



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

4 March 2007

Second Sunday of Lent



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

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

9.30am St Mark's - Family Worship
Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Janet Day
Intercessions – Mrs Wendy Waters & Helpers

11.00am Putnoe - Family Worship
Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mrs Wendy Nash
Intercessions - Ministers

Third Sunday of Lent-11 March

9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper
Intercessions - Mr Ian Farthing

11.00am -Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Mr Alan Cooper
Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

Reading 1: Isaiah 55: 1-9

Reading 2:1 Cor 10: 1-13

Reading 3: Luke 13: 1-9

Thank You

The flowers in Putnoe Church have been given by Diana Johnson in memory of her mother Jean Brown.

We are always grateful for any donations for flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion, an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St Mark's) or Miss Jennie Cooper 404950 (Putnoe Heights)

Prayer for Sunday

Knit my soul to your own, O Christ,
so that I may never be separated from you.
Only in you am I a person fully alive.
Only in your light can I see and only in your
strength can I pursue my way.
To you I come, O wisdom without end.
In you I rest, O mercy without limit.
To you I give all praise,
O crown of all majesty. Amen

Mechtild of Magdeburg, 1210-80

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 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

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.

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 9am—5pm Monday to Friday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss 268101

Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Youth & children's worker - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

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 - Mrs Janet Day 295592

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30 - 12.00 pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school Mrs Janet Smith 326685
8.30 - 5.30 pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634
(See website for more details)
9.00 am Clubhouse at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.
12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights church 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 . Lots of fun,.Contact Liz on 01234 302349
2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Arts Society at Putnoe Heights contact Malcolm Smith on 01234 400741 (weekly from 25 September 2006)
4.15pm - Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe Heights. Miriam Adcock 01908 565044
4.15 - 6.00pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 826190
6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner 364710
7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs Pauline Parrott 768419
7.15 m Guides -St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
7.15pm Yoga at Putnoe Heights Church. Contact Karen Simpson 244970
7.30pm Creative Needles at Putnoe Heights. Jacky Hayward 307648. New members welcome.
7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month next 19 March Contact Judith Stanton. 823313
7.30pm Housegroup 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567.
8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field 404976

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework) at Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton 341821
10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230
1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime at Putnoe Heights. Contact Andrea 210177 or Magella 325293.
9.30am -12.30 & 4 - 9pm Slimming World at St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg 351223
2.00pm Library Walk W.I. at Putnoe Heights meets monthly. Contact Mrs C Allen 363878
2 - 5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.
2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting ; 6 March Rev. M. Hounsfield Contact Betty Wyatt 350188.
2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225
2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. For details of next meeting contact Mary Stubbs 406784.

3.45 - 5.30pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 0582468.

6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Rachel Leontyne 783129

7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit at St. Mark's - Jan Gregory 214107.

Tuesday - 7pm-9pm MT Karate [all ages] at Putnoe Heights. Please contact Karen King 07941 264885

7.00 - 10pm Card Makers Club meets fortnightly at St Mark's. Carol Houghton 346718

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Heights. Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr on 360188 or 07866775515

7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 13 March Talk about Victim Support by Angela Blackmore Contact Audrey Wilkins 365068 or Margaret Gentle 309043

Wednesday

9.30am Childminding Support Group at Putnoe Heights. Mrs S Longman 313949

9.30am - Body Control Pilates at Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787.

9.00 a.m. Clubhouse at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Contact Karen Bywater 315460.

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

10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights - For details of next meeting Contact Audrey Hancock 365915.

