism Sheets*

- 9 All glory, laud and honour.
- 96 Come let us worship Christ.
- 94 Come let us sing of a wonderful love
- 543 Onward Christian soldiers
- 201 Guide me O Thou great Jehovah

Commentary

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday, which marks the beginning of Holy Week in which we remember the most important time in the life of the most important man who ever lived.

This event will be remembered in Churches all over the world today. It is a major festival of the Christian Church, but if you were to ask people what it was all about you would not get many correct answers. It was the climax of history and one of enormous significance, yet sadly will be ignored by the vast majority of people in this country.

Jesus is making the journey to Jerusalem and is on the way to the Cross.. We see in our gospel reading Him sending two of His disciples to a village and describing exactly what would happen. The Bible tells how Jesus could tell the secrets of peoples' hearts. The Bible states He knew the thoughts of His enemies. He knew His riding into Jerusalem would disrupt the plans of the Pharisees who wanted Him arrested but these would be delayed in order to fall into the plan of God

The Bible states He knew who they were who did not believe and would betray Him. This is to remind us He is not only human but divine.

The prophets had a custom that where words were of no use, some dramatic action had to take place to make their point clear. Jesus proposed to ride into Jerusalem in such a way that He would create an unmistakable claim to be God's anointed King.. This was a well planned journey and was the only time Jesus ever made a public demonstration, on all other occasions He withdrew from attention.

He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey like a King entering His capital to fulfil the Old Testament prophecy of Zechariah that the Messiah would enter into Jerusalem, and He was saying, 'I am that Messiah'. This was no sudden impulsive action, but one carefully planned. Jesus did not leave things until the last moment. He wanted all attention to be focused on Himself knowing there was a price upon His head.

The crowds who gathered had been told of His miraculous deeds and showed their respect by throwing their garments on the ground and waving palms, even though their attitude would change when they discovered He was not going to do the things they wanted and lead a rebellion against the Romans.

When a King rode a donkey it meant for peace, and Jesus was stating He had come in peace and wanted all to notice Him. He knew the time had come for Him to go to the Cross to die for all sinners, and His earthly ministry was over. One day He will return and will ride a horse as He comes to judge the world. This all embracing knowledge should be a comfort to all true believing Christians, but a terrible warning to non believers

There was great rejoicing and singing as the crowd sang from Psalm 118. This was a great religious festival with the city filled with nationalistic Jews full of a reminder of what it meant to be a Jew. . It is a sobering thought that only a few days away was Good Friday.

Today Jews are seen as villains, when an unprejudiced study would reveal them to be more victims. It is not Israel which wants to wipe another country off the face of the earth. Let us not forget what the Jews have done on behalf of their homeland, which God throughout the Bible promised them. For centuries Palestine was a swamp- filled, untilled waste. Jewish settlers drained malaria infested swamps, often at the expense of their lives, and made an agricultural fertile delight. We tend to forget their enemies blighted the land and did nothing, and now want to take over what they were unable or unwilling to do.

Remember we worship a Jewish Saviour and teach from a book, which of forty writers; only one was not a Jew.

You can always attract a crowd by sensationalism, but it doesn't last. When Jesus got serious and told them His purpose, which was not to act as a warrior, they turned on Him. A few days later He needed all the support He could get as the powers of darkness swept over Him, yet all deserted Him. Nobody wanted to know or recognise Him.

Today we are reminded of the superficiality of commitment in our own time. Less than 10% of people think God worthy of one hour per week to visit a Church, yet would claim to be a Christian. It is easy to say

I am a Christian. Easy to profess being a Christian. I have often been told how committed a person was based on the fact they watched 'Songs of Praise' on a Sunday evening. What a difference we see in the commitment to the Islamic faith where there is such devotion, and even the men proudly attend worship. If you put most Englishmen in a Church they would be completely disorientated and feel totally lost and embarrassed.

