



Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church

5 October 2014

Harvest Festival



Sunday Services

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

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

5 October—Harvest Festival

St Marks - Family Morning Worship with Baptism

Preacher - Revd. Canon Charles Royden
Leadership - Mrs. Jean Bank
Intercessions - Mr. Richard Ledger
Organist - Mr John Mower

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd. Canon Charles Royden
Leadership - Mr Martin Fannon
Intercessions - Young People
Organist - Mr John Mower

12 October - Morning Worship

St Marks - Morning Worship with Baptism of Jack David Farthing

Preacher - Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mr Edward Parry
Intercessions - Mrs Morag Stewart
Organist - Miss Marion Prior

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Jenny Snelson
Intercessions - Mr Alan Bayliss
Organist - Mr Alan Bunker

Readings 1. Exodus 32:1-14 2. Philippians 4: 1-9
3. Mathew 22: 1-14

Midweek Holy communion at St. Mark's Chapel every Wednesday at 10am and at Sir William Harpur House on first Monday of every month at 10.00am.

Prayer for Sunday

We offer prayers to God for the life of the world and for all people in their daily life and work.

God, the beginning and end of all things, in your providence and care you watch unceasingly over all creation; we offer our prayers that in us and in all your people your will may be done,

We pray for all through whom we receive sustenance and life; for farmers and agricultural workers, for packers, distributors and company boards; as you have so ordered our life that we depend upon each other, enable us by your grace to seek the well-being of others before our own.

We pray for governments and aid agencies, and those areas of the world where there is disaster, drought and starvation. By the grace of your Spirit, touch our hearts and the hearts of all who live in comfortable plenty, and make us wise stewards of your gifts.

Welcome

We welcome you all to our services today and at St Mark's especially the family and friends of Logan Russell Frost who has been brought for Baptism.

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com

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

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Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinators

Mrs Wendy Waters 342613 office@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 - 5.30pm, Friday 9-1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Geoff Gypps 365630
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 - Mrs Jean Bank 355698
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr 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

8.30-12.30pm St Mark's Pre-School Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

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

9.00-3.45pm 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 M. Berry 211955

10.30am U3A Play reading Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

11am-12noon Pilates St. Mark's. Liz Mason 07816522200 (starts 8 Sept.)

1.30pm Chat & Make. Term time for babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments £1. More details contact St Mark's Church Office on 01234 342613 or Janine 01234 297481 Restarts 8 September

12.00 noon Storybox 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

2pm U3A Music Appreciation Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

2.00pm U3A Italian Putnoe Heights– fortnightly

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

5.30 - 8.30 NHS Eat Smart Think Active at Putnoe Heights. For more details contact Emily Taverner 01234 792013

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 in month) Pat Nicholson 353518

7.00pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. (1st week in month) Mr J Dewhurst 01908 377020.

7.00-8.00pm Laughter Club at St. Mark's 2nd week each month) Cheryl Green 07729187399

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

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's (Weeks 3 & 5 in the month).. Next meeting– 20 October 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

7.45-9.15 Get Fit Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights Diane Field 01234 404976

Tuesday

9 –1pm Bedford Stop Smoking at Putnoe Heights. For more details please contact Olivia Tornyie 01234 276826

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

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

Lorrie Pearson 01234 340473

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

1.15pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's Contact Janet King 313946

1.3pm U3A Choir. St Mark's Contact Janet King 313946

2.00pm U3A Book Group 1 St Mark's (3rd Week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

2.00pm U3A Book Group 2 St Mark's (2nd Week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

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

2pm U3A Photography Group 3 St. Mark's (1st Week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's (1st & 3rd week in month). Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225

2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's (2nd & 4th week in month) 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

7.00pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory 328455 (Unfortunately Jan has had to cancel her sessions at the moment, but hopes to re-start in January 2015.

7.30pm Ladies Tuesday Club at Putnoe Heights (Meets fortnightl 14 October Shoe Boxes Details Janet King 313946

8.00pm Hearts in Beds Committee St Mark's (week 4 in month) Mrs N Aspey 309816

Wednesday

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

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 Janet King 313946

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

10am U3A Card Making, St Marks Contact Janet King 313946

10am U3A Diet and Nutrition- Putnoe Contact Janet King 313946

11.15am U3A Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights

12.30pm –4pm St Mark's Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 8 October Putnoe Heights Office 365630

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

2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft at St Marks.Contact Janet King 313946

2pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

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

3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's (3rd Week in month). for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 15 Oct.

