



Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church
2 September 2018
Trinity 14 - Ordinary 22



Sunday Services

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

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

02 September 2018 - Trinity - 14 Ordinary 22

9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Family Worship

With Baptism of Joseph William Angelo Piazza
Preacher - Mrs Wendy Waters
Leadership - Mr Jim Williams
Intercessions - Children
Organist - Mr Bill Fudge

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Family Worship

Preacher Mrs Wendy Waters
Leadership - Mrs Jenny Snelson
Intercessions - Young People
Organist - Mr Peter Twitchin

09 September 2018 - Trinity - 15 Ordinary 23

9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd. Canon Charles Royden
Leadership - Mrs. Liz Jackson
Intercessions - Mrs. Wendy Waters
Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mrs. Caroline Weaver
Leadership - Mr. Barry Southam
Intercessions - Mrs. Claire Peck
Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds

Lectionary Readings:

1. Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23 2. James 2: 1-10 (11-13)
14-17 3. Mark 7: 24-37

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

Thank you

The flowers at St. Mark's Church this week have been given by Colin and Rosemary McNeilage to celebrate the marriage of their son Andrew to Joanne, elder daughter of Ron and Carol Beaver.

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

Prayer for Sunday

Set our hearts on fire
with love for you,
O Christ our God, that in its flame
we may love you with all our heart,
with all our mind, with all our soul,
and with all our strength,
and our neighbours as ourselves,
so that in keeping
your commandments,
we may glorify you,
the giver of all good gifts. Amen



*A Manual of Eastern
Orthodox Prayers*

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

www.putnoechurch.org.uk

Open Mon - Thur 9-4pm, Friday 9-1pm

Tel: 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com

Centre Manager: Krystyna Oborn 365630

Leadership Team: Mrs Sue Allen 407264

Treasurer: Mr Andrew Dennison

treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator: Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188

Youth Team Leader: Carolyn Morris

youth@thisischurch.com

<http://www.facebook.com/PutnoeChurch>

St. Mark's Church Centre

www.stmarkschurch.com

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm

Tel/fax: 342613 office@stmarkschurch.com

Centre Manager: Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team: Mr Edward Parry

Treasurer: Mr Ian Farthing 210892

treasurer@stmarkschurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator: Mr Jim Williams 360605

Churchyard Administrator: Mrs Avril Williams 342613

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Charity No 1164416

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

Assistant Rural Dean of Bedford
107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

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

Reader: Mrs Wendy Waters

Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator
342613 office@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.*

Partnership News is sent out by email every
Saturday. To subscribe visit our Partnership News archive at
www.thisischurch.com. Any items submitted for inclusion in
Partnership News will automatically be posted weekly on our
website and may appear in other local media sources.

Partnership News is also on www.ThisisChurch.com

Regular Weekly Activities - Putnoe Heights Church

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

9.30-10.30am - Body Control Pilates –Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430

2.00pm U3A Music Appreciation Chris Fordham 217396

2.00pm U3A Italian – fortnightly Chris Fordham 217396

4.15pm Kumon Maths Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

6.15 pm Brownies . Sharon Tanner 01767 699399 email firstputnoebrownies@hotmail.co.uk

6.15-7.15pm Pilates Jane Butcher 07891879571

7.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga Jane Butcher 07891879571

6.30pm-8pm Cubs Ages 8 –10.5 Michelle Davis 07711916870 email: michelle@putnoescouts.org

6.30pm Fit For All – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081

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

7.45-9.15 Get Fit Keep Fit Diane Field 01234 404976

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Jenny Snelson 344417

11-12.15am U3A Keep Fit Chris Fordham 217396

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. meets monthly.

Jo Fordham (President) 01234 217396

Margaret Bull (President) 01234 267866

Cheryl Gardner (President) 01234 261584

2.30pm. Ladies Tuesday Club (meets monthly) Next Meeting Tuesday 11 September— Bedford Marina.

