



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

31 October 2004

All Saints Day

The Methodist Church & the Church of England in Partnership at both
Putnoe Heights Church & St. Mark's Church



Church of
England

Church Services Today

8.30am Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church—Holy Communion with Prayer for Christian Healing

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper

Intercessions – Mr Warwick Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights – Holy Communion

with Prayer for Christian Healing

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team - Mrs Betty Wyatt

Intercessions –Ministers

November 7th

8.30 am Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St. Mark's Church Pet Service

Family Worship with Baptism

Preacher – Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day

Intercessions—Mrs Pat Leusby

11.00am Putnoe Heights

Family Worship with Baptism

Preacher – Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mr Peter Parker

Intercessions - Mrs Margaret Massey

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Anne and Roger Platt in memory of their daughter-in-law, Louise, and by Val Peacock in memory of her husband, Trevor.

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by a kind friend of the church.

We are extremely grateful when donations are made for the flowers. This may be as a celebration of a happy occasion such as an anniversary or in memory of someone who has died. Contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St. Mark's) or Miss Jennie Cooper 404950 (Putnoe Heights)

Prayer for Sunday

Renew your whole Church, O Lord, with the spirit of unity and promise, that it may desire only your Kingdom, seek only your will, and be driven only by the mission of its one true and living head; even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
Olive Wyon, 1881-1966

Contact Details

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)

The Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman BA, CTM

(Day off Friday)

12 Hartop Close, Putnoe. MK41 8HE

326643 Mobile -07740 865167 Minister@ThisisChurch.com

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.

Home 344536 Crossley@Thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

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Partnership News is now available each week on the
Partnership Website - www.ThisisChurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in
Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website.

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 9am - 1.00pm Monday & Friday

9am - 4pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 www.ThisisChurch.com

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mrs Elizabeth Wyatt 350188

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Samantha Ware 304058

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 www.ThisisChurch.com

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Wendy@thisischurch.com

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day—295592

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

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Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30 - 12.00 pm Pre-school (See website for more details) Mrs Janet Smith 326685 (Putnoe Heights) or Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634** (St. Mark's).
10.00 am Day Care Centre at St. Mark's Church for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082
12.00pm - 1.00pm Storybox at Putnoe Heights Church. Service for parents/carers & children under 5. Children's activities songs and prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm!
4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms R.Mistry 01908 217555
6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Alison McEwen 358583
7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs. Jill Williams 357020
7.15 m Guides -St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
7.30- 9.30pm Creative Needles at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Hayward 307648
7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month. Next 15 November Moorfields & Sight Concern Christmas Whist Drive. Contact Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313
7.30pm Housegroup 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567.
8.00 - 9.00 pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field 404976

Tuesday

9.30am - 12.30pm Candlewicking (Needlework) at Putnoe Heights - Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203
9.30am - 11.30pm Jo Jingles at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Contact Renu Elston 01908 282866
10.00am - 11.00am - Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Contact Mrs Stileman 822230
1.30 -3.00pm Putnoe Heights Church Toddlers Playtime Contact Geraldine Skeel 406828
12 noon - 10.00 pm Slimming World at St. Mark's. Sessions start at 12, 1.30pm, 4pm, 5.30pm & 7.15pm Contact Val Careless 345213.
2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting - 2 November—Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman Contact Mrs Betty Wyatt 350188
2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 2 November Contact Lawrence Wyatt 350188.
2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Contact Mrs Joan Gravett 356911 and Mrs Marjorie Taylor 305709
2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's Church. Contact Mary Stubbs 406784.
3.30 - 4.30pm Putnoe Heights Church Essential Stretch Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096

6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Contact Rachel Leontyne 01234 783129
6.45pm Guides at Putnoe Heights - Liz Rix 363607
7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit at St. Mark's Church. Contact Mrs Jan Gregory 214107.
7.30- 9.00pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe Heights - Bible study & prayers. Contact Revd.Tarr 309881 or 07891095746
7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Next meeting 2 November AGM Meets fortnightly . Contact Mrs C Davies 219130.
8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong (Self help healing) group) - Contact Mr F Steele 355937

