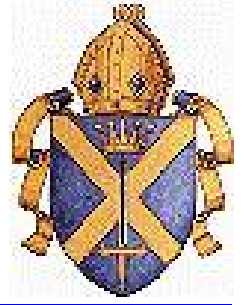




Partnership News

30 May 2010
Trinity 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 – Holy Communion with PCH
Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership – Mrs Margaret Appleton
Intercessions – Mrs Delia Shephard

11.00am Putnoe Heights– Holy Communion with PCH
Preacher – Revd Charles Royden
Leadership - Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions -Mrs Sue Allen

6th June– Ordinary 10

9.30am St. Mark's –Family Worship
Preacher - Mr Chris Izzard
Leadership – Mrs Morag Stewart
Intercessions – Mrs Morag Stewart

11.00am – Putnoe Heights—
Preacher—Mr Chris Izzard
Leadership - Mr Gordon Evans
Intercessions - The Nash Family

Readings 1 1 Kings 17: 17-end 2.Gal 1: 11-end
3.Luke 7: 11-17

Midweek Worship

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 Putnoe Heights Church this week
have been given Harry and Margery Charie in
memory of their parents.

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 for Sunday

'God of pilgrimage
Be with me on my journey
through this life;
Guard and defend me,
Shelter and feed me,
Challenge and inspire me,
Teach me and lead me,
and when my days are ended
Welcome me home at last
To rest in your love for ever.'
A Pilgrim's Prayer', 20th Century

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
266952 Fax- 402624 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

Deacon Jane Mason

12 Hartop Close, Bedford MK41 8HE
348091 Mobile07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden

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

For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in
Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website
and may appear in other local media sources.

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417
Leadership Team Mrs Samantha Ware 304058
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5.00pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Avril Williams 360605
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

- 9.15 -11.45 am Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school**
Head teacher 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.
- 3.30pm Storybox Plus** Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year olds. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then until 5pm stories, drama, singing & craft activities.
- 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 May 31 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
- 1.15pm Sing and Stomp.** For toddlers & their carers. Run by the Putnoe Children's Centre. 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 June 8 Mrs. Anne Alderman. 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 in Beds. Cardiac Support Group** 1st Tuesday in the month at St Mark's. 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 June 1 'Bring & Share Meal'. 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. Janet King ☎313946
- 12.30pm Luncheon Club.** Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next - June 9 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 2 June Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring Alan ☎ 345312.Graham 406359 or Rosemary 405594 for more details.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

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. Contact Jaana Swaby ☎ 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 Lou Watkins 07919402797

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden ☎825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Mark's 2nd & 2th 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. Julia 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.



St Mark's Church Council – 22 June, 8 November.

St Mark's Leadership Team –

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – 7 June at the Manse, 18 October

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting ; 27 Sept.

St Mark's Church Forum Meeting -

Putnoe Church Council - 21 June, 25 October.

Pastoral Group Meeting - 13 July 4pm

Churchyard Committee -

Putnoe Heights Mission Group—9th June 7.30 14 Flint Way

Partnership Council—TBA

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings

Deanery Meeting - 17 June.

Circuit Property/Treasurers Meeting

Circuit Meeting 10 June, 13 Sept.

Woodland Burial Trustees –

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth – 12 July at 1.15pm

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

Trinity Sunday

Opening Verse of Scripture -Psalm 8:1

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

Collect Prayer for the Day *Before we read we pray:*
Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; 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. Amen. Common Worship



First Reading – Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31

Does not wisdom call out? Does not understanding raise her voice? On the heights along the way, where the paths meet, she takes her stand; beside the gates leading into the city, at the entrances, she cries aloud: "To you, O men, I call out; I raise my voice to all mankind. "The LORD brought me forth as the first of his works, before his deeds of old; I was appointed from eternity, from the beginning, before the world began. When there were no oceans, I was given birth, when there were no springs abounding with water; before the mountains were settled in place, before the hills, I was given birth, before he made the earth or its fields or any of the dust of the world. I was there when he set the heavens in place, when he marked out the horizon on the face of the deep, when he established the clouds above and fixed securely the fountains of the deep, when he gave the sea its boundary so the waters would not overstep his command, and when he marked out the foundations of the earth. Then I was the craftsman at his side. I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in his presence, rejoicing in his whole world and delighting in mankind

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

Second Reading – Romans 5: 1-5

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

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

Gospel Reading – John 16: 12 –15 - Glory to Christ our Saviour

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

(Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ. **All: Praise to Christ our Lord**)

Post Communion Prayer

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

Hymns - (Please distribute Holy Communion/Healing and Hymns and Psalms)

1. Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty 7 (Tune Nicea)
2. Spirit of Holiness (Tune Blow the wind southerly)
3. Lord thy Church 774 (Tune Abbots Leigh)
4. Blessed city heavenly Salem, 485 (Tune Westminster Abbey)

Commentary

Today is Trinity Sunday, which has been observed by the church on this Sunday, the first Sunday after Pentecost, in the West since the tenth century and was adopted officially in Rome in 1334.

