



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

8th June 2008

Ordinary 10



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

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

9.30am St. Mark's Church - Morning Worship with Baptism of Thomas Joshua Holland
Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mrs Delia Shephard
Intercessions - Mrs Morag Stewart

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship
Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

15 June - Ordinary 11

9.30am St. Mark's Church - Holy Communion
Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mrs Laura Farthing
Intercessions - Mrs Pat Leusby

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion
Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mr Lawrence Wyatt
Intercessions - Mrs Claire Peck

Bible Readings

1. Genesis 18: 1-5
2. Romans 5:1-8
3. Matthew 9:35- 10: 8

Thank You

The flowers at St. Mark's this week have been given by both families to celebrate the christening of Thomas Joshua Holland.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights this week have been given by Pat Hope in loving memory of her husband, Ron Hope, and by members of the family of Margot Partner

Anyone who wishes to donate flowers on a particular Sunday in the next few months is invited to enter their name(s) on the rota on the notice board in the welcome area at Putnoe Heights Church.

Prayer for Sunday

Praise to you, O Lord and our God,
for the jewel of our sight, the treasure of our hearing, and the glory of our speech.
Pardon our ingratitude and teach us to render you a thankful heart.
Open our eyes to your glory, our ears to your word and our mouths to proclaim your goodness; now and forever. Amen.
Thomas Traherne, 1636-74

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman
107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
266952 Fax- 402624 NSM@ThisisChurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)
30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.
Home 344536 Crossley@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)
The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
309175 Mobile 07973 113861 vicar@thisischurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website.

Partnership News is also archived on our church website www.ThisisChurch.com

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com
Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved, housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services. Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am—5pm Monday to Friday
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417
Leadership Team Mrs. Wendy Nash 357119
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186
Youth & children's worker - Mrs Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5.00pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 332613
Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper 306751
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30-12.00pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school

Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

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

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634

(See website for more details)

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

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's

Mr Kellie ☎721063

10.45am U3A Playreading St Mark's C Birks ☎219607

12.00pm Story box 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. ☎Liz 302349

1.45pm U3A History Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week of the month. ☎ David Fowler 824474

4.00pm Storybox Plus Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. ☎Liz Spavins 302349

4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe Heights. Margo Needham 843747

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 ☎07720712735

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week every month Pat Nicholson ☎353518

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

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Lena Holland ☎244970

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week each month. Next meeting 16 June Judith Stanton. ☎823313

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

8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821

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

Helen Folbigg ☎351223

10am -Bedford Arts Society starting at St Mark's on the 11th September. ☎Mrs Brown 771676

1.30pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's last Tuesday of the month. Mr Austin ☎365184

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Tuesday of the month Mrs Berman ☎364723

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Mrs C Allen ☎363878

2-5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting 10 June - Laurence Jones 'Travels with my camera' Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's alternate weeks. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's alternate weeks. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

3.45pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917582468.

7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group

St Mark's 1st Tuesday ☎Parsons 351150

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

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

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

7.30pm Chartered Management Institute St Marks 3rd week of the month. Mrs Dimmock ☎01525 862374

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 17 June 'Willing Warblers' Charity evening £5 including refreshments & lucky programme. Audrey Wilkins☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

9.15am Paint Tots St Mark's Jacqui Hanahan ☎824475

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

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

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

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

10am Sewing & Chat. Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966

10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation Putnoe Heights Fortnightly. Audrey Hancock ☎365915.

Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 18 June 2008 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

12.30pm Men's Fellowship Lunch St Mark's 2nd week each month. Chris Izzard ☎212164

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

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

1.45 Scots Society Whist monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr 268147

2pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 3rd week of the month Ken Silvester☎400584

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

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

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

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138

6.30pm Karate. St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

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

7pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 4th Wednesday of the month. Ken Silvester ☎400584

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

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice ☎Loxley 347073

7.00pm U3A Sky at Night 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Mr Farish ☎824984

7.45pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome.

