



Partnership News

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church
7 June 2015
Ordinary 10



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

7 June Ordinary 10

9.30am St Mark's - Family Morning Worship

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs. Margaret Appleton
Intercessions - Mrs. Delia Shephard
Organist - Mr. Mike Cooper

11.00 am Putnoe - Family Morning Worship

Preacher - Rev Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mr. Barry Southam
Intercessions - Young People
Organist - Mr. Ben Mason

14 June Ordinary 11

9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr. Keith Lilley
Leadership - Mrs. Elizabeth Bean
Intercessions - Ministers
Organist - Miss Marion Prior

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr. Keith Lilley
Leadership - Mrs. Veta Hudson-Rae
Intercessions - Mrs. Sylvia Cohen
Organist - Mr. Alan Bunker

Readings 1. Ezekiel 17: 22-24 2. 2 Corinthians 5: 6-17
3. Mark 4:26-34

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

Thank You

The flowers at St Mark's
Church have been given by
Elizabeth Bean in loving
memory of Phil on their
Wedding Anniversary

Also in loving memory of
Barbara Joy, sadly missed by
her family and friends.



We are grateful when people make donations towards flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion such as an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St. Mark's) or Ann Hitt 404186 (Putnoe Heights) or add your name to the rota in the Foyers.

Prayer for Sunday

Teach us, good Lord,
to serve you as you deserve;
to give and not to grudge the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds;
to toil and not to seek for rest;
to labour and not to seek for any reward,
save that of knowing that we do your will;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Ignatius of Loyola (c. 1491-1556)

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.ThisIsChurch.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 Mon-Thur 9-5.30pm, Friday 9-1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Geoff Gypps 365630
Leadership Team Mr Barry Southam 219714
barrysoutham@aol.com
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

Charity No 1160981.

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mrs Margaret Appleton 354708
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
8.00am-5.30pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's
8.00am-5.30pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's Manager Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634
(See website for more details)
9.00am-12noon St Mark's Pre-School Nursery Manager Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634
9.30-10.30am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430
10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mrs M. Berry 211955
10.00am-12 U3A Play reading Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946
11.00am-12noon Pilates St. Mark's Liz Mason 07816522200
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
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 On April 20
2.00pm 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 Zoe Wilcox 07767311424
6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 826190
6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner 07928483418 email firstputnoebrownies@hotmail.co.uk
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-8pm Cubs at Putnoe Ages 8 –10.5 Email:phxg.enquiries@gmail.com Tel Tom 07974566509
6.30pm Fit For All Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081
7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's (1st week in month) Mary Daly 217127
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– 15 June 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

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart 365507
9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's. 9.30, 11.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30. Lorrie Pearson 340473

11-12.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946
1.15pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's Contact Janet King 313946
1.30pm 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
2.00pm 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. Mrs Jean Bank 355698
3.30-6.30pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468
6-7pm Supple Strength Yoga St Mark's Amanda Alcock 07769747393
7.15-8.15pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 07891879571
7.00pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390
7.30pm Ladies Tuesday Club at Putnoe Heights (Meets monthly Next meeting 9 June Mowsbury Park Café 2.30.pm. Details Diane Bayliss 268101
8.00pm Hearts in Beds Council 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.
10.00-2pm Open House at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.
10.00am 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
11.15am U3A Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights
12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 3 June Contact Putnoe Office 365630
1.15pm Social Bridge Club St. Mark's. Mr Barnes 261811
2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft at St Marks.Contact 1st week of the month. Janet King 313946
2.00pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946
2.00pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster 856966
3.30-4.30pm Vita Fit St Mark's starting 29 April for 6 weeks Liz Roe 07901684538
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 17 June 2015 Wendy Waters 401834 Jean Bank 355698
4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
5.00–6.00pm Rainbows at Putnoe Heights Mrs Gill Lake 218091
6.00pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs C Warden 219731
6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton 01234 297138 or 07910835994

6.00-7.00pm ATSK Karate at Putnoe Height Kevin Stark Tel.01234 353865

7.00pm-9.00pm Scouts at Putnoe ages 10.5-14; Email:phxg.enquiries@gmail.com Tel Tom 07974566509

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

7.15pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every month except August Mrs Jo Street 3446008.

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 17 June 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) Jill Cooper 357960

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon 356306. Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.

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

12pm Storybox . St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Lots of fun. Contact Jaana Swaby 342613

1.00-2.30pm Wiggles & Jiggles Putnoe Heights. Drop in.

1.00 - 2.30pm 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 07768481499

6-7pm Supple Strength Yoga St Mark's Amanda Alcock 07769747393

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Brenna. 07919402797.

