



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

8th March 2009

Second Sunday in Lent



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

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

9.30am St. Mark's – Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership - Mrs Morag Stewart

Intercessions - Mr John Tatman

11.00am Putnoe Heights – Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership - Mr Lawrence Wyatt

Intercessions — Mrs Sylvia Cohen

Sunday March 15th

9.30am St Mark's - Holy Communion

Preacher - Reverend Eric Royden

Leadership – Mrs Delia Shephard

Intercessions – Mrs Pat Leusby

11.00am Putnoe Heights – Holy Communion

Preacher - Reverend Eric Royden

Leadership - Mrs Wendy Nash

Intercessions - Ministers

Readings 1 Exodus 20: 1-17. 2.1 Corinthians
1: 18-25 3. John 2: 13-22

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Gwen Beswick and family in loving memory of Peter's birthday and wedding anniversary; and by Sheila Tapping in memory of her brother on his birthday, also her parents, sister, and her niece's husband, who all died in March in different years

The flowers at St Marks Church this week have been given by Paul Marshall in memory of his wife Shirley, always in our thoughts.

A Prayer for Sunday

Give us light and strength, O God,
to know your will.
Guide us by your wisdom
and support us by your power.
Unite us to yourself
in the bond of love
and keep us faithful
to all that is true;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Isidore of Seville, c.560-636

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 Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

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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 Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm

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 342613

Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper 306751

Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Jim 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 Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's

9.30-3.15pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's
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.

9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights
Stephanie Smith ☎ 07973174430

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mr Kellie ☎ 721063

10.30am U3A Playreading St Mark's J Birks ☎219607

11am - 12. The Right Track at St Mark's. 3rd week
Signpost information for people with learning difficulties.
Gina Barton ☎07999859980

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

1.30pm U3A History Group St Mark's ☎ David Fowler 824474

2pm U3A Drama St Mark's 1st & 2nd week. Mr Ovenden ☎ 825059

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 Kumoni 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 ☎ 07720713738.

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

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

7.30pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst ☎01908 377020

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 . Next meeting 16 March 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

9.30 12.30 Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston ☎01908 587299

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 Mrs Brown☎771676

10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group. St Mark's. Sally Cripsley ☎350704

1.30pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights Majella

Atkinson ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's 4th Week in month . Mrs Beaumont ☎261461

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Week Mrs Forrest ☎344043

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

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting 10March Bring and Buy .Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

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

2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

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

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

7.30pmChartered Management Institute St Marks 3rd week. Mrs Dimmock ☎01525 862374

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 10th March Talk on the Mayflower. Jackie Painter. The secretary. Details from Audrey Wilkins☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

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 March 2009 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

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

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

2pm U3A Craft St Mark's 1st & 3rd week. Pat Holland ☎ 262823

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

6-8pm Karate. St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

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

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

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice ☎ Loxley 347073

7.00pm U3A Sky at Night 2nd Week. 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 in month. Next Meeting 18 March Everyone welcome. Graham ☎406359 or Alan 345312. or Rosemary 405594

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 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.

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Lena Holland ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. Emma Strangwick ☎211070

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 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

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

4 - 7.30pm 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

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Nina Ovenden☎825059

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

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Nadeen Salmon ☎301550

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

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

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month. Pat Foulks ☎346505

Friday

9.30-12.30pm U3A Photography (Group 1) St Marks 4th week in month Val Scrivener ☎346397

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

10am - 12 U3A Beginners French St Mark's Joyce Fields ☎353086

12.15pm U3A Photography (Group 2). St Mark's 4th week in month. Sue Butler ☎354183

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 Line Dancing. St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360

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

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club. Carol Brown ☎01438 233385

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

; 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

4pm B.A.M.A.A. at St Mark's. Chinese soft martial arts. Mr Chris Butcher ☎07886894922

6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship & fun. Next meeting 22 February at Putnoe at 6pm for a Quiz evening. Please see Liz ☎302349 .