People will wait for hours to see some royal person visiting, who on arrival will wave a cursory hand, smile and disappear, making not an iota of difference to their future. Yet the same people would never consider visiting a Church to meet the king of kings on whose judgement their eternal destiny rests. Even Church members can be superficial if things don't please them.. We find people walking out of Church if someone says something they disagree with, or proposes something different with which they disagree, or if they are not given the deference they feel due. There is no subject, which should be beyond Christians to resolve amicably.

You may have read of the Vicar and Curate who gave a very literal exposition of Paul's Letter to the Ephesians on the duties of husbands and wives, a little imprudent for Sevenoaks perhaps. Rather than enter into a discussion with the Vicar, a number of women walked out taking their direct debits with them. Such action falls from grace and only tends to drag Christianity through the mud. In a very real sense Jesus came to live and die to destroy the power of death, evil and sin - all the Devil's works. The Bible states, "For Christ died for sins once and for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God" .

Jesus came to do God's will and that He had done. He healed the sick, raised the dead, and would now go to the Cross to die a most cruel death after being tortured, whipped, and mocked. That death would be the means for the forgiveness of all our sins and enable us to one day share eternal life in heaven with Him.

Jesus is the only one who can offer salvation. This is a free offer but means acceptance of that death as being for each of us personally, it is not given universally, which in turn means accepting Jesus as Saviour and living according to His commands. (Eric Royden)

Meditation

The people of Argentina and Chile were preparing for war because of a dispute over which country owned some land high in the Andes mountains that separated the two countries. On Easter Sunday many people gathered in the cathedral of Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina.

The bishop preached in his sermon about the need for peace. Many disagreed with him, but some supported him - including a bishop in the opposing country of Chile who went about his own country, also preaching peace. Such was the effect of the two bishops on the people of their countries, that the two governments felt they should step back from war and talk with each other again. They agreed to invite King Edward VII (the seventh) of Britain to make a decision about who should own the land over which they were about to go to war.

The bishop from Argentina had said: "I would like to see Christ standing between our two nations, guiding us and leading us." Some people decided to take this literally and set about fund-raising to build a statue of Christ. On 13 March - 1904, representatives of both countries gathered around the huge statue that had been built on one of the mountains of the Andes, between both nations. This is one of the prayers used: "that these great mountains may crumble into dust before the peoples of Argentina and Chile break the peace which we have promised to keep, here at the feet of Christ." The huge statue of "Christ of the Andes" is a great symbol and reminder of the need to work together for peace.

Lord, inspire us to act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with you, our God. Breathe upon us your Spirit of peace that we may be bearers of reconciliation wherever you place us. May there be peace in our hearts, in our homes, in our land, and between all people. Amen.

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Holy Father, you have shown us that the brave bearing of the cross is the beginning of wearing your crown: help us by your grace to bear patiently our pains and disappointments, as your beloved Son bore His; and to offer them to you as the pure gift of our faithfulness to our crucified Lord. Amen

As on this day we keep the special memory of our Redeemer's entry into the city, so grant O Lord than now and ever, He may triumph in our hearts. Let the King of Glory enter in, and let us lay ourselves and all we are in full and joyful homage before Him, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord



Easter Offering 2010 Please give generously in the envelopes available in the foyer, which should be returned by Easter Sunday. The money raised goes to the World Mission Fund working in partnership with 65 Partner churches outside Britain and Ireland. Grants for leadership training scholarships etc. Further information is printed on the envelopes.

Friends for Life was set up by the Bedford Deanery and the Bedford North Methodist Circuit, to provide spiritual care and friendship to the residents in care homes of Bedford and district. To date, about 40 residents in 9 homes are being visited individually and there are a number of worship teams visiting homes on a regular basis. On Thursday 25 March, Friends for Life is organising a workshop. not only for existing volunteers, but for those who wish to find out more about Friends for Life and are considering becoming a volunteer. For information contact John Bassill 325227 or Joanne Barrow 213038.

