



Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church

November 2013 - Ordinary 31



8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights
2nd and 4th Sunday at St. Mark's Church

Today – 3 November 2013

9.30 St Marks Family Worship

Preacher – Deacon Jane Mills
Leadership Team – Mrs Elizabeth Bean
Intercessions – Ministers
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

11.00 am Putnoe – Family Worship

Preacher – Deacon Jane Mills
Leadership Team - Mrs Jean Kirk
Intercessions — YPG
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

3.00pm Commemoration Service at St Mark's Church

10 November Ordinary 32

9.30 St Marks – Morning Worship

Preacher – Rev. Canon Charles Royden
Leadership Team – Mrs Jean Bank
Intercessions – Mrs Morag Stewart
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

11.00 am Putnoe – Morning Worship

Preacher – Rev. Canon Charles
Leadership Team - Mr G Evans
Intercessions — Mrs Sue Allen
Organist - Mr Clive Simmonds

Readings 1 Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 2 Ephesians 1: 11-23
3. Luke 6:20-31

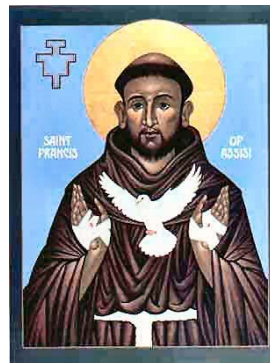
Midweek Holy Communion at St Mark's Chapel every
Wednesday at 10.00am and at Sir William Harpur House
on first Monday of every month at 10.00am

Thank You

The flowers at St Mark's Church this week have been given by Richard Ledger in loving memory of his mother.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Rita and Nigel Platt and family in loving memory of Justin, and by Harry Stokes and family in loving memory of Harry's wife Mary.

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



A Prayer for Sunday

Grant us, O Lord,
the will to accomplish all that
pleases you; the strength to do
all that you command
and the reverence to respect
all that you have made;
for your own name's sake.
Amen.

Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a Vice
President for Hewlett Packard)

Deacon Jane Mills

c/o Putnoe Heights Church Centre
Tel. 348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

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

Partnership News is sent out by email every Saturday
in a colour edition. If you would like to receive a copy
please send an email entitled 'Partnership News' to
vicar@thisischurch.com. 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.ThisChurch.com

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator

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.*

Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Geoff Gypps 365630 mob 07947 902846
Leadership Team Mrs Jenny Snelson 344417
Treasurer Mr John Hitt 404186 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Youth Team Leader Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mr Michael Ovenden 826738
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

Hazeldene Heights Pre-school. Sessional and Full Day care available—open Mon.—Fri. Full Day Care 8.30am to 5pm Sessional times 9am—12noon and 12.45pm - 3.45pm For more info please contact Laura Leggett 01234 326685 or www.hazeldeneheights.com

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

9.-3.45pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

(See website for more details)

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 Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)

2.00pm U3A Calligraphy at St Mark's 2nd week (see contact details below)

12.00 noon 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. Contact Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com 365630

1.30-2.45pm Chat & Make St Mark's for babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details email– chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk .

2pm U3A Music Appreciation Putnoe Heights(see contact details below)

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 01767699399 or 07720713738.

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

6.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher 07891879571

6.30pm Boot Camp Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081

7.00pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson 353518

7.00pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst 01908 377020

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

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting– 18 November Judith Stanton. 823313

7.30pm No Fear Bridge Club St. Mark's Mrs. Susan Ford 300218.

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

Tuesday

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Charlotte Williams 07968 207442

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart 365507

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's. Helen Skinner 07989080389

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

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)

1pm –2.30pm Drop in Wiggles and Jiggles 0-5 years, Putnoe Children's Centre. Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552

1.15pm U3A Cinema Grp. St Mark's (contacts details below)

1.3pm U3A Choir. St Mark's (contacts details below)

2.00pm U3A Book Group 1 St Mark's (3rd Wk) (see

contact details below)

2.00pm U3A Book Group 2 St Mark's (2nd Wk) (see contact details)

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

2pm U3A Photography Group 3 St. Mark's (1st Wk) (contact details below).

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.

4.00pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights.. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

7.30-8.30pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 0789187957

7pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390

6.00-7.00pm Zumba at St Mark's. Contact Denise Worker 07900 232648

7.00pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory 328455

7.00pm Laughter Club. St. Mark's Meeting (meets monthly) 22 Oct/12 Nov & 17 Dec. Cheryl Green 354339 or 07729187399

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club (Meets fortnightly). 12 November AGM Details Janet King 313946

Wednesday

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

9.30am Discover & Do (Childminders) St. Mark's. Clare Simmons 328380 or 07788824666

10am-2pm Open House at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.