The Trinity is in the centre of our Christian belief, yet most of us would have great difficulty beginning to explain what it means. Karl Rahner, an influential theologian, said that we could dispense with the doctrine of the Trinity as false and the major part of religious literature could well remain virtually unchanged. I would very much like to get rid of the doctrine of the Trinity, this is not a word which we find in the Bible. However we do need to keep on explaining the fact that God has revealed himself in three different ways, he is not just the old man on the cloud. We have a God who in the person of Jesus walked and talked, lived and died with us and shared all that we are. Last Sunday we were also reminded that at Pentecost God became known to the disciples in the Holy Spirit, and it is through the work of the Holy Spirit today that we are able to say that 'Jesus is Lord.' So needing a way to express this, we end up with the Trinity.

It is well-known that the doctrine of the Trinity does not appear in the Scriptures, and that it has been contested from time to time by various Christian thinkers. The definitive formulations of the Trinity are found in the creeds agreed upon at the First Council of Nicea (in 325 AD) and the Council of Constantinople (in 381 AD). Those statements were composed to combat specific opposing opinions and naturally drew upon the linguistic and philosophical resources available to Greek-speaking communities at the time. The intention of the creeds was to affirm core beliefs in the face of specific opposition to — the unity of God, the complete humanity and essential divinity of Jesus and the divinity of the Spirit.

So we have this Sunday an occasion which sums up all that has gone before in the church calendar which leads us to these realities about God. We have seen the major events the birth, death, resurrection and ascension--and the demonstration of the power of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the church now tries to put these things together, and we have come up with the old theological relic, the Trinity.

Every year preachers across the world come up with corny examples to try and explain how God can be three Gods and one God at the same time. Most of their attempts would have been sufficient to have them killed as heretics in earlier times. The problem we have can be clearly seen when we express in a mathematical formula what the Trinity proposes $1+1+1 = 1$. This is undoubtedly absurd, and no amount of explanation will work adequately. The doctrine of the Trinity is a stumbling block for many, how can God be three and one at the same time ? It is a vain attempt to put into words the fact that God is the Giver of life as creator, shares our life as Jesus our saviour and empowers our life today as Holy Spirit.

Some people will find the whole thing a barren wilderness. Some will find the language we use when we speak of Trinity as positively unhelpful. For example we use such male language for God, many would want to incorporate other images which point to a broader understanding of God as the mother of all that is. We have to accept that when we try and contain God within our language, words are just insufficient.

However surely this is true of so many things, which one of us can understand the doctrine of atonement, do we dare to imagine that we can make sense of doctrines of free will, of predestination, of suffering or how an all powerful God can seem so powerless?

In this respect the Trinity is little different from everything we believe as Christians, our faith is not about what we know, or understand, it is about opening our hearts and minds to the presence of God. Accepting that the word Trinity has many limitations, but is still very important, let's think a little more about it. We baptise in the name of the Trinity, it is a sign of orthodoxy - adherence to good belief.

Trinity guides our faith in -

1. God as Father It means that we recognise the transcendence of God, his majesty or other wordliness. We see in God a holiness which means that he is affronted by human sin. It is no use pointing the self righteous finger at others we are all exposed by God's holiness.

2. God the Son Yet we also have begun, through the life of Jesus to understand a little of the fact that God is love. Forget all of the theology which tries to explain things like substitutionary atonement. In the life of Jesus we see God in human form and he approaches the weak and lost and forgives them instantly of their

sin and offers them new life, even before he has died.

3. God the Holy Spirit We have embarked upon a journey of discovery. Recognising our complete inability to comprehend God, we have nevertheless opened our lives to draw close to God and have experienced something of the reality of God's life in our lives. This is what all of this language in John 3 is about when it speaks of being born from above, or born anew.

Put this together and you are left with a Christian Trinity, but Trinity Sunday is not a day for theological conundrums. It is a day in which looking at God we learn something about ourselves and this affects us and changes us. Following Trinity Sunday we now have many weeks of Ordinary Sundays when we will wear green and get on with living our Christian lives without fanfare, we have left behind us the special festivals of Christmas, Easter, Pentecost. From now on the Sunday readings will encourage us to live changed lives, to be 'born again' transformed by God's Spirit. *Charles Royden*

Meditation We generally do a poor job of resting in the mysterious. There's something about the unknown that makes us uncomfortable. Yet, in the mysterious there lies something beautiful, something beyond our reach, something that knows us and knows all things far better than we ever could. It is in that mystery that we live, and move, and have our being.