Charity Theatre Event-Cancer Research UK and Great Ormond Street Hospital are joining forces with the help of Sharnbrook Mill Theatre Trust to offer tickets for their next musical production of "Man of La Mancha" on Friday, 14 May at 7.45pm. Tickets are £12.50 each which will include a glass of wine or soft drink and there will be a Grand Raffle. All profits will be divided equally between the two charities. The story is that of Don Quixote and the music is very catchy. You will probably know the song "The Impossible Dream" which is from the show. Please contact John Lingings (306676) or Sue & Richard Butler (354183) for tickets, and help us raise money for very deserving causes.

Good Friday Children's Special at Putnoe 2nd April 12.15 to 1.45. The Easter Story, Easter and Spring crafts and light refreshments £1.50 per child with accompanying adult. Suitable for all ages. If you are able to lend a hand during this popular event please contact Liz. Thank you.

Car Boot Sale –Monday 5 April is St Mark's first Car Boot of the season. We would be very grateful for bric-a-brac, tools, china, books, CD's, puzzles etc for the church stall. Tray bakes also welcome for the refreshments. Thank you

Storybox at St. Mark's on Thursdays between 12 and 1,(term time only), would appreciate some more volunteers to help with preparing the food or to tell a story based on the Bible. It will probably only be every 8 or 9 weeks. For further details please see Jaana or ring her on 363283.

Storybox at St. Mark's Will start again on April 22 at 12 noon. We look forward to seeing you then. Jaana 363283.

Bedford Community Chamber Orchestra [BCCO] Easter Concert Putnoe Heights Saturday 3 April at 7.30pm The Orchestra is absolutely delighted to be returning for this, our second performance at Putnoe Heights . Our previous performance was in December 2009 [at which we had an orchestra of 40 musicians]. I like to think that the BCCO is our member's spiritual home though, which has an absolute parallel with the relationship that we seeking to build with your church and the community in Putnoe Heights. We hope to see many of you on April 3. Tickets and further details are available from the church office 365630. Phil Hargreaves, BCCO.

Footprints Ramble Easter Monday April 5th A six mile ramble along good paths and tracks (and a short road section) starting from Brook End Car Park in Pottton. Meet at 10.30am. As you arrive in Pottton follow 'Town Centre' then 'P' to reach the free public car park. Bring your own lunch - there does not appear to be any eating place in the town The walk can be downloaded from : <http://www.pottononline.net/walks/3>. For more info. phone Jean/Alan on 01234 317699.