Members House.. 'Details' Diane Bayliss 268101

2.30-4.30 U3A Play Reading Chris Fordham 217396

6.30pm- 8.00pm Cubs 6.30pm—8.00pm Ages 8-10.5 michelle@putnoescouts.org

Wednesday

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

11.00am U3A Keep Fit. Chris Fordham 217396

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Fortnightly. Contact Putnoe Office 365630

2-4pm U3A Ukulele Group. Beginners welcome. Contact Chris Fordham 217396

2.00pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Mrs Webster 856966

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Mrs Rakha Mistry 01908 392698

5.00-6.00pm Rainbows Gayle email : 1stputnoerainbows@gmail.com

6.15-7.15pm ATSK Karate Kevin Stark 01234 353865

6.15-7.45pm GKR Karate Daniel Freer 07931 504 712

7.00pm-9.00pm Scouts ages 10.5-14; Michelle Davis 07711916870 email: michelle@putnoescouts.org

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society monthly. Sylvia Woods 365095

7.15pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every month except August Mrs Jo Street 344600

Thursday

8.15-2.15pm Sing & Sign. Julie Warriner **01767 691488**

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Valerie Capon 356306. Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table. Resumes 30 August.

10.00-12pm U3A Painting & Sketching Chris Fordham 217396

1.30-3.00p.m Little Fishes for the under 4's and their carers. Playtime, craft, story time, music and singing. For

further details please contact Carolyn Morris tel 07751348925 or email storyboxplus@btinternet.com

2pm –4pm U3A Current Affairs Chris Fordham 217396

2.30pm-3.30pm U3A Spanish (Weekly) Chris Fordham 217396

5.15-8.15pm NHS Eat Smart Think Active contact : Laura Rocket 355122

6.00pm-7.30pm Beavers Ages 6-8

michelle@putnoescouts.org

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Brennan.

07919402797.

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Monthly second Thursday in the month. Sandra White 313645

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

8.00pm Bedford Folk Dancers (formerly Barn dancers)

Meet weekly with different guest callers each week. Except August. All welcome, cost £2. Including refreshments.

More details Ron 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

Friday

9.30pm Spanish Holiday Survival Elena 01234 266968

9.30am –12. 30pm Machine Knitting group 1st and second weeks per month. Contact Marion Sutton 217647

10am-12 U3A French Conversation Chris Fordham 217396

2pm U3A Gardening Chris Fordham 217396

6.30pm-8.00pm Beavers Ages 6-8 Michelle Davis 07711916870 email: michelle@putnoescouts.org

Saturday

2.15pm Society of Recorder Players G. Parry 01462 674792

Sunday

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior for the under 9's . A crèche is also available.

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council - 11 September, 13 November

St Mark's Leadership Team - 4 September, 6 November

St Mark's Church AGM - April 28 2019

Putnoe Leadership Team – October 9

Putnoe Management Meeting – October 4

Putnoe Church Council - October 30.

Pastoral Group Meeting – 25 September at 4.00 pm.

Churchyard Committee -

Circuit Meeting -

Deanery meeting - September 9

Woodland Burial Trustees – 14 October

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting -

St Marks Messy Church -

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

Regular Weekly Activities - St Mark's Church

Monday

7.30am-6.00pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's

7.30am-6.00pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's

Manager Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

(See website for more details)

9.00am-12noon St Mark's Pre-School Nursery

Manager Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. Mrs M. Berry 211955

10.00am U3A Play reading Rod Fewings 07718390188

9.45am - 10.45am & 11.00am-12noon Pilates Liz Mason
07816522200

2-4pm U3A Meditation & Wellbeing Rod Fewings
07718390188

6.00pm Brownies Mrs C Mathew 826190

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's (1st week in month)

Mary Daly 217127

7.00-8.00pm Laughter Club on 2nd week each month Cheryl
Green 07729187399

7-9pm Rangers. Nikki Lake 07584028653

7.15pm Guides. Mrs Gill Lake 218091

7.30pm Whist Drive. Weeks 3 & 5 in the month. Judith
Stanton. 823313

Tuesday

9.15am-11.15. Chat & Make A term time group for Mums
and toddlers 0-5. For more details ring St Mark's Church
Office 01234 342613 or Janine 01234 297481

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World

9.30, 11.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30. Lorrie Pearson 340473

1.15pm U3A Cinema Group. Rod Fewings 07718390188

1.30pm U3A Choir. Contact Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.00pm U3A Book Group 1 (3rd Week in month) Contact
Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.00pm U3A Book Group 2 (2nd Week in month) Contact
Rod Fewings 077183901882

2.00pm U3A Photography Group 3 (1st Week in month)
Contact Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.30pm Knit & Natter Group. (Alternate week in month)
Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling
262225

2.00-3.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. A social
and Bible Study group. (2nd & 4th week in month) Mrs Jean
Bank 355698

6-7pm Supple Strength Yoga Amanda Alcock
07769747393

7.15-8.15pm Pilates Jane Butcher 07891879571

7.30-9pm Faith Community Church Audua Ogilvie 01234
308644

8.00pm Hearts in Beds Committee (4th week in month) Mrs
N Aspey 309816

8.25-9.25pm Restoration Pilates Johanna Debnam
07753418170

Wednesday

10.00-2pm Open House for those with learning disabilities.,
their friends, family, carers and supporters 342613.