Albert Einstein wrote: *The most beautiful and deepest experience a man can have is the sense of the mysterious. It is the underlying principle of religion as well as all serious endeavour in art and science. He who never had this experience seems to me, if not dead, then at least blind. To sense that behind anything that can be experienced there is a something that our mind cannot grasp and whose beauty and sublimity reaches us only indirectly and as a feeble reflection, this is religiousness. In this sense I am religious. To me it suffices to wonder at these secrets and to attempt humbly to grasp with my mind a mere image of the lofty structure of all that there is. (The World As I See It)*

The Apostle Paul famously wrote, "For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known." It's a beautiful way of expressing the limits of our human understanding, particularly when speaking of God. There's a point at which we must simply resign ourselves to the fact that we aren't meant to understand all things. In the gospel text from John 16 today, Jesus tells his disciples, "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now." How difficult that is for us to hear! There is still truth to be revealed, but we are not ready to hear it! We must simply be content to live in the tension between the "already" and the "not yet". The reality of God in Jesus Christ has already come to us, but the fullness of God's kingdom is not yet to be. So too, our understanding of God is left knocking at the door of mystery, but for now the door remains closed to us.

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

God as Creator. As Christians we cannot believe that the world was the work of anybody other than our God. We look at it and it is marvellous and we believe that God made it. But it is more than a belief in some thing which we read. When we look at creation we feel God and his creating power.

Prayer Today we give thanks to God our Creator. Thank you God that you have made all things and made them well That you have given to us all things richly to enjoy For the beauty and the bounty of this fair earth and for the creating power alive in this universe which make all things new. For this we thank you God. But forgive us when in pride, or selfishness or anger we misuse your gifts

God as Jesus who died for us. We read about Jesus but when we read the story it isn't just a story, it comes across to us as powerfully as if it happened yesterday. We read that Jesus lived and walked this earth, we are coming up to the end of the millennium when we will remember the history of his birth, but there is more than that, we feel the life of Christ today, we seek daily to bear his cross and to live his risen life -

Prayer Thank you Jesus for your redeeming power. That you loved us and gave yourself for us: That you gave your life a ransom for many, a ransom for us. That you were obedient to death, even the death of the cross. We thank you O Christ For give us if we treat your love lightly as a little thing, and if we ever fail to try to love you as you love us

God as the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit calls us to be God's people, joins us together as one body in the name of Jesus. It is by the power of the Holy Spirit working in our lives that we know God. It is the Holy Spirit who draws us on in the Christian life.

Prayer Thank you Holy Spirit for the guidance you have given to us. For the knowledge you have brought to us. For your continual upholding, strengthening, protecting power. We thank you Holy Spirit of God Forgive us when we try to live the Christian life alone and have failed to seek the divine help which we might have had from you.

Easter Offering The total amount raised by Women's Network for the Methodist Church World Mission Fund in Bedford North Circuit was £744.38p. Many thanks for all your contributions. Pam Seymour.

The Partnership Lunch Club, fortnightly Wednesdays at Putnoe, urgently needs an additional driver to bring less mobile folk to lunch (a previous appeal did yield a reserve driver thank you). If you can help it would greatly ease the load on the team, please contact Peta Pearson 356878.

Sunday morning Taxi Service St Mark's is now providing a taxi service for the 9.30am service. This service is free of charge for those who have difficulty transporting themselves to Church. To book this service all that you have to do is to telephone St Mark's Church Office during the week before 1.00pm on Friday. We will then arrange to have you collected by our driver, it is as simple as that! If you require any more information please speak with Avril Williams 360605

CAB run an advice session at the Putnoe Heights Children's Centre. It's from 11-12 on a Thursday morning and is a drop in service.

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

Puttenhoe Residential Home. Would you be interested in joining a group of people to help provide some worship at Puttenhoe? They have asked us to consider how we might be able to support the provision for the residents of a short service including some hymn singing, readings etc. If you are interested please speak with one of the ministers or any member of the Leadership Team

TNT We look forward to meeting again on Sunday 27th June at 2.00pm for our annual bicycle ride to the Danish Camp. All Welcome. -Carolyn Morris

Carers Week 14-20th June If you look after someone who has a disability whether they are a relative or a friend and the work you do is unpaid then you are a carer. The Carers Support Bureau is running events on the dates listed giving information and support, BP checks, signposting to other services and free refreshments. Monday 14th June Roxton Garden Centre 1-3pm (on mobile bus), Tuesday 15th June Harrold outside lower school 10-12pm (on mobile bus), Friday 18th June Bedford St. Paul's Square 10-4pm at the Charity Market and Saturday 19th June Kempston Rural 10-12pm All Saints Church Hall, Church End.