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. For details of next meeting 7 March 2007 contact Putnoe 365630

1 - 3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.30 - 4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired at St. Mark's. Mrs Truss Boyce 781133

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

4.15pm - 6pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

6.00 pm Brownies at St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden 219731

6.15pm - 7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation at Putnoe Heights. contact Racheall Monton 01234 297138

6.30 - 7.30 at St Mark's Karate contact Karen 079412 64885

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge at St. Mark's. Brian Sallows 407725

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

7pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Janice Loxley 347073

7.45pm Badminton Club at Putnoe Heights - all

welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group at Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*

9.30am Jo Jingles at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips 01582 485333

9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970

9.45– 11.30 Chat and Play at St. Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.50 for first child + 50p for each extra child over 2years. **Starts 1 March.** More details from St. Marks 342613 or Emma Strangwick 211070

1.30pm - 3.00pm Clinic at St. Mark's 267444

12pm Story box St Mark's Church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Biblebased story and singing . Lots of fun. Contact Emma Strangwick 211070

1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime at Putnoe **Contact Andrea 210177 or Magella 325293.**

2 - 4.30pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer 345991

4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on the 1st Sunday of each month Lots of fun. Liz Spavins 302349

5.30 - 7.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's. Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Helga Nash 218521

6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's Mr & Mrs Pike 823795

7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Sheila Jakeman 261935

7.30pm - 11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club at St Mark's Mr P Housden 376597

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderers' Guild at St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby 344442

7.30 - 9.30 Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Bible Studies every 2 Thursday– Pastor Tarr 360188

7.45pm Housegroup meets fortnightly Contact Betty Wyatt 350188

8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle at St Mark's 1st Thursday each month. Mr Broadhouse 740271

Friday

9.00 am Clubhouse at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.

1.30 - 2pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

2pm U3A Gardening Group at Putnoe Heights Contact Eve Whitehead 356875

7 - 10pm Bedford Arts Society meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Contact Malcolm

Smith 01234 400741

7.30pm Youth Club for age 10-15 at St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey 349179

Saturday

9.00 - 12.00 Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

10.00am - 1.00pm Theatretrain at St Mark's – dancing acting, singing. - Kate Randle 01234 782414

7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge at St Mark's Contact Ann or Peter 212066

Sunday

Junior Church with crèche for under 3's

9.30 - 10.30 at St. Mark's

11-12 at Putnoe Heights.

1 - 3pm Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 360188 Mob. 07866775515

6-7.30pm T.N.T. for 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. At Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349.

6 -7.30pm T.X.T for 13 + fortnightly , join us for fellowship , debate & discussion at Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 12 June

Circuit Meeting - 14 March

St Mark's Leadership Team – 9 May 07 at the Vicarage, 26 June Linda's

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team –30 April at Alan Cooper's

St Mark's Church Management Meeting - 24 April, 20 June.

Putnoe Heights Centre Management - 14 May, 16 July

Putnoe Church Council - 11 June

Pastoral Group Meeting – 8 May 07

Churchyard Committee - 6 June 07

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting

Partnership Council -

Brickhill Parish Council - 5 April 7 June, 5 July

Deanery Meeting -

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth– 23 April at 1.00pm

Calendar dates appear on our church website www.ThisChurch.com. Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.

Second Sunday of Lent

Verse of Scripture - Ps 27 v 1

The LORD is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid?

Collect Prayer - *Before we read we pray*

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

First Bible Reading - Gen 15: 1-12, 17-18

After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward." But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir." Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir." 5 He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars-if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness. He also said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it." But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?" So the LORD said to him, "Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon." Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half. Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away. As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking fire pot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates

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

Second Reading - Philippians 3: 14- 4:1

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. Only let us live up to what we have already attained. Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you. For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends!

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

Gospel Reading - Luke 13: 31-end

At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you."



