



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

4 November– 31st in Ordinary

All Saints Day



Church of
England

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

Today 4 November– 31st in Ordinary

**9.30am St Mark's – Family Worship with Baptism
Of Ella Grace and Harry Thomas Russell**

Preacher - Mrs. Wendy Waters
Leadership - Mrs. Margaret Appleton
Intercessions – Wendy Waters and Young People

11.00 am Putnoe - Family Worship

Preacher - Mrs. Wendy Waters
Leadership – Mrs. Vita Hudson-Rae
Intercessions - Young People

**3.00pm Service of Commemoration of the Faithful
Departed.** Rev Andrew Hollins

11 November - Remembrance Sunday

9.30 St Marks's – Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Jean Bank
Intercessions - Mr Warwick Holden

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mr Gordon Evans
Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

Readings 1. Micah 4: 1-8 2. Romans 8: 31-end
3. 1 Corinthians 15: 50-end

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Rita and Nigel Platt and family in loving memory of Justin;

also by Harry Stokes and Mrs June Cook in loving memory of Mary Stokes, beloved wife of Harry and beloved sister of June, and their respective families;

and by Dorothy Harlow in memory of her husband whose birthday was on 1 November and the anniversary of his death on 14 November.

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

Prayer for Sunday

Preserve us with your grace, O God, our whole journey through; that we may live by faith, die in your favour, rest in your peace, rise in your power and reign in your glory, in the joy of Christ and in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

Nicholas Ferrar (1592-1637)

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

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

Deacon Jane Mills

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

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. Jean Kirk 317699
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 - Morag Stewart 360103

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.15 –3.45 pm Mon and Wed/ 9.15-12.15pm Tues/Thurs/ Fri. Hazeldene Heights Pre-school. See website for more details www.ThisChurch.com

Head teacher Mrs Laura Leggett ☎326685

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

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

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 St Mark's (see contact details below)

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

2.00pm U3A Relaxation & Meditation at St Mark's 1st & 3rd week starting 1st October (see contact details below)

12.15pm 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. Contact Carolyn Morris youth@thischurch.com 365630

1.30-2.45pm Chat and Make For babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details email– chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk . Restarts on 10 September

2.00pm U3A History Group St Mark's (see contact details below)

2pm U3A Music Appreciation - (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 Fit for Life Yoga - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher ☎07891879571

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

Zumba - Explosion Fitness—Putnoe Heights - Sam Baptista 07402965490

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– 19 November Judith Stanton. ☎823313

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

7.45pm Opus Choir at St Mark's Mrs Sutherland ☎269100

8pm '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 ☎07790206016

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 Group. St Mark's (see contact 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 below)

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.

3.45pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson ☎295862 or 07917582468.

6.15pm 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

7pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455

7pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎07941 264885

7pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Sacha Ojo ☎07590597891 or www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk

Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting Tuesday 13 November - AGM and Quiz Details call Janet King 313946

8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler ☎01767 651767

Wednesday

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

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

9.30am Discovery & 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 details 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 Heights (see contact details below)

11am U3A Keep Fit. - Putnoe Heights

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 7 November 2012 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

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 21 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.

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. Sylvia Woods 365095

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Mrs O Holt ☎266004

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 at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be 7 November Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Valmai ☎219555 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

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon ☎356306 No meeting on 1 November.

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 term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Jo Garner ☎400071 or ☎07719670624

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 1st and 3rd Thursdays St. Mark's ☎267444

1pm—2.30pm Drop in (large hall) Children's Chatty Time 0-5 years, Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information ☎340552.

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. (see contact details below)

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

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins .

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights 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

8 -10pm Bedford Folk dancers (formerly Barn dancers) Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights .**Will meet at St.Mark's on 1November for that week only.** 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 Pat Cass ☎294220

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

Friday

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

5-8pmStars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Richardson ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

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

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

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

6.45pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

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 – 19 Feb,11 June

St Mark's Leadership Team - 22 January

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 5 February

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting 24 January

Putnoe Church Council - 19 February

Pastoral Group Meeting - 5 February

Churchyard Committee -

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Commemoration Service 4 November3.00pm

Circuit meeting - 7 February

Deanery Meeting - 16 November

Woodland Burial Trustees—

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting -

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

Ordinary 31

All Saints Day

Opening Verse of Scripture - 1 John Chapter 4:19

'We love, because he first loved us.

Collect Prayer

Merciful Lord, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law. Grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

First Bible Reading - Isaiah 25: 6-9

On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine the best of meats and the finest of wines. On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people

from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

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

Second Bible Reading - Rev 21: 1-6a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life.