Wednesday

10.00 am Childminding Support Group at Putnoe Heights. Mrs S Longman 313949
10.00 am Day Care Centre Putnoe Height Church for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082
10.00 am Holy Communion at St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
10am Sewing & Chat Putnoe Heights Contact Valerie Russell 01462 815966
12 - 1pm Putnoe Height Church Total Body Toning Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096
Luncheon Club at St. Mark's meets fortnightly. Next one 3 November Contact St. Mark's 342613
1.30 - 4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired - Meets weekly at St. Mark's. Mrs Truss Boyce 781133
4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights Contact Ms R Mistry 01908 217555
6. - 7.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr James 07711 687449
6.00 -7.30 pm Brownies at St Mark's Contact Mrs Carol Warden 219731
7.00pm St. Mark's Church Bunyan Bridge. Contact Brian Sallows 407725
7-10pm Putnoe Guild - Putnoe Heights 3rd Wednesday each month. Contact Mrs Dallas 212609
7.45 - 8.45pm Kick Boxing Junior classes St. Mark's. Mr James 07711687449 or 07810234890
7.45pm Badminton Club at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Contact Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group at Putnoe Heights in the side chapel. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*
10.30am - 12.00am Brickhill Clinic at St Mark's with **Fledglings 2.00pm—3.00pm** Contact 267444
10.00am - 11.30am Yoga at Putnoe Heights Contact 244970
12 - 1.00 pm Storybox at St Mark's Church. Service for parents, carers & children under 5. Sandwich lunch, Bible Stories, Children's activities,

songs & prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm.

1.30 - 3.00 pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group.

Contact Debbie Coppenhall 356828.

1.30 -3.00pm Putnoe Heights Church Toddlers

Playtime Contact Geraldine Skeel 406828

2.30 Bedford Arts Society at St. Mark's. Contact

Celia Maddison 782901

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.

Contact Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Mrs S Lewis 300198

7.30 - 9.30pm Club 2000 Putnoe 2nd Thursday of the month. Contact Mrs Moreton 771261

6.15 - 7.30pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St.

Mark's Contact Mr & Mrs Pike 823795

7.30pm - 11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club at

St Mark's Contact Mr Hatton 824988

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild St Mark's- 3rd

Thursday month. Contact Mrs K Sage 771525

7.45pm. Housegroup-Meets fortnightly at 3 Little Headlands. Newcomers always welcome. Contact Betty Wyatt 350188

8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle meets at St

Mark's Church 3rd Thursday each month. Contact Mr John Broadhouse 740271

Friday

10.00 am Day Care Centre at St. Mark's Church

Contact K Stenton 07748 760082

6 -7.00 pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr

James 0771 687449 or 07810 234890

7. 30 - 9.30pm Young Peoples meeting Contact

Pastor Tarr 376841

7.30pm Music Group St. Mark's Church/monthly

6.30pm -8.30 pm Dog Training Classes at St. Mark's Contact Mrs L. Laton 365601

Saturday

10.00am - 1.00pm & 2 - 5pm Theatre Train at St

Mark's -dancing acting, singing,- Kate Randle

304865

7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge at St Mark's

Contact Ann or Peter 212066

Peace Project Saturday School at Putnoe Heights.

For details contact Mrs.E.Tarr 309881

Sunday

1- 3pm & 7-9pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe

Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 309881

News, Views and Information

The Calendar

Putnoe Centre Management -15 Nov

St Mark's Church Council

Feb 1 2005

Churchyards Committee

Next meeting on Monday 17 Jan at 10am

St Mark's Centre Management Meeting

Wednesday 10 Nov

St Mark's Leadership Team

Next meeting on 17 Nov, 12 Jan

Deanery Synod

18 Nov,, 10 Feb

Partnership Council 18 Jan

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team

22 Nov

Putnoe Church Council

11 Oct 2004, 7 Feb 2005

13 June 2005, 10 Oct 2005

Pastoral Group Meeting

January 24 at 2.00pm

Calendar dates now appear on our church website

www.ThisChurch.com. Please advise us if you have a date to be added to the church calendar

Network -District Autumn Craft Day on Saturday

6th November at Priory Methodist Church. £3 per half

day workshop. Please book by 16th October. For

more information and booking forms contact Pam

Seymour, Tel: 305695

Wine Tasting Evening

An evening tasting wines, being informed, trying to guess the wines, places of origin etc. Prizes for the winners.