Carers Support Bureau 0800 039 1234

Circuit Walk On Saturday 12th June from Priory to Willington to Sandy. Meet at Priory Methodist Church, Newnham Avenue, Bedford at about 10-15 am. For more information contact Geoff Talbot (07850 605719 or geoffal@btinternet.com).

New Prayer Group. The new quiet/contemplative prayer group will start Friday 11 June at 2pm until 2.45pm in the Quiet room at Putnoe Heights Church. For more information please contact either Eileen Brown 267909 or Sam Ware on 304058

Children and Youth group meeting, Putnoe Our next meeting will now be on Monday 12th July 2010, at 1.15 p.m. in the meeting room, instead of Monday 14th June 2010.

The children's Youth Team would like to welcome our new Children's and Youth Worker Emma Gordon to Putnoe Heights Church. We all look forward to working with you in our many Children's and Youth Groups. Emma can be contacted by email:- youth@thisischurch.com

Footprints Walking weekend Sept 24-26: The chosen venue for this year's weekend away is the Best Western Studley Castle Hotel, Castle Road, Studley, Warwickshire B80 7AJ, built in the victorian style of a medieval castle. Please contact Barry Snelson at the Putnoe Heights Church office [Tuesday to Thursday] on 01234 365630 or at home on 01234 344417 as soon as possible to register your interest. Non-walkers are welcome as there is ample opportunity to visit local places, such as Stratford-Upon-Avon."

Footprints Walk The next walk is on Sunday, 6th June starting at 2.30pm. It is just over 3 miles and starts from St Denys Church in Colmworth. This is just south of the junction of the Little Staughton road with Honeydon Road. If there is no parking available near the church, there is more a short distance down Honeydon Road (a waymarked footpath leads back to the church). Further details from Sue or Richard Butler Tel: 354183.

Anjulita Court, Woodlands Park, Bramley Way Brickhill, is holding a Summer Fete on Saturday 3rd July from 11am until 3pm. You are invited to join everyone there for their first Summer Fete. Attractions include a Plant Stall, Cake Stall, Face Painting, a Tombola. Raffle and many more things.

Christian Aid Thank you to everyone who supported Christian Aid week at St. Mark's Church. We raised a total of £756.19. John Harrison.

Open the Book

Since returning to Bedford I have joined an Open The Book team who go into Goldington Green Lower School to act out bible stories fortnightly during term time. It is a huge privilege to be offered this opportunity, and certainly something I believe God calls me to do in a world where children are deprived of the regular Christian teaching I enjoyed every day in Assembly during my School years. I have received the invitation below. If you feel you may like to be involved too, please let me know so that I can book you into the training day on Thurs 17 June. Please pray that God will water the seeds the Open the Book teams are planting in the lives of the children and teachers.

OtB began in Bedford, way back in 1999 and is now a national organisation with over 3300 registered storytellers – and that number is growing weekly! After 11 years, we now need to relaunch OtB in our local area, to refresh the work and find new volunteers. Although still going strong, we know that there are some schools which have asked to have Open the Book but are unable to due to a lack of storytellers.

We have decided to hold a special event to 'relaunch' open the Book in Bedford. This event will have 3 main purposes:

- To refresh and inspire existing storytellers
- To introduce and provide information to potential new storytellers

To explain some changes to the way in which OtB will be organised locally from September 2010 – you will need to know about these!

So can we urge you to make every effort to attend please? AND – most importantly – to invite people along from your own (and other) churches who might be interested in finding out more.

The relaunch event will be held at Brickhill Baptist Church, Brickhill Drive, Bedford on Thursday 17 June from 11am till 2.30 pm. Drinks provided, but please bring a packed lunch.

Marian Matthews tel: 347555 email: tonyandmarian@supanet.com

Hymn for Sunday

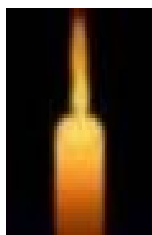
*Spirit of holiness, wisdom and faithfulness,
wind of the Lord, blowing strongly and free.
Strength of our serving and joy of our worshipping,
Spirit of God, bring your fullness to me!*

You came to interpret and teach us effectively,
all that the Saviour has spoken and done;
to glorify Jesus is all your activity,
promise and gift of the Father and Son.

Spirit of holiness.....

You came with your gifts to supply all our poverty,
pouring your love on the church in her need;
You came with your fruit for our growth to maturity,
richly refreshing the souls that you feed.

Spirit of holiness.....



Visit our online chapel, Light a Candle of Remembrance. We have now provided the opportunity to visit our online chapel and light a prayer candle. Please visit www.thischurch.com and click on the candle.



Please don't forget to buy what you need at Amazon. Free delivery . Remember, never click on Amazon direct, always click on Amazon via the link at thischurch.com, then we obtain 5%

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.

Phyllis Naylor Reynolds

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 Kay Lesley Risi, will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 4 June 2010 at 10.00am