

Partnership News

31 October 2010

All Saints



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

9.30 am St. Mark's – Holy Communion PCH

Preacher - Mr. Richard Ledger
Leadership - Mrs. Jean Bank
Intercessions - Mrs. Morag Stewart

11am Putnoe – Holy Communion PCH

Preacher - Mr. Richard Ledger
Leadership - Mr. Gordon Evans
Intercessions – Mrs. Sylvia Cohen

6.30pm Sankey Moody Service

7 November

9.30 am St. Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mrs Wendy Waters
Leadership – Mrs. Morag Stewart
Intercessions – Mr. Chris Izzard

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher – Mrs Wendy Waters
Leadership – Mrs. Sam Ware
Intercessions - Y P F

Readings 1. Job 19: 23-27a 2. 2 Thess 2: 1-5, 13-17
3. Luke 20: 27-38

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 by Christine and Maurice Halsey in loving memory of their daughter Lesley Robinson, and by Rita and Nigel Platt and family in memory of Justin.

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 This Week

Holy God
you have called witnesses
from every nation and revealed
your glory in their lives.
Grant us the same faith and love
that, following their example,
we may be sustained
by their fellowship
and rejoice in their triumph;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Methodist Worship

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 Mobile 07807 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
Gift Aid Administrator John Hitt 404186
Youth Worker Emma Gordon email - youth@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 12.15 and 1.15 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—15 November - Moorfields 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 2 November 'Tea and Chat' Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

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

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

3.45pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson ☎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 November 2 AGM. For more details call 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 Fitch 838689

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly.

Next -27 October 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

3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story,

crafts, singing and a meal. Monthly. Next meetings 10 November and 8 December. Wendy Waters 401834

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 3 November Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Ring 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. Valerie Capon ☎356306 .
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 -10pm Bedford Folk dancers (formerly Barn dancers) Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights . Different guest callers each week. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments. More details Ron Law 825574.

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

5-8pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Richardson ☎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.

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 8 November
Annual General Meeting 10 April
St Mark's Leadership Team 31 January
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 7 February
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting - .
St Mark's Forum Meeting - 12noon, 16 November
Putnoe Church Council - 14 February
Pastoral Group Meeting - 8 February u4.15pm
Churchyard Committee - 26 January at 11.00am
Putnoe Heights Mission Group
Brickhill Parish Council Meetings
Deanery Meeting - . 18 November at St Peter's
Circuit Meeting
Woodland Burial Trustees – 7 November
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –

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

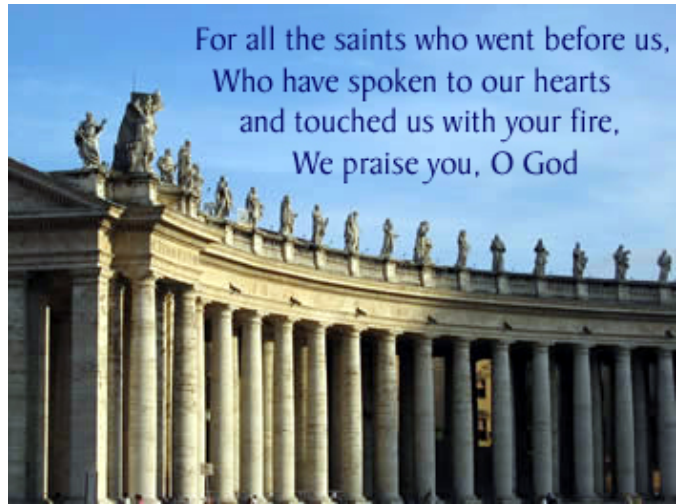
Ordinary 31 - All Saints

Opening Sentence from Scripture - Psalm 84:1

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

Collect for All Saints (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 *Methodist Worship*



Old Testament 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.

(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.

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

Gospel Reading – Luke 6: 20-31.

(After the Gospel is announced **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.

(This is the Gospel of Christ—**All: 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 for Sunday (Please distribute Mission Praise, Communion with Prayer for Christian Healing and Liturgy for All Saints sheet.)