St Mark's Church

6 November 2004

7.30pm

Tickets £5

All proceeds in aid of the new building extension for Autism Bedfordshire

Tickets on sale from the St Mark's Office and Alan Cooper at Putnoe





Bible Notes

30 Sunday in Ordinary Time

All Saints Day

Verse of Scripture Psalm 32 v 7

You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Almighty God, you have knit together your chosen people in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord. Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys which you have prepared for those who love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

First Reading – Daniel 7: 1-3, 15-18

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying on his bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream. Daniel said: "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea.

"I, Daniel, was troubled in spirit, and the visions that passed through my mind disturbed me. I approached one of those standing there and asked him the true meaning of all this. "So he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things: 'The four great beasts are four kingdoms that will rise from the earth. But the saints of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever-yes, for ever and ever.'

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

Second Reading– Ephesians 1: 11-23

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--to the praise of his glory For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

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

Gospel Reading –Luke 6: 20-31 & 19:1-10

Reader: The Gospel reading is taken from Luke Chapter 6 and Chapter 19

All: Glory to Christ our Saviour

Looking at his disciples, he said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their fathers treated the prophets. "But

woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort. Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for that is how their fathers treated the false prophets."But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Luke 19 v 1 - 10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today. So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner'. But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount. Jesus said to him, Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost. (This is the Gospel of Christ – **Praise to Christ Our Lord**)

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of heaven, in this Eucharist you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of the saints made perfect: as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared their fellowship, so may we come to share their joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymns (Please distribute Mission Praise and Prayer for Christian Healing)

1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds 251
2. How lovely on the mountains 249
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say 275
4. King of glory, King of peace 397

Commentary All Saints' Sunday

All Saints' and preparing for the season of Advent belong together, as the celebration of All Saints' reminds us of the judgement of God. The Saints who stand before the throne of glory have also stood before the throne of judgement. Whilst we sometimes think of Saints in terms of spiritual giants who lived many years ago, the biblical understanding of a Saint is someone whom God has sanctified and made holy. For the Old Testament people of God, this meant belonging to God's Chosen People, the Jews, to be a son of Abraham as Jesus puts it in the Gospel reading. For New Testament believers and beyond, it means belonging to the Body of Christ, a people made holy through Jesus' sacrifice - and being a Saint has implications as to the way we live our lives. 'But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light - 1 Peter 2 v 9. As Christians we are both caught up in "so great a cloud of witnesses," whilst also watching, waiting, for the coming again of Christ, when all things shall be gathered up into the Kingdom of God. All Saints' Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, as hallow means to make holy, to consecrate

ALL SAINTS DAY



They will receive blessing from the LORD,
and vindication from the God
of their salvation. Psalm 24.5

or to honour, and it's from the name All Hallows' that we derive Hallowe'en (the Eve of All Hallows). Throughout the year the church commemorates specific saints, but on 1st November we commemorate and celebrate all saints and thus God's mercy and love for us too. This celebration of saints started around the 8th century when Pope Boniface IV designated 1st November as All Saints' Day to specifically honour those saints that didn't have a special day of their own. By the 9th century it had become a major feast in the church calendar in England and continues today. Although All Saints Day is actually 1st November, the church celebrates All Saints' Sunday today. In England "All Saints" is the second most popular dedication of English churches with over 1250 churches dedicated to All Saints. All Souls' Day, also known as the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, comes the day after All Saints' Day. This day provides an opportunity to commemorate "those we have loved but see no longer" and recognises the pain of human grief and fragility in a way that an All Saints' Day celebration cannot. It is for this reason that we always have a special service of commemoration of the faithful departed at this time of year. Our service will take place at 3.00pm on 14 November at St Mark's Church. *Sam Cappleman*

Meditation

Jesus using the phrase, 'this man, too, is a son of Abraham,' could seem rather odd to the Jewish listeners, and even stranger to the Gentiles in the audience. But in using this phrase Jesus is pointing out that Zacchaeus is not a nobody, he's a human being. He's also saying to the Jews that no Jew is more valuable to God than another, the Pharisee is no more valuable than the (chief) tax collector – all are equal in the sight of God. Among his people Jesus would write no one off. It was this basic tenet, permeating all of the Gospel of Luke, which underlies not just Jesus' mission to the Jewish nation but extends it to His acceptance and invitation to the Gentiles to be part of God's Kingdom. They, too, had to be included. As Zacchaeus would find, God keeps an open table. Do we? *Sam Cappleman*

Things are not always what they seem!