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Audrey Halford 407284

7.00pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Marks (2nd and 4th week in month)Contact Janet King 313946

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

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

7.30pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's (2nd & 4th week in month) Rosemary McNeilage 405594

7.30pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's (1st and 3rd week in month) Linda Stephen 409493

8.00pm 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

Friday

9.30am -3.30pm Machine Knitting group at Putnoe Heights, 2nd week per month.. 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-7.00pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

6.30pm-8.00pm Beavers at Putnoe Ages 6-8 Email: phxg.enquiries@gmail.com Tel Tom 07974566509

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 at St. Mark's. 1st Sunday Jun/Aug /Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's . A crèche is also available.

2- 4.30pm Indoor Bowls at St. Mark's 2nd & 4th Sunday. Closed for summer break. Re opens 13 September. Ray Seymour 305695 or church office.

Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council – TBA

St Mark's Leadership Team -

Annual Congregational Meetings -

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team –

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting –

Putnoe Church Council - 11 June

Pastoral Group Meeting– 15 September 2015 4.00pm

Churchyard Committee - TBA

Circuit meeting – 16 June at Putnoe Heights

Deanery meeting -

Woodland Burial Trustees –

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting - 28

September 2015 2.00pm

St Mark's Car Boot Sales 2015, 31 August.

Harvest Festival service will be on Sunday 27 September.

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

Ordinary 10

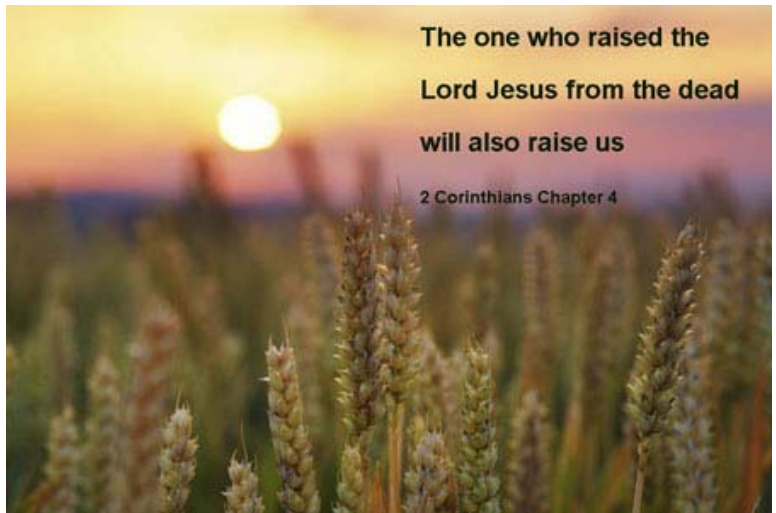
Sentence of Scripture

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I put my hope. Ps 130 v 5

Collect Prayer for the Day

Before we read we pray

O God, the strength of all them that put their trust in thee, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping of thy commandments we may please thee, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Amen.



First Bible Reading Genesis 3:8-15

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, 'Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.'"

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

Second Bible Reading - 2 Corinthians 4:13-5v1

It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.

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

Gospel Reading - Mark 3:20-35

Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind." And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons."

So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: "How can Satan drive out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man's house. Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin." He said this because they were saying, "He has an impure spirit."

Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. A

crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you." "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked. Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

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

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymns for Sunday

(Please distribute Morning Family Worship booklet & Mission Praise where requested)

1. O worship the King 528
2. For the fruits of his creation 153
3. Breathe on me breathe of God 67
4. Fight the good fight 143
5. God is love, let heaven adore him 187

Meditation

Even at this early stage of Mark's pacy gospel, things are moving quickly. Crowds are already gathering and people are coming to Jesus from all directions and backgrounds. Some are undoubtedly just there so see something new, something different and to listen to someone who is prepared to challenge the status quo. Will they see a miracle or witness a healing? Perhaps some of them don't even care. They just want to be in on the action. For others, they are clearly following Jesus out of an act of real personal commitment and an embryonic understanding that what Jesus is bringing is not just a challenge to the current socio-political environment but a new world order, as God intervenes and becomes incarnate on earth. Jesus calls us too, not just to be 'involved in the action' and to follow Him indiscriminately but to reflect the incarnation as we live out our daily lives in a way which reflects our understanding of the change that he brings in our own personal lives. Like His early followers, we may not comprehend fully the long term implications of what this means, but it is, at its heart, a commitment to Christ and His teaching and a genuine desire to be faithful to it, wherever it may lead.

Commentary Letting things get out of hand

There are at least two sets of interested parties in today's reading from Mark. There is Jesus family,

'...have you seen what your boy is up to now?' and the religious leaders,

'...we can't allow this to continue, He's leading people astray from our true religion'.