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

Gospel Reading - John 11: 32-44

When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days." Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

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



They will receive blessing
from the Lord and vindication
from God their saviour
Psalm 21:5

Post Communion Prayer

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you not only with our lips but in our lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymns (*Please distribute Family Worship, Baptism booklet and Mission Praise*)

1. Fill your hearts with joy and gladness 147
2. For I'm building a people of power 151
3. One more step along the world I go
4. We are called to be God's people - to tune 'Carnival is over'
5. For All the Saints - 148 (verses 1, 2, 4, 6, 7)
6. Additional hymn for Putnoe We really want to thank you Lord 734

Commentary

I wonder what the word 'Saints' conjures up in your mind? It would not be surprising if your first thoughts were of it describing very 'holy' people who lived long ago and now share the heavenly realms with thousands or millions of other similarly devout Christians. The hymn traditionally sung on 'All Saints Day' reinforces this image with lines such as 'For all the saints from whom their labours rest'; 'Thou wast their Rock'; 'as the Saints who nobly fought as old'; 'they in glory shine', all phrases describing people who have died, all in the past tense. I have a book 'A Calendar of Saints, published in 1986, which gives a brief biography of some 700 Saints. Many of them having lived in the early days of Christianity but also spanning from then until the 1800's. There will have been perhaps 10,000 others canonised, that is made a Saint by the Roman Catholic or Orthodox Church. These 'saints' have to have been especially 'holy' by displaying spiritual powers or having performed or been the subject of miracles. The Diocese of St Alban's is so named because Alban gave up his life so a priest might live, also there are accounts of miracles that occurred at the time of and after his execution and of people would travel to the spot where he died to seek healing. Some of the early 'Saints' subjected themselves to lives of extreme hardship, believing it brought them closer to God. One, 'Simeon the Stylite' (from Greek word *stylos* meaning 'pillar') who lived in the 5th century, is said to have spent 37 years living on a pillar initially 3 metres high and 2 metres in diameter then gradually increasing the height to 20 metres! From here he preached to visitors twice a day, I am glad this is not required of preachers today!

The word 'saint' does mean 'holy ones', those whom the Lord has 'set apart' for himself. However it is not restricted to describe those, very admirable Christians, who have been made 'Saint's' by the church after their deaths. The word is used in at least seven Psalms, such as Psalm 16: 3 'All the saints who are in the land, they are the glorious ones in whom I delight'; Psalm 34: 9 'Fear the Lord you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing.' In the NT Paul's letter to the Ephesians begins 'To the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus' and repeats the word three times in the first chapter. A letter to the living faithful followers of Jesus.

On the inside cover of my book 'Calendar of Saints' it states that the saints included are from different periods in history and from every walk of life: farm labourers, princes, monks, nuns, parents, soldiers. Martyrs, housewives, poets and those who were in the forefront of public life'. No restrictions, the only criteria is to be a faithful follower of Jesus, so that includes us all, that is we are 'All Saints'.

What is promised for all saints is a new life! That new life is both here and now, as the account of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead alludes to, and after death, as promised and described in the passages Isaiah 25: 6- 9 and Revelation 21: 1 – 6a. Isaiah promises that 'the Lord Almighty' will provide the best of everything from finest food and wine to a place where there 'all tears will be wiped away'. These promises are for 'all people; all nations; all faces; all the earth'. The fulfilment of these promises will lead to rejoicing by those who trusted in God. In

Revelation these promises are presented again as a vision of a 'new earth', a 'new Jerusalem', a place again where 'tears will be wiped away' and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain'. A place of completeness where God and people dwell together for ever! A promise that encourages us earthly saints, as it did those who 'from their labour rest' and 'in glory shine'. *Wendy Waters*

Meditation

What has this lection to do with all the saints? It may be that Lazarus, dead and buried, is a reminder of those whom St Paul believed are sleeping until Christ calls them forth when the last trumpet sounds. Today, we honour and thank God, not only for Mary, Martha and Lazarus, but for all the friends of Jesus who have faithfully lived and died. Many, like Mary, have listened to his voice, have been sensitive to him, shared his sorrows, and patiently prayed. Others, like Martha, have protested at injustice, and given him practical, down-to-earth obedience, serving him in his impoverished sisters and brothers. All, like Lazarus, have responded to his call, have caught a glimpse of the eternal, and found new life in Christ. So also we, who want to be his friends, may find a new quality of life here and now as well as at the end. We too need to respond when he calls our name, to serve him in ordinary ways, to pray patiently, to keep trusting him. Have faith and you will see the glory of God both here and hereafter. *Ken Taylor*