2014 Wendy Waters 401834 Jean Bank 355698

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

6-7pm ATSK Karate at Putnoe Height Kevin Stark Tel. 01234 353865

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge. St. Mark's Colin Jackson 363398 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 15 October 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 (Week 1 in the month) Greta Cansfield 215016

Thursday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Pre School 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. Will not meet on July 31 and August 7

9.15am Spanish for beginners Plus at Putnoe Heights

10.30pm Spanish Holiday Survival at Putnoe Heights. Elena 01234 266968

9.45am Chat and Play St. Mark's. A term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Contact St Mark's Church Office 01234 342613 or Janine 01234 297481 Restarts September 11

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 Restarts 4 September

1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic at St Mark's (Weeks 1 & 3 in the month)Contact 897401

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 Contact Janet King 313946

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. St. Mark's Contact Janet King 313946

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society St Mark's Jean Paterson 307210

3.15-5.15pm Social Care Solutions Drama Group Claire Creek 262650

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Brenna. 07919402797.

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Nina Ovenden 825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Marks (2nd and 4th week in month)Contact Janet King 313946

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

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

Bedford Folk Dancers (formerly Barn dancers) Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers each week. Except August. 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). John Broadhouse 01525 404014

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's (2nd & 4th week in month) Mrs Marie Cotchin 402089

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's (1st and 3rd week in month) Susan Perugi 300219

Friday

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

8.30am Diabetic Centre St Mark's (1st week in month) Deborah Hennessey 792013

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

10am -12.00 U3A Photography St Marks.(4th week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St. Marks Contact Janet King 313946

2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist St Marks. (2nd week in month) Contact Janet King 313946

2pm U3A Gardening - Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

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

7.00pm-9.00pm Meditation St Mark's. Cheryl Green 07729187399

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. St Marks(2nd week in month)Carol Brown 01438 233385

Saturday

9.00am Faith Temple Ministries St Mark's (1st week in month) Dawn Kelly 07863762593

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.

2- 4.30pm Indoor Bowls at St. Mark's 1st and 3rd Sunday. Ray Seymour 305695 or church office.

Messy Church Dates 15 Oct, 19 Nov, 10 Dec



Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council – 14 October

St Mark's Leadership Team -

Annual Congregational Meetings— 26 April 2014

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting -

Putnoe Church Council - 16 October

Pastoral Group Meeting -

Churchyard Committee -

Commemoration Service - 2nd November

Circuit meeting –

Deanery meeting -

Woodland Burial Trustees—

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting - Monday 19 January 2015

Please advise St Mark's Church Office

of the dates of your meetings.

Harvest Festival

Sentence of Scripture

The earth is filled with the gifts of the Lord: wine, and oil, and bread, to strengthen and cheer our hearts. *Psalm 104:13,15*

Collect Prayer for the Day

Before we read we pray

Almighty and everlasting God, we offer you our grateful thanks for your fatherly goodness and care in giving us your gifts and the fruits of the earth through the seasons. Give us grace use them rightly, to your glory, for our own well being, and for the relief of those in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



First Bible Reading - Deuteronomy 8: 7-18

For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with streams and pools of water, with springs flowing in the valleys and hills; a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills. When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. He led you through the vast and dreadful desert, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. He gave you manna to eat in the desert, something your fathers had never known, to humble and to test you so that in the end it might go well with you. You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.

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

Second Bible Reading - 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

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

Gospel Reading - Luke 12:16-30

And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'" Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."' "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' "This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God." Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? "Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns *(Please distribute Harvest service sheets and baptism cards at St Mark's)*

1. Come ye thankful people come
2. We eat the plants
3. We plough the fields
4. Brother sister let me serve you
5. All creatures of our God and king