10am U3A Gardening Group 3 St Marks. (contact below)

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

10am U3A Card Making, St Marks (see contact details below)

10am U3A Diet and Nutrition- Putnoe (contact below)

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe

12.30pm –4pm St Mark's Nursery Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 6 November Putnoe Heights Office 365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights (Fortnightly)

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

2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft St Marks.(see contact details below)

2pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan Putnoe Heights

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

3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's (3rd Wk). for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 20 November Wendy Waters 401834

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

6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs C Warden 219731

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

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Yvonne Blain 350241 or Brian Sallows 407725

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

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every month except August Mrs Jo Street 344600

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Mike Del-Boyer 348378

8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be 6 November Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Rosemary 405594 or Graham 406359 for more details.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Jean Ross 771870

Thursday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon 356306

Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

9.30am Spanish for total beginners. –starting 7th Nov. Elena 01234 266968

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green 244970

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Jo Garner 400071 or 07932616468

10.00-11.30am Gentle Yoga Putnoe For more details contact Helen Nicholson Tel.03003004305

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 342613

1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic 1st and 3rd Thursdays St. Mark's 267444

1pm-2.30pm Drop in (small hall) Next Steps 9-24months Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552. 2pm -Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

2pm U3A Current Affairs - Putnoe Heights

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. St.Mark's (contact below)

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society St Mark's Mary Rich 272470

5.45pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Clare Martin 07805408811.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins .

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Nina Ovenden 825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Marks (2nd and 4th week) (see contact details below)

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

7.00pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Carol Plant 01832710504

7.30pm Gentle Birthing St Mark's. Pat Wood 07946 847231

8 –10pm Bedford Folk Dancers (formerly Barn dancers)

Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers each week.Except August. Next meeting All welcome, cost £2.50 Including refreshments. More details Ron 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

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 Pat Cass 294220

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month Kay Logan 01234 309105.

Friday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

9am -1pm Machine Knitting group at Putnoe Heights, fortnightly . Contact Marion Sutton 217647

10am -12.00 U3A Photography St Marks.(4th week) (see contact details below)

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St. Marks (see contact details below)

2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist St Marks. (contact details below)

2pm U3A Italian-Putnoe Heights (contact details below)

2pm U3A Gardening - Putnoe Heights

4.50pm-8.15pm Stars School of Dance Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

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

7.00pm Meditation St Mark's starting 4th October. Cheryl Green 07729187399

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St Marks(2nd week) 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

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School at St Mark's with crèche for under 3's

10 - 5.30pm Bedford Stamp Fayre. 1st Sunday Feb/ Apr/Jun/Aug /Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

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.

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's Adrian Felice www.bedfordtkd.com 07964356355

Messy Church Dates Weds 16 Oct; Weds 20 Nov,

U3A For information on the U3A groups meeting at St Mark's and Putnoe Heights Church please contact Yvonne Francis ☎405119



Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council –

St Mark's Leadership Team - 21 January 2014

Annual Congregational Meetings

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting

Putnoe Church Council -

Pastoral Group Meeting - 10 January at 10.00am

Churchyard Committee -

Commemoration Service Sunday 3 November 3 pm

Circuit meeting - Deanery Meeting - 14 November

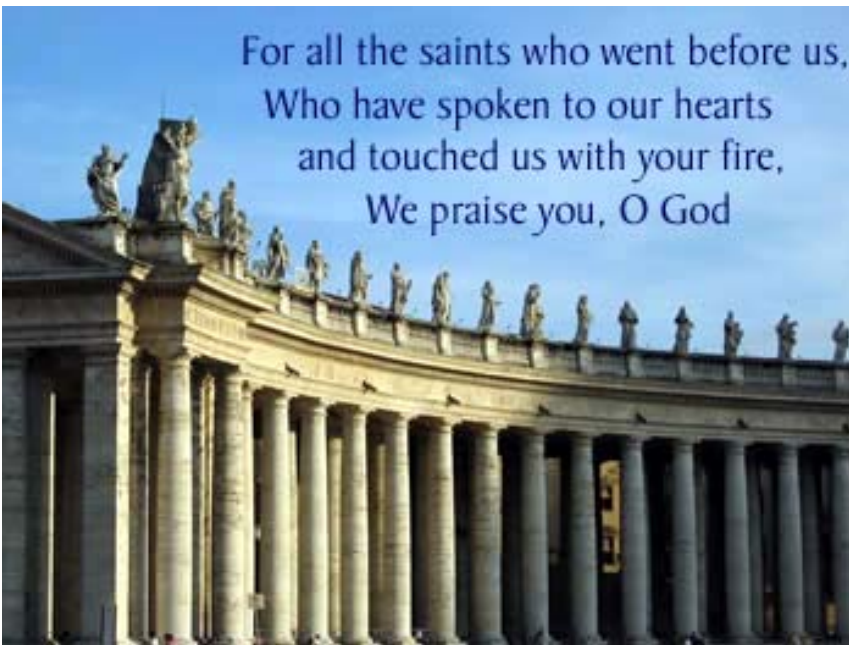
Woodland Burial Trustees–

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting –10th

February 2014 1.30pm

New Year Lunch 19 January at Putnoe

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



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

All Saints

We are surrounded
by a cloud of witnesses.
Death has no dominion
over them.

Blessed are the dead
who die in the Lord,
For theirs is
the kingdom of heaven.

Sentence of Scripture Psalm 84 v 1

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

Collect Prayer for the Day - 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*

First Bible 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— **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— **Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading Luke 6:20-31

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 Word of the Lord— **Thanks be to God**)

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 Hymns and Psalms and Morning Worship)

H&P 700: Lord, we have come at your own invitation

MP 170 'Give Thanks' *On Partnership News*

H&P 764 Christ, from whom all blessings flow

H&P 145 'Jesu, Jesu'

H&P 784 Thy Hand, O Lord, has guided

Commentary All Saints Day

The origins of this festival come from pre-Christian festivals, warding off evil spirits in preparation for the Celtic New Year on November 1st. The pagan Feast of the Dead 'Sanhain' ('sow'inn') is not 'dark', as for them, death is not to be feared, old age is valued for its wisdom and dying is simply necessary and valued part of life. So when the festival was adopted by Christians it retained those elements of honouring the dead marking, as it does, the night before 'All Hallows' or 'All Saints' Day.

In more recent years, however, it has become the secular 'Halloween,' while many celebrate harmlessly with pumpkin lanterns and traditional games, for others it is a chance for mischief, leading to its bad reputation and the fear some now regard it with.

Why do we celebrate All Saints here? This afternoon we have our 'Feast for the Faithful Departed' that annual opportunity to remember, and pray for those we have lost, but this morning is more about encouragement, our commitment to playing our part and striving to be the best we can be, claiming our place among the 'communion of saints'.

The bible is full of guidance on this, today's readings see God's faithful saints being called to praise God's saving acts and promises, Psalm 46, an angel giving hope to an oppressed people by explaining that empires and rulers will be destroyed by God and replaced by "the saints of the Most High", Daniel, In Ephesians we are reminded that we should not take God's promises for granted, that it is through the "seal" of the Holy Spirit we are living in God's power and protection, and in Luke Jesus gives teaching on true values.

Jesus addresses the gathering, saying, "Blessed are you..." So begins the teaching that has become known as 'the beatitudes', he goes on to say that God blesses the poor, the hungry, the tearful and those who are persecuted, or rejected because of their faith. This is understandable, and we can perhaps imagine the crowd murmuring their agreement, but then Jesus changed tack. He draws attention to the opposite, and delivers a warning to the rich, the well fed, the laughing and the well-regarded that their prospects are not so good. At this point we may imagine the mood of the crowd shifting, some maybe uncomfortable, others shocked? Jesus' teaching, once again, challenges the accepted 'norm', and turns the values of society upside down. Where we may see need, Jesus pronounces God's blessing and presence, where we see enemies Jesus sees God's people, treat others as you wish to be treated he tells us.

While it seems obvious that God blesses the poor and the sad, do we really believe that God curses the rich and the happy? On all saints day we are reminded that 'Saints' could be said to be those persons who are blessed by God, not only those society recognises as being of exceptional virtue but also the vulnerable, the forgotten and the outcasts. So, rather than a list of instructions, this can be seen as a set of values intended to shape how we understand God, the world, and our place in it. Rather than seeking ways of being blessed ourselves, through poverty, hunger, and sadness, rather we should respond by seeking out those who are in need, and sharing what we have. Jesus could actually be saying, woe to you who keep your riches, fullness, and laughter to yourself.

God's saints are not exempt from the highs and lows of life but, when we faithfully place ourselves in God's presence, new possibilities for life and service become visible. We have a role to play; as individuals and as the church, what this may be is different for each of us, yet something we can explore together.