As the chief tax collector, Zacchaeus bid to Rome for the right to collect taxes. When Rome accepted his bid, Zacchaeus would then pay the taxes and tolls for his region in full. It was then up to him to recoup his money by collecting the taxes by the appropriate means and trying to make a profit if possible. This was often done through over-charging, cheating, charging interest, or other means. The tax collectors who collected these taxes, who would also take a cut for themselves, understandably therefore, gained a reputation for dishonesty and intimidation, especially as they had the might of the Roman Army behind them to help if necessary! However, whilst tax collecting might sound like a good number (nice work if you can get it), it appears that few tax collectors actually managed to recoup their bid and fewer still managed to make a profit. From what we can tell it would appear that Zacchaeus may be one of the few who did make a profit from this venture, although the phrase 'and was wealthy' might just mean that he had others (tax collectors) working for him as this was often a sign of wealth in the prevailing culture. But there's no doubt that Jericho was a good place to be a tax collector. It was a prospering city with many rich people who were more than content to maintain the status quo with the Romans. It was an oasis of date palms and balsam groves and exported its products all over the known world. Mark Anthony presented Jericho as a gift to Cleopatra, with Arabia thrown in. It lay along the great caravan routes, and was a centre of commercial and human activity. It was, in short, a good place to collect taxes. The stakes would be high, but the rewards could be immense. Zacchaeus was therefore probably a rich, powerful and influential individual because of his position as the Chief Tax Collector and because of his position with the Roman forces, but because of his collusion with those forces, he was despised by many people. By his very occupation many people would say that Zacchaeus had excluded himself from his people. He was a quisling who had thrown in his lot with the hated occupying power for the sake of pecuniary gain.

But the name Zacchaeus is an interesting name for Luke to use for a tax collector. The Hebrew word from which this name is formed means clean, pure, or innocent. So it would appear that Luke is writing a story about Mr Pure, Mr Innocent the Chief Tax Collector – how strange does that sound. But is it so strange? For example, one way of interpreting 'here and now I give half my possessions to the poor' is that this is something which Zacchaeus is already doing. If it was something that was precipitated by his encounter with Jesus then the language in the original text would probably have used a different (aorist) tense whereas the tense that is used (present) often describes something which is repeated customary practise. So perhaps giving to the poor was something Zacchaeus already did on a regular basis. And interestingly enough, Luke often uses the notion of giving alms to signify righteousness, a theme which he picks up in the closing verses of this passage. And we could say that Zacchaeus goes even further. Jewish law demanded that if someone cheated another they had to restore the original sum with 20% interest, Roman law that demanded fourfold restitution, and even then only from a convicted criminal. Zacchaeus therefore

surpasses the Torah's requirements and meets the most stringent of terms in Roman law when he declares that if it's found that he has cheated anyone, then he will compensate them.

So perhaps Luke is using this parable to emphasize Jesus' teaching that we should treat people as individuals and not judge them on some preconceived notion of what we expect them to be. Even a Chief Tax collector, like a Pharisee, can be a 'son of Abraham'. As Jesus and His disciples were moving towards Jericho Jesus has told the story of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector who went up to the temple to pray and comments that it was the tax collector who went home justified because of his actions and attitude. He's also told the story of the rich young ruler who finds it so hard to enter the Kingdom of God because of his actions and attitude – the ruler is very wealthy and Jesus asks him to sell everything he has and to give to the poor. In Zacchaeus we see a tax collector who went home justified and a rich man who was able to give generously to the poor and who has entered the Kingdom of God as Abraham's son. The passage is a reminder that Jesus looks for those who hear His word and put it into action, whatever their background; however they are perceived by society. It's not just about listening to Jesus, as many of those who followed him around the country did on a regular basis; it's about letting his teaching have an impact to change lives. Just as Isaiah condemns ritualistic piety without genuine actions so does Luke. The colours of scarlet and crimson were permanent colours, only God could change them back into pure white, as if they had never occurred. But in order for that to happen, Judah had to ensure their actions were commensurate with their words. Perhaps in the unlikely person of Zacchaeus we see an example of someone who does just that. *Sam Cappleman*

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Great God our healer, by your power, the Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave hope to the hopeless. As we gather in his name, look upon us with mercy, and bless us with your healing Spirit. Bring us comfort in the midst of pain, strength to transform our weakness, and light to illuminate our darkness. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: mercifully accept our prayers and supplications and grant to your servants the help of your power, that sickness may be turned into health and sorrow turned into joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Praise to you, God, for all your work among us. Yours is the vigour in creation, yours is the impulse in our new discoveries. Make us adventurous, yet reverent and hopeful in all we do. Amen.