Ken Marriott ☎214867

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club St Mark's, 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday. Next meeting 18 June 2008 Graham ☎406359 or Alan 345312.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

7.45 for 8pm God talk—women's group monthly meeting 11 June for worship and friendly chat at Wendy Nash's Contact Majella Atkinson ☎325293

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen ☎343424

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

9.40am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips ☎01582 485333

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Lena Holland ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play weekly at St. Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.75. More details from St. Marks Office ☎342613 or Emma Strangwick ☎211070

12pm Storybox weekly at 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 Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30—3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic St. Mark's 267444

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

5.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Helga Nash ☎218521

6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's

Mr C Hill ☎772922

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights

Nina Ovenden ☎825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's 2nd & 4th week of the month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059

7.00pm British Cardiac Patients Assoc. at Putnoe bi monthly Mrs. E. Marriot 303834

7.30pm Bedford Senior Chess Club St Mark's Mr P Housden ☎376597

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs C Smith ☎344544

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week each month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Jean Birks ☎219607

8.00pm Brickhill Wives St Mark's 1st and 3rd week Next meeting Mrs Woods ☎404702

Friday

9.30-12.30pm & 12.30 - 2.30pm U3A Photography Group St Marks 4th week Joyce Fildes ☎353086

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

1.30pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

6.30pm –7.30pm Line Dancing. Beginners 7-8pm Improvers St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360

7pm Bedford Arts Society fortnightly Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

7pm Youth Club for age 10-15. St Mark's Church.

Contact PC Dave Hawkey ☎349179

7.45pm Astrology Group St Mark's as from 11th January. Mr Kenworthy ☎402792

Saturday

9.00pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard ☎01234 782414

1.30pm Young Embroiders bi monthly Terry Fletcher Tel 357198

7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

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

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.

1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515

6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. Next meeting 8 June for a 'Pecks' card evening. Liz ☎302349

Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council –
17th June, 18 November

St Mark's Leadership Team –
23 June

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team –

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Committee

Putnoe Heights Management Meetings 14th July.

St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - .

, 11 July, 9 September, 12 November all at 12 noon

Putnoe Church Council - 16 June, 6 October.

Pastoral Group Meeting - 10 June 4.30pm

Churchyard Committee - 11 June 11.00am

Putnoe Heights Mission Group –

Partnership Council - May 13th at St Mark's

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Deanery Meeting - 12 June, 18 September, 13 November

Circuit/Deanery Meeting 12 June

Woodland Burial Trustees -

Mission Group Meeting

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth–

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

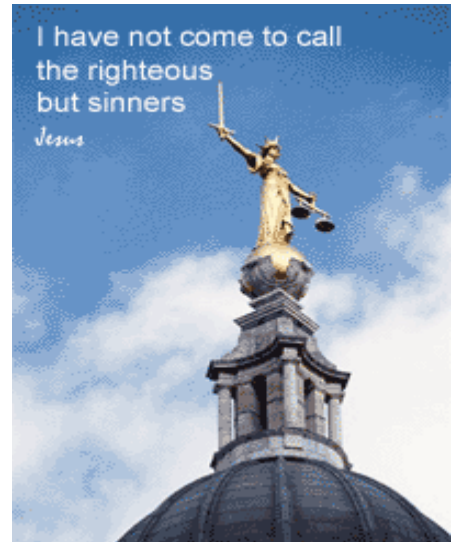
Ordinary 10

Opening Verse of Scripture- Psalm 33:4

For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

Collect Prayer for the Day

Ever-loving God, your Son Jesus Christ healed the sick and restored them to wholeness of life. Look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your power make whole both people and nations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Methodist Worship*



First Bible Reading - Genesis 12: 1-9

The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." So Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. Abram travelled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.

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

Second Reading - Romans 4:13-25

It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who live by law are heirs, faith has no value and the promise is worthless, because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring--not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed--the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were. Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead--since he was about a hundred years old--and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness."