1 For all the Saints 148

2. God forgave my sin 181

3. Like a mighty river flowing 419

4. We thank you for the memories (in Partnership News) (tune: Mountain Christians)

Commentary

Daniel 7 is in the form of a dream, a fact which links it with chapter 2, whose main idea, the four beast theory, appears here again with the same result - God intervenes to overthrow the fourth beast to set up His everlasting kingdom on earth. And we see the beasts in the forces of evil that we can recognise in everything from hatred, jealousy, lust to racial pride, ethnic cleansing. But in verse 11 (not in our reading today!) we see how sudden is the downfall of evil. Apparently so strong and invincible it is hollow inside! It is the "Saints of the Most High" who receive the kingdom. God (the Ancient of Days) is on their and our side and this is a great message of the faith to challenge and encourage us to trust in God and to persevere - as Charlie reminded us a few weeks ago.

William Barclay describes our passage in Luke 6 as the "end of the world's values" - a series of bombshells. The beatitudes take the accepted standards and turn them upside down. The people Jesus calls happy, the world would call wretched. The key is in verse 24 where Jesus is saying that if we set our hearts on getting the things the world values we will get them - but that is all we will ever get. But if we are loyal to God, we will run into lots of trouble - but we will receive eternal joy.

So we have a choice, will we/do we concentrate on the world's rewards and values or on Christ?

And it gets more remarkable (better or worse? Well, we have to decide!) We are to love our enemies, do good to those who hate us, bless those who curse us and pray for those who ill-treat us. Surely impossible?! On the face of it, yes - and yet we may find the key in our reading in Ephesians. 'Saints' in verse 15 is translated "all God's people" in the Good News Bible - so it includes us, and Paul prays that we may come to know God better - that we may know God's incomparably great power for us who believe. Yes - incomparably great power - a link to Daniel and Luke - the energy, the ability to do - to live - God's way - because this power working in us is the same as the mighty strength which he used when he raised Christ from death and exalted him. So God's power can accomplish what seems impossible! And the Church (God's people!) is his body - to reveal his glory in the world - to be Saints on earth living and witnessing to God's power and love in the gaze of the great multitude that no-one can count of Saints in glory. What a glorious picture, what a calling for us all, for "we are called to be God's people, showing by our lives his grace. One in heart and one in spirit, sign of hope for every race. Let us show how he has changed us, and remade us as his own; let us share our life together as we shall around his throne." (Thomas A Jackson) *Richard Ledger*

Meditation

Remember your former leaders, who spoke God's message to you. Think back on how they lived and died, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever. *From Hebrews 13.* Saints are those who by their life and work make it clear and plain that God lives. *Nathan Soderblom (1866—1931)*

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus" *Hebrews 12: 1-2a.*

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

O God, throughout the ages you have raised up the great cloud of witnesses from all nations and from all tongues. Grant us to be strengthened in this generation by their testimony, to be witnesses ourselves of your power and your peace, to join with their praise and like them to behold you one day in glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen
Nessie Stranger

Almighty and everlasting God, who enkindles the flame of your love in the hearts of the saints, grant to our minds the same faith and power of love ; that as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may profit by their examples; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen *From the Gothic Missal*

O you who are the God of all the generations of men, we thank you for all who have walked humbly with you and especially those near to us and dear, in whose lives we have seen the vision of your beauty. May we know that in the body or out of the body they are with you. Unite us still, God of our souls, in one household of faith and love, one family in heaven and on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *John Hunter (1849-1917)*

Hymn For Sunday

We thank you for the memories
that fill our minds today;
for the Church that once received us
and kept us in your way;
for the ones that introduced us
to Jesus Christ our Lord;
for the saints who have known and loved us,
our God you are adored.

We thank you for those others
whom we have never known,
with whose courage and devotion
the Christian Church has grown;
who lived in different ages,
and thought in different ways;
but whose Lord is the same as our Lord,
to whom be all our praise.

We thank you for the present
in which we know you care;
for the life we now are given
in which your work to share;
for the witness and the service
of your people here these days;
for the saints with whom we worship,
we offer, Lord, our praise.

We thank you for the future
to which your Spirit leads,
that in every moment of it
he will satisfy our needs.
your love can never fail us
through all eternity;
so may we, and all your people,
fulfil our destiny.
David J. Harding

Halloween



The last day of October marks the beginning in the church of a period known as Hallowtide 'All Saintside' when Christian remember those who have died. All-Hallows Eve, or Halloween, October 31 has Celtic origins being originally the feast of Sanhain/Samhain, (pronounced 'sow'inn) the last night of the Celtic year, when all kinds of spirits were thought to be active.