10.00am U3A Gardening Group 3 Rod Fewings
07718390188

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

10am U3A Card Making, Rod Fewings 07718390188

10-4pm Sewing group 4th week of the month. Contact Sue
Sewell 07979797747

1.15pm Social Bridge Club Mr Barnes 261811

2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft 1st week of the month Contact: Rod
Fewings 07718390188

3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. (3rd Week in month). for
children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based
story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 19
September. Wendy Waters 401834

6.00pm Brownies. Mrs C Warden 219731

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. Yvonne Blain 350241 or Brian
Sallows 407725.

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club at St Mark's
(1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting 5
September. Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1
including refreshments. Call Rosemary 405594 or Graham
406359 for more details or come and join our friendly group
and have a try.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club (Week 1 in the
month) Jill Cooper 357960

Thursday

9.30-10.40am Cook Stars Bedford fun cooking classes for
children between the age of 2-5yrs. Julia 07375472439

9.45am Chat and Play A term time group for Mums &
toddlers.0-5 St Mark's Church Office 01234 342613 or
Janine 01234 297481

12pm Storybox . Welcomes 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.. Contact Jaana
Swaby 342613

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. Rod Fewings 07718390188

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society Jean Patterson 307210

5.15-6.45pm Weightwatchers Jodi Henderson 07449890830

6-7pm Supple Strength Yoga Amanda Alcock
07769747393

7-9pm Bedford Community Gospel Choir weekly meeting
starting on the 13th September. Contact 07554148540

7.00pm U3A Singing for Fun (1st & 3rd week in month)Rod
Fewings 07718390188

7.00pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild
(3rd week in month). Carol Plant 01832710504

7.30pm Magpies. Meet on 2nd & 4 Thursday Next meeting
13 September - Charity Fund Raising Evening..Call
Rosemary 405594 for more details.

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's (1st week in
month). John Broadhouse 01525 404014

Friday

10am -12.00 U3A Photography (4th week in month)
Contact Rod Fewings 07718390188

10.45am - 12 U3A Poetry & Literature St. Marks Contact
Rod Fewings 07718390188yh

2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist (2nd week in month) Contact
Chris Fordham 07940072202

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St Marks(2nd week
in month)Carol Brown 01438 233385

6.30 -8.30pm Pakua Martial Arts John Waugh 07802755914

Saturday

9.00am Faith Community Church (1st week in month)
Audua Ogilvie 01234 308644

10.00am-1pm Theatretrain Dancing acting, singing. Kate
Howard 01234 782414

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 at St. Mark's. P Harris
01623 621143

11.30-2.30pm Faith Inspired Ministry. Pastor James
Mudokwani 07411154809

Trinity 14 Ordinary 22

Opening Verse of Scripture - James 1:22

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

Collect Prayer for the Day - *Before we read, we pray*

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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 Bible Reading - Song of Songs 2:8-13

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. My beloved speaks and says to me "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."
(This is the word of the Lord—**Thanks be to God**)

Second Bible Reading - James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act – they will be blessed in their doing.

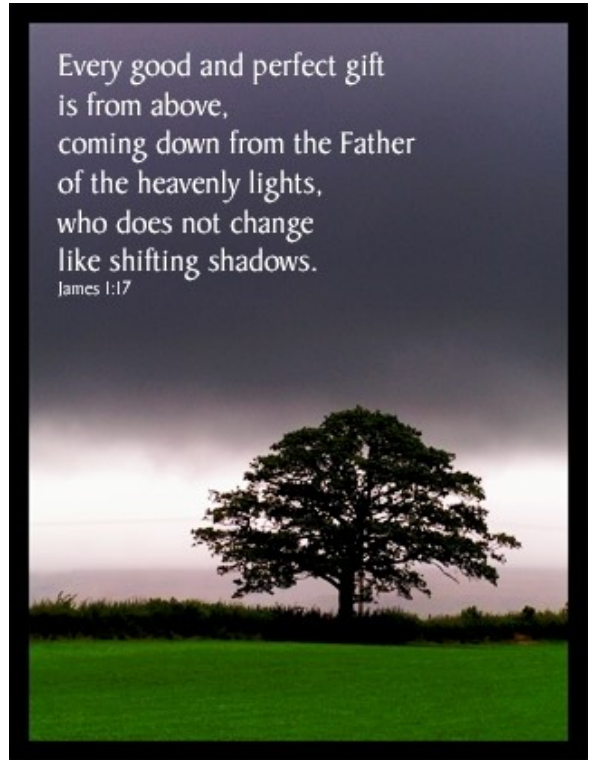
If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world. NRSV
(This is the word of the Lord—**Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading - Mark 7 (1-8, 14-15, 21-23)