Commentary

I was up at Pells Farm this week and whilst Corinne was getting the vegetables I took the opportunity to watch the Pumpkins being unloaded off the trailer by the farmer. There were crates and crates of them and Mr Pell posed for a photograph as he unloaded them. I love watching tractors and those big farm machines, for most of us we don't even get to see this far into the farming life because we just walk into the supermarket and see it on shelves. I have no complaint about supermarkets they are very convenient and I think it is great when you can click and collect or even better have it delivered direct to the door. The unfortunate part of this modern shopping revolution is that we now know much less about the seasons and we know less about growing things, the land and the agricultural calendar are becoming more and more remote. Things have changed a lot from the times when harvest festival were celebrated by people closely associated with the land. This means that we have to think what Harvest means to us in our own day. In some ways harvest now is even more important for us because we should all be reminded that food is something which is grown, it is dependent upon things like sun and rain and earth and even insects and bees. If we take food for granted then we are less likely to be concerned about how it is grown and our responsibility to treat the world properly. We need to be reminded that meat comes from animals and we have a duty to care for them, for example to make sure our eggs come from hens which are not treated in a way unbecoming of God's creatures. We must not become just indiscriminate consumers, unaware and unconcerned about how our food is produced. Harvest falls in the time of the Christian calendar with a liturgical colour of green - this is a good colour with all of its ecological and environmental connotations.

Harvest festivals give us the chance to thank God for the riches of the natural world and they also present us with the more solemn task of contemplating our responsibilities to nature. In Harvest Festival services Christians must give thanks to God and also accompany those thanks with promises to keep our environment safe. Harvest is about how we use the things which God has given to us.

Today we each need to ask ourselves how we can use the gifts God has given us wisely, for the benefit of all and not just for ourselves. It is for this reason that our Harvest Festival is the time when we launch our annual appeal. From now until the second week of Advent December 7 we will be offering the opportunity to contribute towards the work of Emmaus in Carlton. It is a remarkable place where miracles really do happen as people who might have been regarded as hopeless have their lives turned around and they discover a new way of living. We are very concerned to make sure that whatever money we give as a church goes to places where it is needed and will be used properly. Emmaus is a really good example of this and since all of the money will be allocated towards the project in Carlton Village this is a local project which you can go and visit yourself.

We do this special appeal once every year, but of course for the Christian every day is about service. We seek each day to live in ways which recognise our faith in a God who set us an example of living which considered the needs of others and challenged the idea that we should think of ourselves. *Charles Royden*

Harvest Prayers for today and the week ahead

God forgive us, for the destruction, which we bring upon this world and all who live in it. You have entrusted this world into our care, forgive us for the way in which we destroy and pollute, and fail to protect the precious resources which we have. Forgive us when the power of the human mind is used wastefully, and destructively, whilst millions are in need of skills, to bring them clean water and basic medicine. Forgive us when we fail to speak out for justice for all people. Forgive us when we are tempted to despair at the size of the problems and the seeming insignificance of our own contribution. Strengthen our faith, hope and trust in the miracle of your redeeming love. This we ask in the name of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lord God, when we think about your creation, we're amazed;
We walk through a masterpiece every day.
Your imagination has created such beauty.
We can never come to the end of your wonders.
How incredible it is that you've trusted us to take care
Of your prized possession!
You've shown us how to sustain life:
Help us to use this knowledge for the good of your world,
The benefit of your people and the glory of your name.
We praise you, painter of creation's harvests! (*Christian Aid*)

Heavenly Father, you are more generous than the most loving parent; yet we depend on the harvests of other lands, and the labours of people of many races. Make us grateful for what they do for us; help us to trade in such a way that we may not exploit others, and to share our plenty with those in need; that none may go hungry while your earth yields so abundantly. Amen

Father God, give to all who work the land, wisdom to understand your laws, and to co-operate with your wise ordering of the world: and grant that the bountiful fruits of the earth may not be hoarded by the selfish or squandered by the foolish, but that all who work may share abundantly in the harvest of the soil. Amen

Forgive us Lord, for thinking of ourselves more than others; for eating too much without considering those who have nothing at all; for our lack of diligence in searching for ways to share our riches with the hungry and the thirsty. Your Son came to earth that everyone might be blessed and forgiveness offered to the penitent. Amen

Thank God for the
Harvest



Together We Stand' Mini Exhibition & Classical Concert in aid of Cancer Research UK at St. Mark's Church 11 October. Starring Elaine Huckle - Mezzo Soprano, Philip Bond and Ian Clarke - piano and Peter Gyles -violin. Exhibition open from 6.30pm concert at 7.15pm. Tickets £12, students and OAP's £10, children under 16 free. Available from Bedford Tourist Information Centre and Bedford Box Office 01234 718112. Also from St. Mark's on the day from 2.30pm. Includes an alcoholic or non alcoholic beverage. Local artist paintings, various displays and raffle.