Jesus is clearly causing a bit of a stir in the neighbourhood. It might have been fine if all Jesus was doing was going out in the morning and coming back at night and settling down in front of the fire with his slippers on, reading the paper. But things were not like that, they were beginning to get a bit out of hand. Jesus was beginning to attract a crowd, some of which were probably quite disreputable, who were following him around. They were probably a bit noisy, creating a bit of a mess, coming round the house at all hours of the day and night and generally getting the family a bad reputation. They certainly seemed to be no respecters of time, property or the reputation of the wider family. The family couldn't even get in their own home at times. They needed to get a grip on things, they were told. You can imagine the people saying to his family

'You need to get over there', 'take charge of Him', 'He's lost it', .

But if the family are concerned because of their reputation and the disturbance that is being caused, the scribes objections are far more fundamental. Perhaps their motivation is just wanting to maintain the way things are, not to upset the Roman authorities and therefore wanting to 'keep the peace'. But the Scribes were devout and took scripture very seriously. They studied and tried to apply its teaching to their lives and the lives of those for whom they felt they had responsibility. Jesus' new interpretation did not accord with their own understanding and it therefore needed to be challenged. If it did not align with their own, considered comprehension it must be wrong. Even if good things appear to be happening, it must be for the wrong reasons. And their understanding is that events and outcomes such as they have seen can only come from two places, God or the devil. And if it's not God it must be the devil, Beelzebub.

Clearly it was serious stuff and needed to be addressed. In response, Jesus points them beyond their theory and learning to the reality of what is happening. People are being healed. People are being released into new freedom of life. Jesus has simply got on with the job of revealing god's Kingdom. In the Gospel of Mark we see no great proclamation of intentions such as we see in Luke, where Jesus makes explicit His calling to release captives and bring healing and wholeness to those in need. Jesus just gets on with the action. It's characterised by liberation and wholeness not captivity and fear. How can this be the work of the devil, it just does not make sense. And in making reference to blasphemy against the Holy Spirit Jesus rebuked His accusers, challenging them to reconcile what they have just said about doing things in the name of Beelzebub who seeks to deceive and enmesh and the liberating freedom of the God they teach and worship.

It's a gentle challenge to His family too, who by inference, must be somewhat complicit with those who think He's a bit strange, as they rush back to see what is happening. Perhaps they think it's to protect Him from Himself and any delusions of grandeur and celebrity status or perhaps they just want to sort things out so they don't cause a fuss in the neighbourhood and upset the neighbours.

For everyone involved the challenge comes because of a different perspective. Jesus can see what it is like to have the Kingdom of God revealed in people's lives and in the world as a whole. He can see the inward and the eternal. For those watching, they base their understanding on the immediate and the external, the signs they are seeing the words they are hearing. Faith comes when we see beyond the immediate and the external as we catch a glimpse of the inward and eternal. God calls us to look beyond the obvious and the immediate, the things which we think we can understand and invites us to catch a glimpse of His Kingdom. Through the mess and the business which seem to characterise our modern day lives He offers us the opportunity to join with Him in His Father's work. To be open to do God's will in a world so much in need of release and freedom. To not be constrained by the worlds perspective and limited understanding of the things that seem important, and of the myriad of limitations that come from such an outlook, but to be free to join with Him in the broad family of the church and its people, and far beyond, to reveal Jesus, the liberator and salvation of the world.

As we see from this story in the gospel of Mark, we don't even need to make grand statements about what we are doing, or the theological basis for what we are doing. We just need to get on and do it, confident that Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit will do the rest.

Sam Cappleman

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

O God, Father, moment by moment you hold us in being; on you we depend, O God, eternal Son, friend and brother beside us, in you we trust. O God, Holy Spirit, life and love within us, from you we live. O God beyond us, God beside us, God within us; Father Son and Holy Spirit three persons in one God, you are ever to be worshipped and adored. Amen *Source unknown*

Jesus our savior, we thank you for incorporating us into your body the Church that we may work together as organs and limbs to do your will. Give us that organic unity without which the body will fail, that in obedience to you as the head, we may go where you need us, work for you and speak for you, and, shining in our lives, the world may see you love in action. Amen

Michael Council inspired by St Teresa of Avila

To yo, O Son of God, Kord Jesus Christ, we pray, as you pray to the eternal Father: make us one in Him. Lighten our personal distress and that of our society. Receive us into the fellowship of those who believe. Turn our hearts, O Christ, to everlasting truth ad healing harmony. Amen
Philip Melancthon 1497 - 1560

We are no longer strangers and sojourners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. Christ Jesus is the cornerstone and in Him we have our security, our foundation and our life. Amen *From Eph 2 v 19 - 20*

The God of all grace who called you to His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. Amen

Mother Teresa Support Group meet at St Mark's every other Tuesday at 2.30pm to knit and natter. (Wool and needles provided.) Donations of wool are always very welcome. Please call Maureen Watling Tel.262225. New people always welcome. Next meeting Tuesday 9 June.