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching

Every good and perfect gift
is from above,
coming down from the Father
of the heavenly lights,
who does not change
like shifting shadows.

James 1:17



human precepts as doctrines.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.’ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’ NRSV

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

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns— St Mark’s

1. For the beauty of the earth HP 333
2. Abba Father. Let me be MP 3
3. Birth brings a promise of new life awaking
STF 226 (Baptism)
4. Help us, O Lord, to learn HP 474
5. Sing to God new songs of worship MP 599

Putnoe Heights

1. For the beauty of the earth HP 333
2. Abba Father, let me be MP 3
3. Lord Jesus Christ, You have come to us
MP 435
4. Help us, O Lord, to learn HP 474
5. Sing to the Lord a new song MP 599

Commentary

This morning’s extracts from Mark 7 pull no punches! The passage is an account of Jesus’ reply to a question the religious leadership asked Jesus about his disciple’s failure, from their perspective, to follow cleanliness laws when eating (v5). We can sense Jesus’ irritation as he gives direct teachings and warnings about what will become of the religious Jews, and subsequently those who converted to Christianity, if they did not follow God’s laws and Jesus’ teaching and interpretation of those laws. Mark’s account records Jesus’ teaching on ‘Clean and unclean’, emphasising it is what ‘comes out of us that makes us ‘unclean’ and in particular in verse 21 – 23 warns about immoral acts, theft, murder, adultery, avarice (greed), wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride and folly. Accounts of which fill our newspapers and internet today, whether it be by previously unknown men, women or children, stars of stage and screen, sports personalities and even presidents; no one section of society is immune to such behaviours, including ourselves. ‘Tweeting’, one of the current ways of instant communication, makes public the exchange of personal and political interaction which in the past would have been kept behind closed doors. This is a very modern and real example of the impact of ‘what comes out of us’ has on individuals and society. It would be natural for us to deny to ourselves and others that we are guilty of anything from Jesus’ unclean list. But if when we examine ourselves I suspect we may be surprised of how many do apply to us. Thankfully, Jesus exercised and taught the need for forgiveness, which is one theology and tradition we are blessed with in practically every act Christian of worship.

The source of the cleanliness laws, as we have recently explored in connection with Jesus’ reference to ‘drinking his blood’, lie in the OT Book of Leviticus. By the time of Jesus, many hundreds of generations later, it seems the religious elite had added to them by elevating their traditions and rituals to such an extent that the deeper reason for their existence had indeed slipped from their hearts.

Living in a hot desert country Jesus would have been well aware, for health reasons, of the need to wash themselves and items used for eating and drinking, but it was the over emphasis on the religious ceremonial practises that the Pharisees observed that Jesus calls into question.

Practises which had become an outward show of following God’s law but were only superficial signs of their commitment to them.

Over the centuries since Jesus lived on earth there has been and continues to be much debate about theological doctrines and the value of tradition. Women priests and bishops, and same sex relationships are just three debates which divide the local and worldwide church. But contemporary theologian Tom Wright suggests that in the context of this Mark passage the debate is about two different ways of what it meant to be a good Jew in the first century. Also in reference to Mark 7 verse 8:

“You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men”.

That 'the charge' Jesus levels at the Pharisees and legal experts is that, by teaching as fundamental law what is in fact only custom rather than divine revelation, they are guilty of hypocrisy, play acting. They are claiming to be teachers of the God's truth and law, but in fact they are only teaching human traditions'.