Perhaps the truly difficult part is this, loving our enemies, but then who are our enemies? According to the free online dictionary enemies are; *One who feels hatred toward, intends injury to, or opposes the interests of another; a foe; A hostile power or force, such as a nation; A member or unit of such a force or Something destructive or injurious in its effects.*

I would suggest that most of us do not actually have anyone that is 'out to get us', even as a nation we do not have many actual 'enemies', though there are many whose values differ from our own. Are our 'enemies' actually just people we don't understand? If we seek to list our enemies would we be surprised by how short the list is? If we follow Jesus teaching the list can only get shorter as, in the act of getting to know someone, we find we actually have much in common.

It is a theme I have notice coming up time and time again recently, for example in the recent film, I recently came across the children's book 'Enemy Pie' by Derek Munson, in which our 'hero' is helped by his Dad to get rid of his enemy (the new boy down the road) by spending time with him. And only this week Maurice and I saw the cinema adaptation of Orson Scott Cards book 'Enders Game', a film about earth's response to a successfully defended invasion, by preparing to wipe out any future threat. One quote struck me;

"in the moment when I truly understand my enemy, understand him well enough to defeat him, then in that very moment I also love him. I think it's impossible to really understand somebody, what they want, what they believe, and not love them the way they love themselves. And then in that moment when I love them... I destroy them."

It is also a 'mantra' repeated by notable historical figures; Mahatma Ghandi said
"Whenever you are confronted with an opponent. Conquer him with love."

And

"It is easy enough to be friendly to one's friends. But to befriend the one who regards himself as your enemy is the quintessence of true religion. The other is mere business."

Abraham Lincoln is quoted as saying

"Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?"

I could do little better than ending with words from the sermon "Loving Your Enemies" by Martin Luther King, Jr

"Now there is a final reason I think that Jesus says, "Love your enemies." It is this: that love has within it a redemptive power. And there is a power there that eventually transforms individuals. Just keep being friendly to that person. Just keep loving them, and they can't stand it too long. Oh, they react in many ways in the beginning. They react with guilt feelings, and sometimes they'll hate you a little more at that transition period, but just keep loving them. And by the power of your love they will break down under the load. That's love, you see. It is redemptive, and this is why Jesus says love. There's something about love that builds up and is creative. There is something about hate that tears down and is destructive. So love your enemies." Jane Mason

Meditation

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Almighty God, your people of all the ages live and praise you without ceasing. In our communion with you, we have communion with generations past and generations yet unborn. Before your throne we are one with a great multitude which no one could number, and in praising you we join with those from every nation. Grant to your church on earth that as we celebrate the triumph of your saints in glory we may profit by their example and enter with them into the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Putnoe Heights Church Tabletop Sale Saturday 9 November 10 — 12 MD. Refreshments available Entry Adults 50p. Children free. £6 for tables booked in advance. On the day £8. For further information call Church Office 01234365630 or Jenny Snelson 01234344417.

Date for your Diary Partnership Quiz will take place at St Mark's on Saturday 16 November. Tickets £7 available from Church Office. Do come and make up a team.

Dementia Support in Bedfordshire: Alzheimer's Society provides a vital confidential network of support services for people with dementia, their families and their carers. If you are affected by dementia, the following services are available to you:

- Peer Support – a support group for people with dementia and their carers
- Singing for the Brain – a singing group for people with dementia and their carers
- Cognitive stimulation Group – specifically for people with dementia
- Dementia support – support and information to people living with dementia, their carers and families
- National Dementia Support line: 0300 222 1122 - Bedford office: Alzheimer's Society, 2a Duke Street, Bedford, MK40 3HR Phone: 01234 327380 email: bedfordshireandluton@alzheimers.org.uk

Creating Safer Space. London Rd Methodist Church, Tuesday 19 November 6.45 for 7.00pm until 10.00pm. Training session available to all churches in the North Beds Circuit. Suitable for church stewards, local preachers, office volunteers and keyholders. Details from Mairi Perks 01525 860797 mairiperks@bopenworld.com or Dave Heseldine 01462 013284 david.heseldine@methodist.org.uk

Samaritans' Purse Shoe Box Appeal 2013

Once again we have been delighted with the enthusiasm shown by the congregations for this appeal. To date, with the help of our Messy Church congregation, we will be sending at least 54 boxes to Samaritans Purse! Thank you very much for your all your support. If anyone still wishes to donate a full box please ensure it is given to Janet Day, Jean Bank or Margaret Appleton by 1 November

Bedford Town Band would like to invite you to an Autumn Concert to be held at Putnoe Heights Church on Friday 8th November at 7.30pm. Tickets available at door £8 & £7.