Pilgrims on a Journey the Prayer Handbook of the Methodist Church will be available in August. Please let me know by end of June if you would like a copy for personal or community use, including public worship. Vera Pearson 270737 (St. Mark's).

Footprints Walk Sunday 7 June. A 4 mile walk around Pavenham, partly by the river so boots recommended. Parking along the main street so please car share if possible. More details Warwick.holden@ntlworld.com

St Mark's Clothes collections Thank you to everybody who is using the clothes collection bank at St Mark's. We have now raised over £300 from two collections which is an enormous amount for such a short time. We really want to keep this going so please do drop of clothes, curtains and any other unwanted textiles shoes or handbags. Wherever possible they are reused and so this is a great way to help others and the environment whilst raising money for church funds.

Help with Fire Thank you for the kind gifts which have been received at St Marks for the local pre-school family who lost all their possessions in a house fire in Mersey Way.

Songs from English Musical Shows presented by the U3A Choir on Tuesday 9 June, 2.00pm at St Mark's Church. Free entry.

Partnership Mission

Bishop Richard is joining us in the Partnership on the week commencing 13 July and he will be preaching at both services on Sunday 19 July During the week he will be visiting schools, lunch Club, Anjuluta Court, and as many church activities as possible.
Please put these dates in your diary

Tuesday 14 July at St Mark's Church - an evening exploring the Christian faith with the Bishop addressing questions. There will be a brass band, refreshments on arrival and an opportunity to ask Bishop Richard questions about faith, life and the universe. Please do give us questions now so that we can plan the event. This is a free event and we want you to invite along people who do not usually come to church - Who can you bring ?

Saturday 18 July

- During the day we will be providing a Church marquee for the Brickhill on the Green Fete.
- In the evening we are having a Caribbean Evening at Putnoe Heights with food and entertainment.

Caribbean Evening

On Saturday 18 July we will be having a Caribbean evening at Putnoe Heights Church, beautiful Caribbean cuisine, entertainment etc. Tickets are £10 from Putnoe Heights Church Office.

Ways you can help

- Make sure that you invite the Bishop to any activities which you have going on - speak with one of the ministers
- Please remember the Bishop and the Partnership Mission in your prayers and use these great opportunities to invite friends,
- Invite them along to the Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday services.

Relaunching in September Daytime Discussion Group

Tuesdays at St Mark's Church. If you are interested please talk to Jean Bank or Martin or Sue Fannon.



Thanks to Marion Prior for arranging these beautiful flowers for the Flower Festival at The Salvation Army, Commercial Road, where they were commemorating 125 years of the Salvation Army Band in Bedford.

Wi fi Wifi is now freely available throughout St Mark's Church Community Centre. The password is `jesuslovesme`
If previous users experience difficulties, then please delete your old connection and start a new one with the new password

Open House St Mark's Wednesday's - Could you come and do something with the friends from Open House. Perhaps show them some holiday slides, do some crafts, anything different ! Please contact Charlie - we are hoping to widen our activities

Bishop Richard's Partnership Mission

Please see below our provisional calendar of events for the Bishops Mission. This is very much a work in progress but we would like comments, requests etc so that we can finalise the events. Please put the Tuesday and Saturday in your diary and think who you can bring along. **We want to invite people to our church !**

	Tuesday 14 July	Wednesday 15 July	Thursday 16 July	Friday 17 July	Saturday 18 July	Sunday 19 July
Morning	School Visit Preschool visit to Putnoe 10.30am	School visit Holy Communion Open House	No activities			8.30am Service 9.30am St Mark's 11.00am Putnoe
Afternoon	St Mark's Preschool Chat and play Anjulita Court	Putnoe Lunch Club Messy Mission			Brickhill on the Green event. Partnership Church Marquee	
Evening	'Brass Band and the Bishop' Question time, entertainment at St Mark's (Free event)				Caribbean Evening at Putnoe Heights Church	



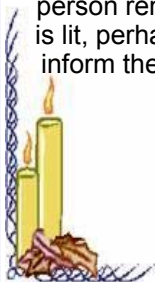
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www.easyfundraising.com. This works exactly the same when you shop with John Lewis, M&S and a whole host of other shops. This has an added benefit that you will also get some special offers - you can't lose ! Please click the link on the church website go online and sign up now

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



Dorothy Elizabeth Richer

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 **Barbara Joy** will take place at St Mark's Church on Monday 8 June at 3.15pm

The funeral of **Ruth Lillian Rands** will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 12.15pm on Friday 12 June