He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' In any case, I must keep going today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

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

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.. **Amen**

Hymns (Please distribute Morning Worship and Mission Praise)

1. All my hope on God is founded, 16;
2. Lord of the Dance, (Partnership News);
3. Soldiers of Christ arise, 604;
4. Jesus lover of my soul, 372;
5. Go forth and tell, 178

Commentary A Covenant relationship

The covenant relationship we have with God through Jesus is based on the principles and precepts of the promises of the Old Testament covenants, each one of which is progressive and builds on the previous covenants. This is true from the covenant God made with Noah through to the later Davidic covenant. In the covenant with Abram/Abraham God promised many things to him; that He would make his name great, that he would have numerous physical descendants, that he would be the father of a multitude of nations, that the families of the world will be blessed through the physical line of Abraham and promises regarding the nation called Israel and its geographic boundaries. In the Davidic Covenant (2 Samuel 7 v 8 - 16) the Abrahamic covenant is amplified and extended. The promises to David are very significant for Christians today. God promised that David's physical line of descent would last forever and that his kingdom would never pass away permanently. This kingdom would have an individual exercising authority over it and there will be a time in the future again when someone from the line of David will again sit on the throne and rule as king. As we now know this future king is Jesus.

The covenants are based on the unchanging promises of God. In our reading today, Abram had two main concerns; firstly, having an heir, and secondly a concern regarding how he could be sure about the land he should inherit. In the Ancient Near East there was a well-attested practice to ensure an heir, even if no son were born to a childless couple, they would adopt one of the servants born into the household. This 'son' would then care for them in their old age and would inherit their possessions and property at the time of their death. Until now Abram had assumed that his line and inheritance would be through Eliezer. God meets with Abram and assures him that Eliezer was not the heir that God had promised. Abram's descendants were to come from his own genes. He would have a son of his own.

Having dealt with Abram's greatest need, namely to have an heir, God went on to strengthen Abram's faith concerning the land he would possess: God said to him, 'Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon. Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half. Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away'. In the ancient world of Abram, legal and binding agreements were not put on papers written by lawyers and signed by the parties involved. Instead, the two parties would arrive at a mutually acceptable agreement, and then they would formalize it in the form of a covenant. The covenant was sealed by the dividing of an animal (or animals). In fact, the technical term means 'to cut a

covenant', just as we use the phrase sometimes today 'to cut a deal'. The animals were cut in half and traditionally the two parties would pass between the halves, as if acknowledging that the fate of the animal should be theirs if they broke the terms of their agreement. In this particular case it was not men who passed between the pieces of the animal but 'a smoking brazier with a blazing torch appeared' which passed between the pieces. Perhaps this was the glory of the Lord which ratified this covenant, we will never know for sure. But what is important is that today's Old Testament reading is not primarily describing a symbolic animal sacrifice, but more critically the legal act of making the agreement between God and Abram (and his descendants) one which was eternally binding.

Through the Old Testament reading today we are reminded of a God who keeps His promises. We are reminded of the covenant relationship we have with God through Jesus, the instigator of the new and everlasting covenant. Like the covenants of the Old Testament it is progressive and builds on the covenants which have gone before. This new covenant is not just a binding agreement between God and people; it is an invitation to enter into a relationship with Him, made possible through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. As we look towards Easter we remember the sacrifice that Christ made for us, and we also look forward to the solemn yet joyful promise of the covenant relationship we have with Him which is ratified on Easter Sunday, 'Lo, I am with you always to the end of time'. This is our covenant relationship with the true Lamb of God. *Sam Cappelman*