The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness--for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

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

Gospel Reading -Matthew 9: 9-13,18-26

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and "sinners" came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?" On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Then John's disciples came and asked him, "How is it that we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while he is with them? The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; then they will fast. "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse. Neither do men pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved." While he was saying this, a ruler came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live." Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples. Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed from that moment. When Jesus entered the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the noisy crowd, he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him. After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up. News of this spread through all that region. (This is the Word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

Hymns (*Please distribute Mission Praise, Morning Worship and Baptism Sheets at St Mark's*)

1. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness 529
2. Give me joy 492 (Jesus friend of little children (On Partnership News))
3. Lord Jesus Christ 435
4. We rest on thee our shield and our defender 735
5. Christ is surely coming 75

Commentary

In our Gospel reading today we have three passages which Matthew uses to teach us about the kind of person that Jesus was.

Firstly Jesus calls Matthew. Matthew belonged to a profession which was hated by the Jews, rightly so, the Romans contracted with local people to collect taxes, and collectors extorted excess taxes for personal profit. They enriched themselves at the expense of their fellow citizens, and were thus held in great contempt. They were barred from the synagogue and considered the moral equivalent of robbers and murderers. To follow Jesus, Matthew realised that he must abandon his lucrative job, knowing that he can never regain it -- and that he has no friends elsewhere -- except Jesus!

The lesson is clear, if you hear the call of Jesus you must be prepared to accept massive changes in your life. Matthew does not ask to follow Jesus, nor does he understand what he is getting into. He does not understand theology or ascribe to a creed or set of beliefs. He responds in faith, that is, he responds to the voice of Jesus. He is not a great guy, he is not a moral person, he is unpopular and unworthy, but this just demonstrates that God loves and can redeem any person. To be called by Jesus is an act of pure grace.... We are not chosen because of what we are; ...we are chosen despite our personal worth or social status.

The Pharisees could be forgiven for getting upset at what happens next. Jesus dines with Matthew and not surprisingly the guest list includes other tax collectors and sinners.

The Pharisees are offended. Sharing a meal, especially in a public setting, implies acceptance, approval. The Psalmist asks for vindication, because "I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked" (Psalm 26:5). There is much wisdom here. Bad company corrupts! One bad apple spoils the

barrel, bad company is the devil's net, you can't run with dogs without getting fleas! These old proverbs reflect the truth that the company that we keep makes a difference in our lives. Jesus responds, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn that this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

The incarnation is for the benefit of those who need it. Jesus keeps bad company and it is something which costs him a great deal in his ministry. Of course the difference with Jesus is that he is not corrupted by sin, he accepts the sinner and enables them to discover the forgiveness of God.

Jesus helps a dead girl and a sick woman. A ruler approaches Jesus and makes a tremendous statement of faith "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live." he believes that even the slightest touch of Jesus hand will save. Jesus agrees to go to the home of the ruler and he responds a lot quicker than most modern doctors!

It is then that a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She too believes that even the slightest touch from Jesus will heal.

The girl and woman have much in common, the stories are about people alienated by disease and death. For a start, touching them would have rendered anyone ceremonially unclean.

The woman's bleeding separates her by ritual law from family and friends. Her problem has persisted for twelve years. It is a spiritual and social problem as well as a medical problem. Her bleeding renders her unclean, and requires her to separate herself from the rest of society (Lev. 15). She cannot attend the synagogue or participate in religious rituals. If she touches another person, her touch renders that person unclean. She has to live as a leper did, on the fringes of society, shut out, looking in from the outside. It is hard to imagine how lonely and vile she must have felt.

Likewise, death isolates the family and all who attend the corpse.... But, in both cases, by being touched and by touching, Jesus breaks through the barriers.

Both of the stories also involve females. Women, in that time and place, were not highly regarded and had few rights. Parents wanted sons -- not daughters. The prejudice persists, 2,000 years later we have only just accepted woman as ministers in God's church and still refuse to allow them to be bishops.