The teaching and interpretation of scriptural, cultural, and traditional practises continue to be an issue today, and in some societies appear to be on the increase. In the first century there were famous stories of Jewish people who had been tortured and killed for refusing to eat unclean food, particularly pork. Sadly today people are still tortured and killed for not adhering to traditions laid down by humans but attributed to God. Such attitudes were as dangerous for Jesus to challenge as they are by 21st century enlightened leaders and teachers. Jesus did not shirk from the challenge on this and many other occasions nor should we. Jesus' teaching was not denying the importance of the material world, but emphasising it is what goes on in the secrecy of our own thoughts, our minds, our inner beings that influences what comes out in our words and actions is what matters. It is this that was vital to Jesus and his followers and is vital for us today. *Wendy Waters*

Meditation

Psalms 15 is an alternative OT reading set for today, which also answers questions about who merits having a close relationship with God. The answers in the psalm are relatively easy to understand and heed:

O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart; who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbours; in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honour those who fear the Lord; who stand by their oath even to their hurt; who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Prayer for Sunday and the week ahead

Heavenly Father, we are all too aware of our temptation to place trust in rules and traditions, help us to discern those that bring us closer to you and those that draw us away. Having distinguished the difference, give us the strength to discard those that hinder our relationship with you.

Forgiving Lord, throw light onto those times when, echoing words of St. Paul, 'what I do is not the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want is what I do.' And under that light cleanse me of all my wrong doing.

Lord Jesus you knew what it was like to stand up to those who questioned your teaching of your Father's will, yet were prepared to pay the ultimate penalty, death on the Cross, for defending that teaching. Protect, we pray, all who suffer harsh treatment and even death, for their faith, love and trust in you and your Heavenly Father.

Lord Jesus, as the new education year begins may all places of learning be places which reflect the Godly values of mutual care, respect and responsibility, of integrity and forgiveness. We pray for all young people who are about begin new schools, colleges and universities. or work. May they be met with friendship and kindness. **Amen**



**Harvest Festival Gifts at St Mark's on Sunday
16 September will be donated to Bedford Food Bank.**

There a permanent Food Bank collection facility for you to donate goods to Bedford Food Bank at St Mark's Church in the foyer. There are shortages of the following items this month :- Tinned Casserole Meat, Tinned Rice Pudding, Jam Teabags (40's, 80's & 160's) Jars of Pasta Sauce, Tinned Vegetables, Toilet Rolls, Squash, UHT Fruit Juice,

Washing Up Liquid. Many thanks for your continued support. Chris



St Mark's Summer Holidays

Chat and Make Will resume weekly on 11 September. **Chat and Play** will resume weekly on 6 September. **Story Box** will start again on the 6 September **St Mark's Junior Church** will resume on Sunday 9 September 2018

Putnoe Heights Fairtrade Stall - future dates September 2 & November 4. Traidcraft catalogues are available to take home from the table in the foyer. Orders happily taken at any time - see the slip inside the catalogue for more details

Little Fishes is a new children's group coming to Putnoe Heights Church for our under 4 year olds and their carers. Starting on Thursday 6 September 2018, in the small hall at 1.30 to 3pm. play time, craft, story time, rhymes, songs and musical instruments. refreshments. All welcome. If anyone would like to help with refreshments or craft please speak to Carolyn Morris. Further details email: youth@thisischurch.com

Putnoe Thursday Prayer Group. Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table. The group resumed on 30 August.

Community Coffee Morning at Putnoe no meeting in August. Restart 12 September.

Circuit Welcome Service for new ministers. Putnoe Heights Church. Sunday 2 September. Tea at 4.00 pm, Service at 6.00 pm. Please come and help us host this special service. Offers of help to Jenny Snelson.

St Mark's Church Rotas are now available. Please advise the ministers if you would like to be added to a rota to read the bible etc. The rota for St Mark's is provisional so please make changes and swaps! It can also be downloaded on stmarkschurch.com

Harvest Festival and Lunch at Putnoe Heights will be held on Sunday 7 October. Tickets for lunch now available .

St Mark's Harvest Mission Weekend

This promises to be a great weekend when we will enjoy each other's company and have an opportunity to listen to Adrian and Bridget Plass, a remarkable couple who have a particular gift of being able to talk about the Christian faith with humour, whilst inspiring further thought. This is a great chance to welcome people to St Mark's so please think who you know who would like to be invited.

It is important that the invitation is generous and no charge is made however if you wish to gift aid a donation towards the church mission grant then this is most welcome so thank you.