Meditation

The Fantastic Mr Fox – From a Jerusalem Perspective

There is a children's book called 'The Fantastic Mr Fox' which tells the story of how a wise old fox outwits a farmer to provide food for his family and friends. It's a story which emphasises the cleverness and guile of the fox. In Hebrew, and to the hearers of the gospel pronouncement of Jesus calling someone a fox, it had a different, and much less complimentary connotation. In Hebrew, foxes and lions were contrasted with each other to represent the difference between inferior men and great men. The great men are called "lions," and the lesser men are called "foxes." It was used to refer back to someone's lineage or pedigree and had moral overtones too. The Mishnah, the written codification of Jewish oral law, exhorts people to "Be a tail to lions rather than a head to foxes". Jesus called Herod a fox after some Pharisees reported that Herod wanted to kill Jesus. Jesus' response challenged any such plans: "Tell Herod I've got work to do first." Jesus was not implying that Herod was sly, cunning, or even wise, rather he was commenting on Herod's ineptitude and inability, to carry out his threat. Jesus questioned the tetrarch's pedigree, moral stature and leadership, and put the Herod "in his place." When Jesus labelled Herod a fox, Jesus implied that Herod was not a lion. Herod considered himself to be a lion, but Jesus pointed out that Herod was a mere fox, the exact opposite of a lion. Jesus cut Herod down to size, and Jesus' audience may have had an inward smile of appreciation at Jesus' carefully chosen words. How ironic that it was Jesus himself that was to become known as the Lion of Judah, a symbol which still remains on the emblem of Jerusalem, over which Jesus wept.



Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Christ, Son of the living God, who for a season laid aside the divine glory and learned obedience through suffering: teach us in all our afflictions to raise our eyes to the place of your mercy and to find in you our peace and deliverance. We make our prayer in your name. Amen. Methodist Worship

God of the day and of the night, in me there is darkness, but with you there is light. I am alone, but you will not leave me. I am weak, but you will come to my help. I am restless, but you are my peace. I am in haste, but you are the God of infinite patience. I am confused and lost, but you are eternal wisdom and you direct my path; now and for ever. Amen *Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1906-1945*

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee, because of thy Holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world. O Saviour of the world: who by thy cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us, save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord. Sarum Rite

Mission Coffee Morning Saturday 10 March at 22 Brecon Way from 10 until 12 noon. Raffle, cakes etc. Proceeds to African Projects. Richard & Claire Peck

The Lent course will take place at Putnoe 7.30 for 8 start. Finishes at 9pm

7 March Professor Paul Crossley Medieval Images of heaven and hell

14 March Professor Paul Crossley Images of heaven and hell in literature

21 March Rev Dr Joan Crossley Images of heaven and hell in art

Wine Bluffs for Wine Buffs. 17 March at Putnoe Heights 7.30. An evening of wine tasting and food. In aid of NSPCC and Church funds. Tickets £12.50 now available from Church Office/Jenny Emsley.360397

Network— Daffodil Day will be held on Monday 5th March at Methodist Central Hall, London at 2pm. See poster in foyer for more details.

BEH Network District Day on 14th March from 11am to 3pm at Bishops Stortford Methodist Church, South Street. See poster in foyer. District Craft Day on 31st March at Priory Methodist Church from 10am to 4.15pm. Places to be booked by 12th March please. Further details and booking form from Pam Seymour. Tel: 305695

Help Please! I need to collect plastic sleeving, such as that which brings catalogues and magazines through the post, for a Guide Project I am launching after Easter. Any size will be useable, especially if cut open, not torn and brought it to me flat not folded! I need to collect about 1000 sleeves so any help you can give will be appreciated. I'll let you know when I have sufficient! Marion Prior

Moving Sale - 8 x8 shed cost £569 2 years ago. Now only £200 and I can help dismantle and re-erect. 3 piece rattan suite with blue cushions £80. Alstons Havana Wardrobe 5 doors. The house we are moving to has built in wardrobes. It is white and was bought from Hatters in 2001. Cost over £600, offers around £300. Keyth and Sara Richardson 01234 330029

St. Mark's Church Pre-School are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. Please ask

friends and family if they could collect them for Pre-School and leave them at the office. Helen

Goldington and Putnoe Children's Centre now has an office at Putnoe Heights Church and will be taking over the management of the Toddlers Playtime group in April. Would you like to support the centre as a Trustee? They are looking for individuals with varied business experience. Meetings are held monthly with all expenses paid and training opportunities are available. Please contact Linda Hoar 782717.

Line Dancing at St Mark's. Taster sessions for both beginners and improvers 9,16 March. Lessons begin 20 April. Further information contact Christine Rushton 01234 782360.