However, just as Jesus showed mercy to lowly sinners in vv. 9-13, so he also shows mercy to lowly females. The healings take place at the touch and word of Jesus, at his command. The word of Jesus has power, it conveys healing.

Charles Royden

Meditation

For Christians, the death of Jesus on the cross is the sacrifice that restores our relationship with God. Too often we have a hard time accepting that gift to us and continue to try and make our own sacrifices to earn favour with God. We are called to restore our relationship with God by accepting the gift of the sacrifice of Jesus. By accepting with gratitude, our restored relationship allows us to share that same gift to others in the broken world around us by being merciful to them.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

We thank you O God, for the saints of all ages. For those who in times of darkness kept the lamp of faith burning. For the great souls who saw visions of larger truth and dared to declare it. For the multitude of quiet and gracious souls whose presence has purified and sanctified the world. And for those known and loved by us, who have passed from this earthly fellowship into the fuller light of life with you. Amen.

Teach us, O Lord, to love you, to trust you and for ever to praise you. Let us exalt your name both in the day and in the night. Let us serve you both in the house of prayer and in the world about us. Let us ascribe to you with all your saints both wisdom and majesty, both honour and glory, world without end. Amen. Henry Vaughan, 1621-1695

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake. *Common Worship*

St Mark's Youth Club. For over two years our youth club at St Mark's has been operated by PC Dave Hawkey. He has carried out his community work voluntarily and earned the respect of young people and adults across our community. Dave will no longer be able to carry on with this work and without an alternative, the club will have to close. We will keep you posted on any developments but at the present time it looks like the end of the road for this really important youth club.

St Mark's Foyer Refurbishment. The Church Council recently approved a plan for the extensive refurbishment of the foyer at St Mark's. Our architect has now completed drawings showing proposals for a new entrance with pitched roof canopy. The drawings are all now available for viewing in the church office.

Table Top Sale on Saturday 28 June at 1.30 for buyers, 50p adults, accompanied children free. Tables can be booked in advance for £6 from Liz. If you could help or have any thing to donate please see Joan or Liz.

Future Dates for your diary. 'The partnership Summer Musical Workshops !!! - a mixture of story, music, dance, drama, crafts & fun. Tuesday 19 August 2- 4 pm 'Its Raining Cats and Dogs' aimed at the under 5's with carers. Tuesday 26 & Wednesday 27 August 10am-3pm 'The 7 Days of Creation' 5 years plus, all abilities . Full details to from Liz.

'**The Great Gappo**' (children's entertainer) joins Storybox and Storybox Plus on Monday 28 July at Putnoe Heights. Meet at 12 for a sandwich lunch. Tickets £2 in advance from Liz. All welcome.

St Mark's Coffee Rota. Could you spare time on a Sunday morning to serve coffee after the service? It is a good way to get to know people and, if we have enough volunteers, only means 4 times a year. Please see Milly if you are interested.

Tuesday Club Annual Charity Evening Tuesday 17 June at Putnoe Heights at 7.30pm. A concert of folk songs and poems by 'Willing Warblers' in aid of Christian Family Care. The cost is £5 including refreshments and a lucky programme.

St Mark's Coffee Shop. The St Mark's Coffee shop will remain open throughout June, however the Leadership Team are reviewing the continued provision of this facility and will make a decision on Summer Opening over the next few weeks.

Copies of the Diocesan News See Round are available this morning. Please take a copy



Please remember to buy everything you need through amazon at

Thisischurch.com—but remember you must always log on to Amazon through www.thisischurch.com first.