God the Sender, send you; God the Sent, go with us; God the Strengtheners of those who go, empower you, that you may go to do His will; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen

God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age: as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

News, Views and Information

Kempston Musical Society (Centenary Year)

'a Hundred Years of Song' at St Mark's Church on Saturday 13th November 2004 at 7.30pm. Soloist Kay Soteriou, piano Tessa Wood, Organ Brian Fox with conductor Janet Welsh. Tickets £4. All proceeds to go to the new extension at St Mark's Church for Autism Bedfordshire.

TNT—Saints and Heroes Party Tonight!

TNT will be having a fancy dress party on 31st October 6-7.30pm at Putnoe. The theme will be Saints and Heroes. If any members would like to bring a friend along they would be welcome. There will be food and prizes for the best costume.

Wednesday Drop In (Bereavement Support Group)

We will have an entertainment on the first Wednesday in the month.

Wednesday 3 November

Jo Moore from Bedford Tourist Information will speak on Historic Bedford & her fascinating 'Bedford at War Project @ 2.30—3pm.
All drop in sessions are open to everyone.

Special Services Coming Soon

Pet Service Next week 7 November at St Mark's Church will be a Pet Service. Please bring along your pets large or small, as we use this special service to give thanks to God for creation

Remembrance Sunday

Our services on 14 November will be occasions to remember all those who have given their lives for the peace and freedom we enjoy today. We will join with people across the nation to pause to reflect on the sacrifices made by our brave Service men and women. We will observe the collective act of two minutes silence as we stand together and reflect on the price of freedom. That price is still being paid. More than 12,000 British Servicemen and women have been killed or injured on active service since 1945.

'If we are to maintain our peace and freedom, we must always remember.'



Commemoration Service Our Commemoration Service for the Faithful Departed will take place at St Mark's Church on 14th November at 3.00pm. Our preacher this year will be the Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman. Please accept our invitation to this service if you would find it helpful to remember somebody who has died. Please do also tell anybody who you know who may appreciate a welcome.

Christmas Fayre' at Priory Methodist Church on Saturday 13 November from 11am to 3pm. in aid of Church Development Fund. Entry 50p Children free. Gifts, cards, Arts & Crafts, Paintings, Home Produce, Raffle, Lunches & Snacks.

MHA Sunday 7 November is Methodist Homes Association Sunday when gift envelopes will be available in both churches. On Sunday 21 November Elaine Allen from MHA will be speaking at both churches, outlining some of the wonderful work carried out by MHA especially for the frail elderly. It will be great if MHA build a complex in Bedford but to carry out these projects they do need our support. Thank you Grace Foster MHA Co-ordinator

Christmas Craft Fayre

St Mark's Annual Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 20th November 2004. We would be grateful for help with the following:

Tombola – Any new unwanted gifts\Christmas present etc. for our Tombola stall. Please bring any items up to the Church Office before the day or if you would like them picked up please phone The Church Office 01234 342613.

Refreshments – We would very much appreciate donations of traybakes to sell with tea and coffee. Ploughman's lunches will be on sale at lunchtime as usual. Volunteers to help in the kitchen on the day would be very much appreciated. To put your name down please see Avril Williams or Trudy Bunday. Any help gratefully received.

Cake Stall - After a number of years organising and manning the Cake Stall at the Fayre the Mother Teresa Group have decided to step down. We would like to thank the group for all their dedication and hard work organising the stall. Millie Rollinson has very valiantly agreed to man the stall. Any cakes for the stall would be very much appreciated. Please bring them to Church either on the Friday or on the Saturday morning. Any problems please ring 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.

Winnifred Irene Norris

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

Peter 'Bill' Bailey

We were devastated this week to hear of the sudden death of our dear friend Peter (Bill) Bailey. Bill was somebody who was held in deep affection by all of those who knew him and he has made an enormous contribution to the life of Putnoe Heights Church and our Partnership for many years. Bill was also a valued member of the Putnoe Leadership Team. Our thoughts and prayers are with Julia, Elizabeth, Kristin and all of the family at this time. A service celebrating the life of Bill will be held at Putnoe Heights Church on Tuesday 9 November at 12.45pm. This will be preceded by a private family service held at Bedford Crematorium