The Celts believed that this was a time when the boundary between the spirit world and the earthly world is at its thinnest and when spirits are most likely to be seen on earth. It was a night of danger signifying the change from Autumn to Winter, it was a night when feasts were held for the dead and animals killed for the Winter. On this night fires were lit in the belief that light had power over darkness, hence pumpkin lanterns to frighten away witches and ghosts. When the Romans invaded Britain they included elements of their harvest celebrations in which they honoured the goddess of the fruits of trees, Pomona. Children still play games with apples at this time of year. So when did Sanhain become Halloween? By the 9th century Christianity had spread into Celtic lands and the celebration became known as the Eve of All Hallows and eventually Halloween.

This special theme continues with All Saints Day, (All Hallows) November 1, which we celebrate in church today. The word Hallow means 'Holy', (blessed, consecrated or set apart in a special way) and so 'All-Hallows' or 'All Saints' refers to the Saints—the Holy Ones. Those who died for their faith or who lived extraordinary lives. Many Christians experience a strong sense that the saints are still with us, and that they watch over us and pray to God for us. The prayer from Methodist Worship at the bottom of this page expresses the idea of knowing their fellowship with us. Although dead, they are members of Christ's Church and we use this day to give thanks for the lives of all the saints as they are examples to us. Saints are created as signs of hope, that the gospel really can change lives. Somebody is not made a saint at canonisation, it is rather an acknowledgement that somebody was a saint and is therefore in heaven and not neglectful of the needs of the world, through the communion of saints. We celebrate today the solemnity of All Saints. This invites us to turn our gaze to the immense multitude of those who have already reached the blessed land, and points us on the path that will lead us to that destination.

St Mark's 'Messy Church' Our next sessions are at 3.45pm on Wednesday 10 November and 8 December. For more information speak to Jean Bank or Wendy Waters.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal The youth team at Putnoe Church are launching the Christmas Shoebox Appeal again this year. Via the Samaritan's Purse organisation filled shoe boxes will be delivered to some of the worlds poorest children, boys and girls between 2 to 14 years, in time for Christmas. If you could please donate any of the following items soft toys, jigsaws, building blocks, cars, dolls, soft balls, stationery items, stickers, puzzle books, toothbrushes/paste, soap, hairbrushes, hats and caps, necklaces, sweets (long sell by dates), bangles, sunglasses. We will also need empty shoeboxes and Christmas wrapping paper. Please leave at Putnoe Office for the youth team. Any question, contact Emma Gordon. Thank you." Alternatively if you would prefer to donate some money this can be used towards postage. The boxes need to be completed by the beginning of November.

Kempston Musical Society are performing a concert of light music at Kempston East Methodist Church on Saturday 6 November at 7pm. Admission £6 on the door. All proceeds in aid of Keech Cottage Hospital.

Sylvia Cohen After many years of service to Missions at Putnoe Sylvia Cohen has decided to retire; we are sorry to hear this, but would like to thank not only Sylvia but all of her fellow workers on the Mission Committee. The Leadership Team are looking for a replacement for Sylvia and, although we realise this is a hard act to follow, think this is an opportunity for someone who is interested in the wider world as well as that close to home. This would involve supporting our current venture, including beds at Kisiizi, receiving literature relating to this and also coordinating fund raising for any new projects. This is important work which people at Putnoe have supported for many years and this support is still needed. Anyone interested in this important position please see Jean Kirk or other members of the Leadership team.

Goldington Family Centre Fundraising Event. Join us for a fun night out dancing to 80s Disco music; dress up in style, there will be a prize for the best male and female outfit. All proceeds to Goldington Family Centre, which is raising funds for a children's outside play area. Friday 29 October 7.30pm at Goldington Middle School. £18 (to include a welcome drink, buffet and quiz) Call 01234 341977 for tickets.

Vacancy Putnoe Heights Church have a vacancy for a 'Community Centre Manager'. This is a salaried position of 20 hours per week. Duties include general office management as well as all other aspects of ensuring the smooth operation of a busy church community centre. We are looking for an enthusiastic, organised, computer literate and friendly person able to start in January 2011. This post requires CRB clearance. For further details and a job description please contact the Church office at Putnoe Heights Bedford 01234 365630 or Deacon Jane Mason by email at Jane@thisischurch.com by 12 November 2010.