Living Life to the Full - an evening for women. Sat 5th July. 7pm -10pm. Woodside Church, Dover Crescent. Speaker Bev Murrill. £5 per person. For more information and to book visit www.kingsarms.org/girlsnight or call 07935 326130 (book by 3rd July)

Help Wanted. Can anyone recommend a cleaning lady to work about 2 hours a week. My wife, Sue, has unfortunately developed cancer, and this would help us out while she is undergoing chemotherapy. Please ring 01234-267837 if you know of anyone. Howard Lawrence

Red Cross Open Gardens – Sunday 15 June Many of the inhabitants of Pavenham High Street will be opening their gardens to the public in aid of Cancer Research UK from 1.30pm until 6pm on 15th June. Apart from some beautiful and varied gardens, there will be attractions for children, a plant stall and teas available in two or three of the gardens. There is an admission charge which gives access to all the gardens, and a courtesy bus will run the length of the High Street all afternoon for those who would rather not walk all the way. If you haven't been before, you won't be disappointed. If you have, there are bound to be some changes, as a garden is never finished! For further details please contact Sue or Richard Butler on 354183

Sunday 22 June 2008 Time: 1.30-5pm
Howbury Hall, MK41 0JB Directions: East of Bedford off the A428, approx 500 metres from the Elms Estate / MFI roundabout.
Howbury Hall A late-Victorian designed garden with mature trees, sweeping lawns, herbaceous borders and old fashioned roses. In the woodland area, walking towards the large pond, the outside of a disused ice house can be seen.

Methodist Ministerial Appointment. Following a period of consultation over the possibility of a shared Methodist Minister between the Partnership and churches in the South Circuit, we report that these discussions have been called off. It is apparent that this is not a feasible opportunity and there will be no subsequent revisiting of the idea. Further discussion is now taking place to consider what alternative options exist for the appointment, given the difficulties of shortage of Methodist Ministers. Any new proposals will be reported as they develop in Partnership News.

Annual Arthritis Research Campaign Appeal. As we had very few collectors this year, if your road was not covered and you would like to give a donation, there is still the opportunity to do so after Services today and next Sunday. There will be a basket with donation envelopes in the entrance hall at St. Marks and Putnoe Heights. Please put your envelope in the basket or hand in at the church office. Thank you for your support to this vital medical research. Marion Goddard (Hon. Sec)

Methodist Homes for the Aged. 2008 marks 65 years of MHA. This charity exists to improve the quality of life for older people, inspired by Christian concern. The values of MHA are centered upon respecting and valuing the individual, offering a person centered approach to care, nurturing spiritual as well as physical well being. They work to shape the environment for a better future for older people, striving for excellence. There are envelopes available this morning if you would like to make a donation to their work.

Weddings

We publish the banns and pray for the marriages of

Maureen Rose Smith and Harry Norman Paul. This is for the third time of asking.
Elvis Donald Veira and Julie Diane Gilbert
 This the for the second t time of asking.
All residents of this parish

A Hymn for Sunday 146 H&P

Jesus, friend of little children,
 Be a friend to me;
 Take my hand, and ever keep me
 Close to thee.

Teach me how to grow in goodness,
 Daily as I grow:
 Thou hast been a child, and surely
 Thou dost know.

Never leave me, nor forsake me;
 Ever be my friend;
 For I need thee, from life's dawning
 To its end.



Thank you to everyone who helped yesterday with the St Albans Woodland Burial Trust Open Day. We were really pleased by the number of visitors who came and enjoyed refreshments and the opportunity to wander in the woodland and surrounding countryside. Many people took the opportunity to make reservations, dedicate trees etc. It was a really worthwhile afternoon appreciated by all.



**St Mark's Coffee Shop
 Every Sunday in June
 2.30pm until 5.00pm.**

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.

**Florence Edith Rowling
 Peter Alec Wheeler**

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



Rest in Peace

The funeral of Doreen Joy Maxey will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Monday 9th June at 10.45am *Royden*

The funeral of Graham Neil McKechnie will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 12.15pm on Monday 9th June *Royden*

The funeral of John George Francis Talbot will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Monday 9th June at 2.30pm *Royden*

The memorial service for Margot Partner will take place at Putnoe Heights Church at 2.30pm on Monday 9th June

The funeral of Malcolm McNeil Campbell will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Thursday 12th June at 2.30pm *Royden*