Prayers for Sunday and the Week ahead

Heavenly Father we thank and praise you for the lives of all the saints who have dedicated their lives to you, many who gave up personal security and wealth, powerful positions, friends and family in order to follow in your footsteps. We praise you for their example of self sacrifice and service, praying that we too may be prepared to give up those things which distract us from your pathway. Amen

Lord Jesus you suffered so much for us to find new life, protect we pray all the saints suffering now for their faith in you. Those in so many countries who live in daily fear of their lives and the lives of their loved ones. By your Grace bring comfort and courage to those who have lost churches, homes, employment, liberty, limbs and loved ones. Amen

Eternal God, we thank you for the witnesses of all times and all places. May the stories of their lives show us the richness of your grace. May they inspire us to look deep within our souls. May they encourage us to take the risk of faith to serve you in new ways. Amen
Francis Brienen

Jesus, make our hearts ever gentler and more humble, so that we may be present to those you have confided to our care, and in this way make us instruments of your love which gives life and joy and real freedom. Amen *Jean Vanier*

Prayers for those affected by natural disaster, following Hurricane Sandy

God of all goodness and love, in whom we can trust in every time of need: be close to all who live in fear and distress at this time of natural disaster. We pray for wisdom and strength for all who seek to help, and that through this emergency, people and communities may be drawn more closely together in service to one another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A prayer for the people of Syria

Merciful Father, the strength of all who suffer, defender of all who trust in you, whose compassion never fails; look with mercy upon the stricken people of Syria, touch the hearts of all who oppress, that they may be open to the ways of justice and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord who suffered and died for all and who lives with you and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen

Service of Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. We will be holding a special service of commemoration of loved ones who have died at St Mark's Church at 3pm on 4 November. All are welcome to attend so please do encourage anybody you know who would appreciate this special service. The preacher will be The Reverend Andrew Hollins Superintendent of the Methodist Church Circuit

Advent Course

This year we will be running a Partnership Advent Course at St Mark's for three weeks. The course will also be great for those considering confirmation in the 2013. Each session will start with refreshments at 7.30pm with the main meeting 8.00pm - 9.00pm More details to follow but put these dates in your diary.

Thursday 29 November

Coffee served in Chapel 7.30 - 8pm

Session in Church from 8pm

Thursday 6 December

In WREN room from 7.30pm

Thursday 13 December

Coffee served in Chapel 7.30 - 8pm

Session in Church from 8pm.

Messy Church This year, for the first time, our Messy Church families will be donating items for the Samaritan's Purse 'Operation Christmas Child' Shoe Box Appeal. If you would also like to contribute items for the 'Shoe box' presents there will be a container for them in church from 21st October to 18th November. A leaflet, which you can take as you leave church today, gives more details and most importantly lists what can and cannot be donated. For more information please contact: Wendy Waters 01234 401834, or Margaret Appleton 01234 354708..

Putnoe Art Group are holding an exhibition and sale of New Paintings at Putnoe Heights Church on Saturday 10th November from 10:30am. Free Entry; Tea and Cake only £1.00. For details contact Bob on 01234 406094.

Storybox at Putnoe Heights Church is flourishing this term. Our catering team would welcome new volunteers to help once a month. For further details please talk to Carolyn Morris or Val Peacock.

Footprints Walk – Sunday 4 November

Our next walk will be centred on the river and surrounding areas. Please meet in Priory Church car park for a 2pm start. The walk will be mainly on good paths and should be no more than about 3 miles. We shall end at Priory for a cuppa and cake. Contact Sue Butler (Priory) if you need any further information.

Police Commissioner Hustings

A Special Meeting of the Brickhill Community Safety Forum will be held at St. Marks Church, Calder Rise

on Friday 9 November 2012 at 7.00 for 7.30pm to enable local residents to put questions to the candidates, listen to their replies and ascertain whose policies you would wish to see put in to practice. This will broadly follow the "Any Questions" format.

Christian Aid – Our Christian Aid committee have reported this week that a total of £31,978.74 was raised this year, a 17% increase on 2011. A big thank you to everyone who took part to raise this.

Peter Littleford

St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre 24th November 2012.

With just three weeks to go, a quick reminder of the items needed for our stalls: **Picnic Hamper for the raffle** – We have a picnic hamper which we want to fill with Christmas Items. A list of these is on the table in the Foyer. **Raffle Tickets** – Available on the table in Foyer after service. Please take a few books home for family and friends, returning counterfoils and any unsold books during the week beginning 19th November or on the Saturday of the Fayre.