Kempston Musical Society light concert, Saturday 9 November at St Martin's, Clapham Road, Bedford at 7.30pm.

Methodist Women in Britain – North Beds Circuit
The circuit launch of the District Project "Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund" will take place on Wednesday 6 November from 2-4pm at Kempston East Methodist Church. The speaker is Revd David Winwood.

St Mark's Weekly Offering Envelopes

Replacement sets of Weekly Offering Envelopes are available after the service this morning. If you don't currently use the envelope scheme or would like to find out more about regular giving to the Church please contact Jim Williams tel. 01234 360605.

St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre – 23 November 2013

It is now 3 weeks to go to our Annual Christmas Craft Fayre. We need a lot of help in the next coming weeks with leaflet delivering, selling of raffle tickets etc. Below is the list of items:-

The Raffle tickets are on the table in the Foyer this morning. Please take a few to sell to your friends and family. It is a good way of advertising the Fayre. We also have some posters and we would be grateful for any help in distributing them. There is a list of potential locations, and if you can think of other sites/places that are not included please add them to the list. We are having the usual Church stalls again and donated items will be greatly appreciated.

New Tombola: Please make sure that donated items are new and unused.

Cake stall : Homemade cakes, please see Milly Rollinson for further details

Secondhand bookstall: Books in good condition plus any jigsaws (with all the pieces) please.

Indoor/Outdoor Plant Stall : Any queries please see Marion Prior or Jean Bank.

Refreshments: Donations of tray bakes to sell with our teas and coffees. If you can help on the day in any way with these stalls we would be very grateful. Your help is vital in making the Craft Fayre a very enjoyable and successful day. Any queries that I can help you with, then please see me in the Foyer after this morning's service. Thank you, Avril Williams

Mission 2013 Ethiopian Honey Appeal

We are joining with the St Albans Diocese and Christian Aid to help the Ethiopian Honey Appeal. If we help provide farmers in Ethiopia with the equipment they need to keep bees, then they will be able to make honey and enough money to be able to provide for their families and develop a sustainable community. Bees are vital pollinators; flying from flower to flower, they make connections that are fundamental to the life of our planet. The Bishop's Harvest Appeal is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our connected world and to make life changing, loving and lasting connections with people in Ethiopia. The appeal will end on December 1 - Please take one of Harvest Appeal leaflets with a gift aid form and donation envelope.

- £3.50 can buy a honey knife
- £14 buys a net and gloves
- £85 Pays for a modern hive
- £207 pays for a community honey extractor for harvesting honey from the hives effectively

A Hymn For Sunday

Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given,
Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given,
Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say 'I am strong,'
Let the poor say 'I am rich,'
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say 'I am strong,'
Let the poor say 'I am rich,'
Because of what the Lord has done for us.

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Give thanks because He's given,
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And now let the weak say 'I am strong,'
Let the poor say 'I am rich,'
'Because of what the Lord has done for us.

Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Sunday 3 November at 3.00pm

Have you lost a loved one ?

You are invited to our service to remember
and give thanks to those we have
entrusted to God's safe keeping.

Release of doves in church grounds
immediately before service. Children
may come from 2.30pm to see the doves.

Preacher
The Reverend Eric Royden

St Mark's Church, Calder Rise, Bedford.
MK41 7UY www.thischurch.com
office@thischurch.com



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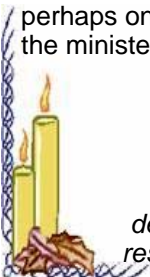
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ThisChurch.com, this ensures we get a donation
every time you make a purchase. Please also
remember the Easyfundraising link. This is really a
very good way to shop as it has lots of voucher
codes which can save you a fortune on purchases.

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.

Patricia Jean Casling

*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 Pamela
Margaretha Cullen will take
place at Bedford Crematorium
at 11.30am on Monday 11
October.

The funeral of June Mary
Lewis will take place at
Bedford Crematorium on
Tuesday 7th November at
2.30pm

The funeral of Christopher James Rolfe
Henderson will take place at Bedford
Crematorium on Thursday 7 November at 11.00am

The funeral of Sheila Joy Pearson will take
place at Bedford Crematorium at 10.45am on
Wednesday 6 November

The funeral of Elizabeth Steed will take place at
Bedford Crematorium at 10.45am on Friday 8
November

The funeral of Marjorie Nora Fleck will take
place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 12
November at 11.30am