Apologies. To anybody who was trying to phone St Mark's this week and got no response. The telephone line was down, it has now been repaired.

Mrs Mima Noble thanks all her friends for the flowers, cards, phone calls and goodwill messages in the form of short cake or chocolate which she received during her recent illness. The visits by our Ministers has been much appreciated. She is now on the road to a full recovery.

Holy Communion at Sir William Harpur House. The Reverend Charles Royden will celebrate a service of Holy Communion at 10am on Monday 5 March. All are welcome to attend the service.

New Playground for Putnoe. The new children's playground has been installed at Putnoe Heights Church. The new safe surface meets exceeds the required specifications for pre-school play areas for allows the children to play in a safer environment. An added benefit of this surface in a our situation is that the surface creates much less noise when used for wheeled toys. This will be much appreciated by neighbours. The playground will soon also be equipped with a garden area.

Lent Course Notes. Notes to accompany the first Lent Course Heaven and Hell—Biblical perspective by Charles Royden can be downloaded from the church website or ordered from the church office.



Putnoe Heights Church
 50th Anniversary Weekend
 16-17th June, 2007
 Putnoe Heights Church was
 opened and dedicated in June
 1957.

A weekend of celebration is being planned to include activities for families and a concert by Kempston Musical Society on Saturday with special services, including a Circuit service followed by a meal on Sunday. We would like to invite past members who have moved away so, if you are in touch with anyone who might be interested, please pass their names and details to Alan Cooper. Throughout the weekend, the church will be open with a display of 50 years of church history. If you have any photographs of weddings, christening or other events that we might borrow please contact Gerry Allen.
 Please help us to make the weekend a success.

St Albans to Taize 2007. Join this year's pilgrimage 21st - 30th July. If you are aged between 15 & 30 and would like to take part come along to a meeting on Saturday 31st March at Christ Church, Goldington Road, Bedford at 7.30pm.

Concert by Chapel Choir of Christ's College, Cambridge. Saturday 17 March at 7pm in St. Paul's Church, Bedford. Programme to include Scarlatti's Stabat Mater. Tickets £8 from : Heather Turnham 343477, /Central Box Office, /Classic Music, Lime St ,Bedford..

Chat and Play a mums & toddlers group starts 1 March from 9.45—11.30am at St. Mark's Church. £1.50 for first child + 50p for any others over 2. More details from St.Mark's 342613 or Emma Strangwick 211070.

TNT meets again Sunday 11 March 6pm at St Marks for computer games. Joan.

Good Friday Special Putnoe Heights 6 April 12.15—1.30 Easter Craft activities, the Easter Story & refreshments. Last year this event attracted 100 children & their carers if you can help out in any please contact Liz. Make an Easter garden in an ice cream tub competition. Open to all individuals & family groups. Judging at the Good Friday special. Please save empty margarine tubs & empty litre size milk bottles for Easter children's projects.

Thank you to all who supported last Saturdays Book Sale. The final total raised was £263.20 for Mission Funds.

Luncheon Club which meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights urgently needs a volunteer driver to transport elderly folk to & from their homes. If you can help please ring Putnoe Church Centre 365630.

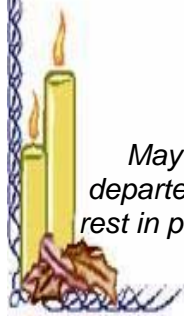
Footprints - Massey's Marvellous Mystery Tour, Sunday 4 March 2007. Start time 2.00pm at Larkway opposite Bedford Park. One way route about 2½ miles. We will have our car at the end for lifts if necessary. Mainly tarmac paths but a little muddy in places. Alan and Margaret Tel 327219.

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.

Rona Spinks
Daphne Williams

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



Rest in Peace



The funeral of Leslie Stephen George Laws will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 6th March 2007 at 1.45pm
Royden