Harvest Weekend Schedule

Saturday

- 5.00pm Hog Roast will be served in the church car park. There will be a bouncy castle for children. If possible we will eat outside in our marquee.
(Please bring your own drinks as there will be no bar.)
- 6.30pm We move into the church where we will have an opportunity to listen to Bridget and Adrian Plass our speakers.
- 7.30pm There will be cheese and wine available and opportunity to mingle

Sunday

- 9.30am Church Harvest Festival - Adrian and Bridget will speak
- 10.30am Invitation for coffee in large hall *(tables will be set up in hall for lunch)*
- 11.10am Return to Church for talk with Adrian and Bridget
- 11.55am Talk finishes
- 12 noon Lunch served
(Please bring your own drinks as there will be no bar.)
- 1.15pm Answering your questions with Adrian and Bridget

I hope that you will enjoy the weekend and find it a joyful experience. Please pray with me that it will be a time of joyful celebration of our faith and an opportunity to share it with others.

Living God's Love Prayer

Living God, draw us deeper into your love;
Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve;
Holy Spirit, make us heralds of good news.
Stir us, strengthen us, teach and inspire us to live your love with generosity and joy, imagination and courage;
for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus, Amen.



Alderman Newton's Educational Foundation provides grants of £500 for the books/equipment/materials etc. to enable beneficiaries on leaving school, university or any other educational establishment to prepare for, or to assist their entry into employment. Grants must be given for the benefit of young people who are in need of financial assistance. Applicants should be under the age of 25 years when applying to the Foundation and have normally completed their course by their 25th birthday. The minimum age limit is normally 13 years. Contact Charlie if you wish to know more

'Welcome and Inclusion' - a practical day exploring our welcome in church and inclusion of people living with mental ill-health Saturday 6 October 2018, 9.15 am - 3.00 pm at Norton, St George's Church & the Parish Centre (Common View, Letchworth SG6 1DA). Please speak with the ministers if you wish to know more.

Wednesday Holy Communion

Why not join us at 10am on a Wednesday in the chapel at St Marks for a half hour service of Holy Communion. The service is followed by coffee and frequently, extremely nice cake

Brickhill Parish Council The next meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 6 September. These are open meetings and all are welcome to attend.

New Launch Bedford Community Gospel Choir will be meeting at St Mark's Church weekly starting on Thursday 13th September 7-9pm. Cost £5 per session. Contact 07554148540

Church Flat Please can you help with any of the following items that we need for the flat. Sheets, duvet cover and pillow slips for a double bed,

saucepans, kitchen utensils, mixing bowls, kitchen bin, plate rack, towel's If you can offer any of these items, please could you bring them to the church office or contact Wendy (342613) if you are unable to deliver. Thank you.

Car Boot Just to say a big thank you for all those who contributed to the Car Boot on Monday. On the day we made £1098.76. Over 465 people came through the gates and we had a total of 40 cars. Refreshments made £327 and the Church Stall £225.58. Fantastic result for our final car boot of 2018. The result for the whole year is £3668.99. The helpers for getting up early every Bank Holiday Monday and for the cake bakers who with their wonderful cakes makes the Car boot a good place to go for a coffee and cake. The reputation goes far and wide. Without all your continued help we would not be able to run the Car Boots so well. *Avril*

Help Wanted. Do you have and could you lend to the church two bar stool type chairs for the Harvest Weekend. These will be used by our guest speakers and Adrian and Bridget Plass.

5&6 Buses If you experience delays or cancellations of buses please will you tell Charlie as we are trying to record problems experienced around Brickhill and Putnoe to advise Stagecoach management.

St Mark's Leadership Team next week Tuesday 4 September. If you have any issues you would like discussed please speak with one of the Leadership team - Wendy Waters, Edward Parry, Liz Jackson, Laura Farthing, Mike Cooper, Jim Williams, Ian Farthing or the Ministers.

St Mark's Church Council meets Tuesday 11 September in the chapel - this is an open meeting and all are welcome. Start with compline at 7.45pm

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.

Father of all, we pray to thee for those we love,
but see no longer: Grant them thy peace;
let light perpetual shine upon them;
and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power, work
in them the good purpose of thy perfect will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



*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 Mr Graham Elliott will take place at 12.15pm on Thursday 6 September at Bedford Crematorium

The funeral of Mrs Joan Dunning will take place at 1:45 pm on Friday 7 September at Bedford Crematorium.

*All funerals at Bedford Crematorium
can be found @ www.bedford.gov.uk/obituaries*