Celebrate 100 Beer. We have Celebrate 100 beer for sale at £2.50 for 500ml. This is a nice hoppy blonde session beer brewed by the award winning Nene Valley Brewery. Even more discount for cases of 12 bottles - See Sam or Charlie

World War 1 Advance Notice—Saturday 15 November at 6.30pm at Putnoe Heights Church 'Innocence and Experience' an evening recollections of the First World War' using poetry, prose and pictures. Trench grub will be served at tables of 8 people. Vegetarians can request an alternative to the bully beef. Tickets £10 available from church offices or Jenny Emsley. All proceeds to church funds. There will be a raffle in aid of SSAFA.

Partnership Quiz- date for your diary. This year's quiz will be held at Putnoe Height on Saturday 1 November 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Tickets are available from both church offices, £7.50 to include fish/chicken and chips supper. You are invited to make up a team of 6-8 or just buy a ticket and come along.

Would the friend of Margaret Martin who donated craft materials please contact Marion on Bedford 303254 or at Church so we can thank her.

Putnoe Art Group Saturday 25 October 2014 One day exhibition & sale of paintings. Free Entry 10am-4pm. Refreshments available.

Samaritans Purse Shoe Box Appeal 2014

Following the success of last year's donation of 54 boxes by Messy Church and the wider congregation, we will be packing boxes at our Messy Church session on 15 October. We will be happy to accept donated items from now on. All items must be new. These include Toys, Educational supplies, Hygiene items, Other: Sweets sell by date at least March 2015. Gloves, scarves, sunglasses, hats, bangles, necklaces. Please do not donate: food (especially chocolate), no hand knitted stuffed toys, medicine, no war related items, no clothing other than those above, no fragile items, no liquids. No sharp objects, no novels. We do not need any empty shoeboxes this year. Please see the Messy Church notice board for further details of what can and cannot be put in the boxes. If you would like to support the Shoe Box Appeal but are unsure what to buy, we would be very happy to receive financial donations, then we can buy items needed. If you require further information please speak to Wendy Waters Jean Bank or Carolyn Morris.

Friends for Life is hosting "Tackling Loneliness in Care Homes" – a topic which is likely to be of interest to many people in the community. The forum will take place in St Mary's Church Hall, Goldington, Bedford on Wednesday, 8 October 2014 at 7pm. We are pleased to be able to welcome **Revd Dr Keith Albans**, Group Director – Chaplaincy & Spirituality of MHA (one of the largest Care Home providers in the country) to this event; he will be giving a key note presentation and there will be an opportunity to discuss related issues. If you would like to attend this free event, please contact Joanne Barrow on 01234 213038, barrow.ffl@virginmedia.com or via the website: www.friendsforlifebedford.org.uk

Friends for Life Volunteer Induction Session at Putnoe Heights on Saturday, 15 November 2014, 10am – 4pm. Volunteering for Friends for Life is extremely rewarding and very flexible – no pressure, no rotas, perhaps you could find time to be a friend to someone who could use one. Places are also available for the Tackling Loneliness in Care Homes Forum on Wednesday, 8 October, 7pm at St Mary's Church Hall, Goldington. An evening with a presentation from Revd Dr Keith Albans, a Director from MHA, refreshments and discussion. If you would like to know more about volunteering for Friends for Life or would like to come along to the Forum, please contact Joanne Barrow on 213038, barrow.ffl@virginmedia.com or visit the website www.friendsforlifebedford.org.uk

Action for Children A big thank you to the 16 volunteers who knocked on 542 doors for this September's House to House Collection on behalf of Action for Children. The total raised in our St. Mark's Brickhill area was a very worthwhile £630; an 8% increase on last year. Action for Children will be able to claim a further £64 from HMRC as a result of completed Gift-Aid forms. The average content in the envelopes has increased by over 8% which continues the upward trend seen over the past decade or so. However this is partly offset by a general fall in the percentage of filled envelopes handed over at the door. So thank you to those Brickhill residents who gave so generously. Mike Elliott

Please shop at www.thisisChurch.com

Thank you for shopping using the link on ThisisChurch.com to shop through Amazon. Please be careful to make sure that you never access Amazon direct but always use the link on ThisisChurch.com, this ensures we get a donation every time you make a purchase.