Tombola – Any NEW unwanted gifts\Christmas presents etc. for our Tombola stall. **Cake Stall** – homemade cakes required please see Millie

Refreshments – homemade tray bakes to sell at our Refreshment Counter. **Second-hand Book Stall** – Any books or paperbacks in good condition. **Indoor/ Outdoor Plant Stall** – Any plants accepted please see Wendy Waters All donated items for the above stalls can be brought up to Church anytime week beginning 19th November. Many thanks to those who have already offered their help, either in the form of goods or on the day, it is very much appreciated on all fronts. Avril

Sir William Harpur House. On 27 November 2012 at 10.30am The Alzheimer's Society is coming to the Communal Lounge for a Dementia Information Point Drop In Session. This is for family and friends of people with dementia, carers or anyone interested in what help is available to support people looking after someone suffering from dementia.

Thought

It is said that the world praises dead saints and persecutes living ones. There are amazing saints who lived once and who we now venerate. But truthfully each one of us is called to be a saint, even if we don't get a special day named after us. We are to be fathers and mothers, nurses, administrators, customer advisors, assistants and in whatever we do To be the best we can to serve God. There may be no worldwide accolade but we receive God's blessing as we seek dedicate all we do through success and failure.

'The saints are the sinners who keep on going'
Robert Louis Stevenson

Chat and Make will not meet on Monday 5 November.

Police Commissioner Hustings at St Mark's Church - One off volunteers needed. The assistance of up to four able-bodied stewards is requested to help with the moving of the chairs, collection of signatures, and marshalling the meeting of the Community Safety Forum Meeting from 6.30pm on Friday 9 November. Contact Ray Seymour on Bedford 305695

Open House at St Mark's would be very grateful for any small unwanted gifts for their Lucky Dip Tub for Children in Need. If possible they would like them for the 7th November to wrap them up. Very many thanks.

Bromham Baptist Church are delighted to announce that the Kings Chamber Orchestra will be performing two concerts on Saturday 15 December 2012 as follows:

'Dancing in the Snow' -an interactive fun afternoon concert at 2.30pm for all families 'young at heart' - tickets: £5 for adults- children free.

In the evening : Oscar Wilde's 'The Happy Prince' - starting at 7.30pm with music by Bach, Handel, Vivaldi and Tchaikovsky, and narrated by actor, musician and director Adam Stone.

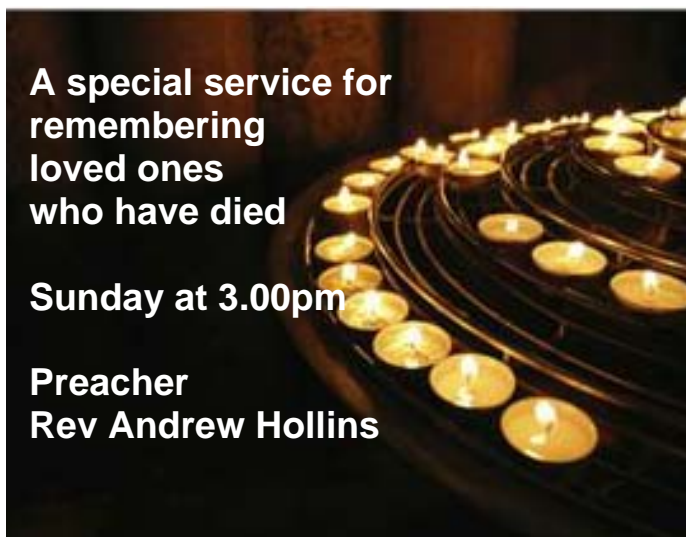
Tickets—and more details, available on-line from

www.bromham.org. £15 for adults, £12 concessions.

All tickets available from 1st November. 'Early bird' ticket prices of £10 for the evening concert for 2 weeks only from 1st-14th November.

The orchestra's website can be viewed at www.stringheaven.com

Local Preachers Taster Evening at Willington Methodist Church on Wednesday 14 November at 7.30pm. Come and talk to newly accredited preachers and hear about their experiences.



A special service for remembering loved ones who have died

Sunday at 3.00pm

Preacher
Rev Andrew Hollins

Social Evening

Tickets are now available for an evening of music and entertainment with special guest Vittorio at St Mark's on Saturday 17 November.



St Mark's Messy Church .

Future dates: all 3.45 to 5.30pm

Wednesday 21 November

Wednesday 12 December.

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.

Olive Whitlock

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



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Forthcoming Funerals



Please remember these families and friends in your prayers.

The funeral of Ralph Houghton will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 2-30p.m. on Friday 16 November.

The funeral of Maureen Sylvia Kaye will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Wednesday 7 November at 4.00pm