The Friends of St Andrew's - The life of the scholar and theologian William Tyndale. A talk by Charles Minoprio, Tuesday 9 November 7.30pm. Admission £4 (£3 for members of St Andrews). Tickets available from St Andrews Church Centre Office. 01234 216881.

Autumn Fair - Priory Methodist Church. Saturday 6th November from 10am-3pm. Lunches and light refreshments available. Admission 50p (accompanied children free.)

Footprints - The final two walks of the season begin at 2.00pm.

Sunday 7 November. Meet at Gt. Barford Village Hall off Green End Road. Turn left at Gt. Barford crossroads and right into Fisher Close by the sports field. Short circular walk along field paths between Gt. Barford and Wilden.

Sunday 5 December. Meet by the church in Clapham on Green Lane. Short circular walk through Clapham Woods with goodviews of Anjulita Court. Planning meeting for 2011 - 1 Mitford Close, 7.30pm Tuesday 23 November. Details from Sue Allen.

Bedford Counselling Service 12 Foster Hill Road, are having an open day at 2.30pm on Friday 12 November. Mayor Dave Hodgson will launch the 'Friends of Bedford Counselling Service' at 3.00pm. This professional counselling service offers help with issues such as relationships, depression, abuse and sexuality. Sessions last 50 mins and whilst there is a fee, this can be negotiated and nobody is refused help for financial reasons. Daytime and evening appointments are available. Contact www.bedfordcounselling.co.uk, 01234 346077, email bedfordadmin@hbcf.co.uk

Commemoration Service for the Departed. There will be a special service to remember loved ones who have died at 3.00pm on Sunday 14 November at St Mark's Church. There will be an opportunity in the service to light remembrance candles. Speaker Deacon Jane Mason Chaplain to Anjulita Court residential care home.

St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre

Only 4 weeks left to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre on Saturday 20 November. We would be grateful for help with :-

Tombola – Any new unwanted gifts\Christmas present etc. for our Tombola stall.

Raffle – Raffle books are available. We would also be grateful for any new items suitable for the raffle.

Cake Stall - Milly is kindly co-ordinating the cake stall again. If you are able to bake a cake for this stall please contact Milliy via the Church Office.

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.

Secondhand Book Stall - Delia kindly volunteered to co-ordinate the secondhand book stall again this year so please have a look in your cupboards for any unwanted books.

Indoor Plant Stall -We are having an Indoor Plant Stall. If you have any indoor plants or have split any plants and would like to donate them to our stall we would be very grateful. Please contact Wendy Waters or contact the Church Office.

All donated items for the above stalls can be brought up to Church anytime week beginning 16 November. We will need lots of help on the day especially when the Fayre finishes at 3.30pm Many hands make light work and it would certainly be appreciated. This is one of our main fundraising events of the year and we are hoping to make it an even bigger success than last year, with your help I am sure we can.

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.

Frank Diemer

For all the saints who went before us, who have spoken to our hearts and touched us with your fire, we praise you, O God
For all the saints who live beside us, whose weaknesses and strengths are woven into our own, we praise you, O God
For all the saints who live beyond us, who challenge us to change the world with them, we praise you, O God

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

Have a great night out at 'St Mark's Italian Evening' By popular request we have booked the fabulous 'Vittorio' for Saturday November 27 at 7.30 at St Mark's. This is great night of singing and dancing with a Italian food and wine, Italian Quiz and raffle. Please bring your own liquid refreshment. Tickets £8 on sale from St Mark's Church Community Centre Office 342613.

Hayley's Cleaning Services. Hayley offers help with washing, ironing, general cleaning and shopping. Times to suit morning evening or weekends, £9.50 per hour Call Hayley 07970432152 Email hcservices1@yahoo.com

Friends First are the Christian friendship and dating experts. As their name suggests they stress the importance of becoming friends first. They specialise in bringing Christians together across the UK in a personal, safe and effective way. They operate one to one with real people to help you. Members benefit from a caring, hands-on approach to help them enrich their lives. Whatever age, widowed, single, divorced, to find out more visit www.friends1st.co.uk, email info@friends1st.co.uk or call Katharine on 0121 427 1286

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St Mark's 'Messy Church' Our next sessions are at 3.45pm on Wednesday 10 November and 8 December. For more information speak to Jean Bank or Wendy Waters.

Forthcoming Funerals

The funeral of Mr Peter Harry Dandy, will take place on 1 November at 10-45a.m. at Bedford Crematorium