The Easyfundraising link is really a very good way to shop as it has lots of voucher codes which can save you a fortune on purchases and we receive a commission. You can shop at John Lewis, M&S etc -



Received in Good Faith -The Belief Autumn Course. This 5 week course is held at St. Andrew's Church Centre on Wednesday evenings in October at 8pm beginning on Wednesday 1 October. Open to all who have questions about Christian faith in the modern world. A donation of £3 is welcome at the door.

St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre Saturday

22 November 2014 It comes round faster and faster each year. Our Craft Fayre is on 22nd November and your help is needed in so many ways. We will be having the usual Church stalls again and donated items will be greatly appreciated. **New Tombola:** New and unused items needed so please look in your cupboards etc. **Homemade Cake Stall:** Homemade cakes, **Secondhand Book Stall:** Books in good condition plus any jigsaws (with all the pieces) please. **Indoor Plant Stall:** Now is the time to plant cuttings and bulbs etc. **Refreshments:** Donations of tray bakes to sell with our teas and coffees. And of course the **Christmas Prize Draw:** Any new items suitable for raffle prizes would be really welcome. Raffle tickets will be on sale in October. We will need a lot of help nearer the time with leaflet delivering, selling of raffle tickets distributing posters etc. Please let me know of any locations where you think a poster would go. If you are able to help us with manning a stall, on the 22 November, helping in the kitchen or in any other way, we would love to hear from you. As always your help is very much appreciated and we could not run this large fundraising event without your help. Please contact Avril Williams.

Defibrillator Training The next session of training will take place at St Mark's on Sunday 19 October from 2.00pm—4.00pm The defibrillator will start the heart of somebody who would otherwise die. You cannot hurt anybody by using it—if their heart hasn't stopped it doesn't work ! So please come along and learn you might save a life.

St Marks Junior Church Dates

12 19 and 26 October. 5 October Harvest Worship children stay in service. 2 November All Saints Worship children stay in

Putnoe Mission Emergency Fund. Following a number of requests we have sent £400 from the Putnoe Mission Emergency Fund to Christian Aid to be spilt equally to support their work in Gaza, Iraq, Syria and the South East Asia floods. Thank you to all who contribute to all our Mission efforts.

Putnoe Heights Will be holding a social evening on 18 October starting at 6.30 pm to approx. 9.00pm. Come and enjoy a game of Steeple Drive. Hot dogs and soft drinks. Everyone welcome. Tickets will be available from Putnoe Heights Church Office from 5 October onwards Adults £5 Children £3. Proceeds to Church Funds. Contact Church Office 365630. or Sue, Carolyn or Val.

HOST is looking for kind, friendly, hospitable people of all ages whose imaginations are caught by the idea of welcoming an international student at university here, far from his or her own family, to their home, for a day, a weekend or at Christmas. You don't need to live near a university, as students will travel for the privilege of meeting you, learning about real life in this country, and sharing their own culture. HOST is a voluntary activity which makes ambassadors for international goodwill of us all. Please see www.hostuk.org or call HOST 020 7739 6292. Thank you.

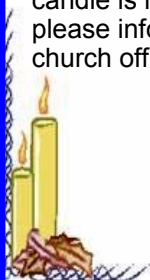
St Mark's Garden of Remembrance working party 19 October at 2pm. We would be grateful for help with Autumn clearing. Please bring own secateurs, trowels, bags, gloves, loppers, trugs, kneelers etc. Any queries please see Marion Prior.

Footprints Walk The next walk will be on Sunday 12 October starting at 2.30pm. Meet at Elstow Abbey Church car park for a Country Walk in an Urban Area. A circular walk to Bunyan's Birthplace [site of], it is all flat with no stiles and will take no longer than 2 hours at a leisurely pace. Queries ring Barry Snelson 01234 344417.

Peter and Valerie Littleford thank all those who supported their coffee morning on Friday, September 26. The sum of £177.75 was raised for Macmillan Cancer

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



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 Shirley Christine Filby will take place at 10.45am on Thursday 9 October.

The funeral of Elsa Maud Slater will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 11.30am on Thursday 9 October.