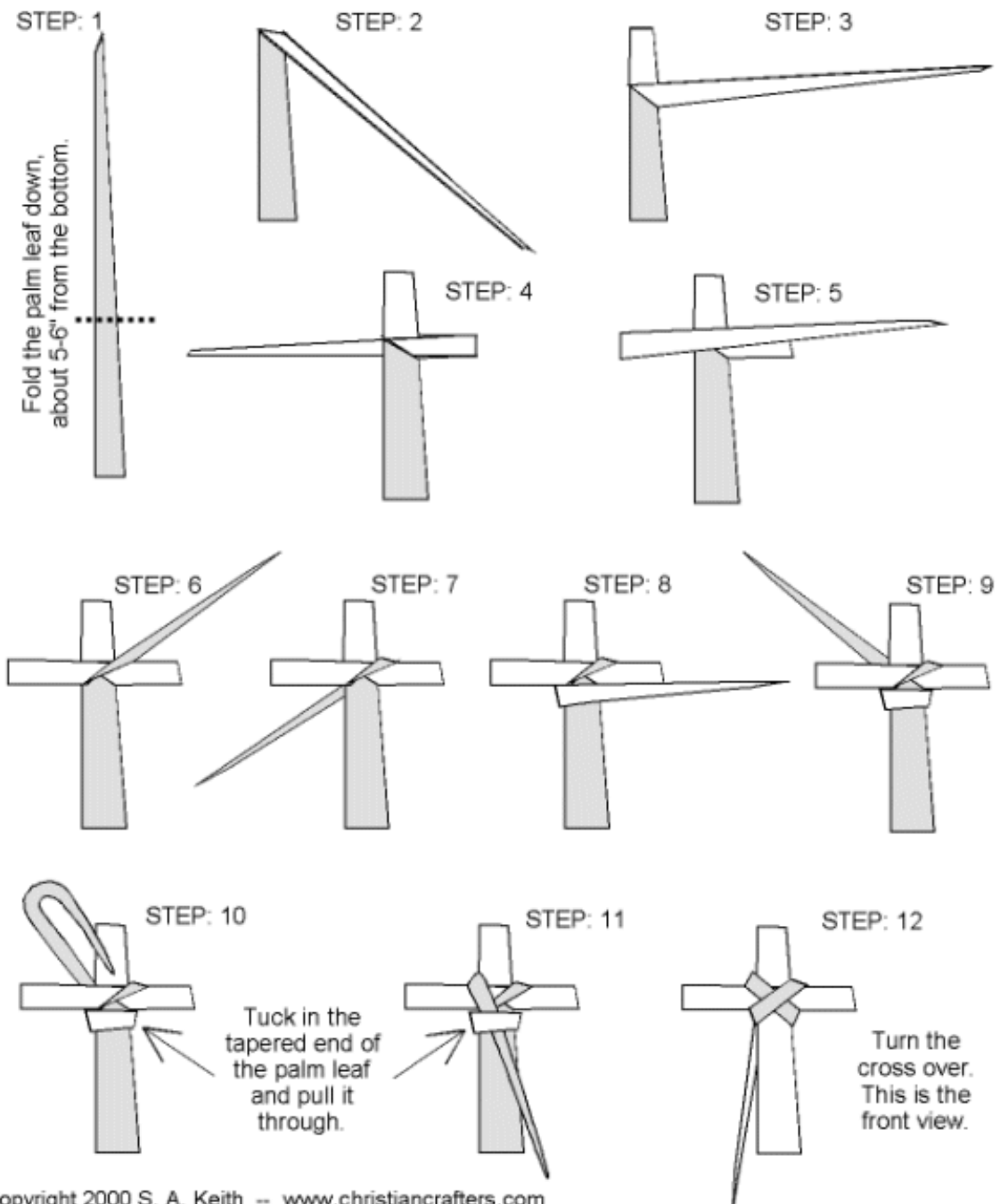
Putnoe Heights Church Part time children and Youth Worker

12 hours per week, £7 per hour
Would suit local person, able to work on their own and as part of a team, with some experience of work with children and young people -preferably within a Christian context - who could;
Build up existing church based children's and youth activities
Explore opportunities to develop new initiatives, both in the church and wider community
Organise, plan and lead events and programmes
Liaise with other individuals or groups working with children and youth in the locality, to enhance and increase the profile of this work
For further details and job description, please see the website www.thisischurch.com or contact Deacon Jane mason on 01234 348091, email jane@thisischurch.com.
The closing date for applications is Friday 23rd April 2010

Holy Communion at Sir William Harpur House. There is a service of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of every month at 10.00am at Sir William Harpur House. All are welcome to attend this service. Next service, Bank Holiday Monday

St. Mark's Pre-school are collecting Sainsbury's and Tesco's vouchers and would greatly appreciate any. They can be handed into Preschool or the office. Thank you very much. Helen Harpin

Supplies: One palm leaf strip about 24-26" in length, 1/2" in width, tapering to the end.



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Make yourself a palm cross - Palms can be obtained from the church office

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.

**Marianne Theed
Kenneth Sydney Eaton**

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 Sue Lawrence will take place at St Mary's, Goldington on Monday 29th March at 3pm



The funeral of Julie Rose Mirto will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 10:00 on Wednesday 31st March 2010