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 22 June, 9 Nov

St Mark's Leadership Team –

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – 8 June at Linda's, 12 Oct, 8 Feb 2010

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting 20 Apr, 20 Jul

St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - 18 March

Putnoe Church Council - 15 Jun, 5 Oct

Pastoral Group Meeting -5th May 4.30pm

Annual Congregational Meetings 26 April

Churchyard Committee - 29th April 3pm

Putnoe Heights Mission Group – Wed. 25th March 7.30pm 14 Flint Way

Partnership Council -

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Deanery Meeting 18 Jun, 17 Sep, 19 Nov,

Circuit/Deanery Meeting

Woodland Burial Trustees –

Mission Group Meeting - 25 March - 7.30pm at 14 Flint Way.

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth –

Please advise St Mark's Church Office

Second Sunday in Lent

Opening Verse

All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the LORD and he rules over the nations. Ps 22

Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

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

Methodist Worship

First Bible Reading – Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

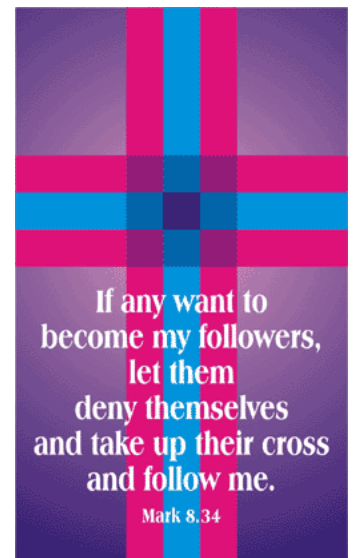
When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty ; walk before me and be blameless. I will confirm my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers." Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram ; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you .God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her." (Reader: 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. (Reader: This is the word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading - Mark 8: 31-38

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses



his life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

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

Post Communion Prayer

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

Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken, you have fed us this day at the table of life and hope. Teach us the ways of gentleness and peace, that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen *Canadian Book of Alternative Services*

Commentary

The Old Testament reading describes God's covenant with Abraham. There are many covenants in the Old Testament each of which builds on and develops earlier covenant relationships. Last week we read of the covenant between God and Noah, sealed with the sign of the rainbow. The covenant with Noah is a universal covenant that included not just all of humankind but all of creation, the living things that God had made. In this covenant God promises that there will be no more wholesale destruction of the earth and offers all the inhabitants of the world a future once again. The covenant with Abraham is more focused and applies to the nations that will be descended from Abraham and Sarah. Later the covenant becomes more focused at Sinai to include only Israel and ultimately it will be focused even further in Christ the Messiah who, in fulfilling the covenant, opens up God's Kingdom to all as He redeems the entire world through His death on the cross and subsequent resurrection.

Paul picks up this theme in Romans as he underlines how Abraham's God has indeed kept His promises. Paul's image of God is as the creator and the covenant keeper. He alone can give life to the dead and calls everything into being, even if this seemed an impossible task to Abraham and Sarah! He alone can revitalise the Jewish covenant membership which was failing because they could not keep the law. Through Jesus He calls those who were part of this covenant and those who were outside it (the Gentiles) into a new relationship with Him. The promise to Abraham is fulfilled not because of anything that Abraham did, but because it was God Himself that made it. Abraham is on a journey with God and the promise that he will have a son is the next step of that covenant journey. In Lent too, we are on a journey, sometimes one just with small steps, sometimes one where we seem to be moving along our spiritual path more quickly and deeply than normal. As he went on his journey Abraham discovered that God is a trustworthy God. He may not have always understood what God was asking or where He was leading, but Abraham learnt to trust God in everything he did. We too may not always understand the way of God but He remains as trustworthy now as He was then. Abraham was 'persuaded that God had the power to do what He had promised' and that, in God, all things would be fulfilled. As the Old Testament unfolded the Jews were to learn just how true that was.

Chapter 8 of Mark's gospel picks up the theme of fulfilment. Up to the middle of chapter 8 of Mark's gospel the emphasis seems to be on keeping the fact of Jesus' Messiahship a secret. In the early chapters of Mark people were often left wondering, 'who is this that the winds and waves obey Him' and, 'what is this new teaching, what by what authority does He do these things'. But in the verses just before our reading today Jesus asks the disciples who others think He is, and then asks the disciples themselves who they believe Him to be. Peter blurts out that Jesus is the Messiah and the cat is out of the bag. Jesus still warns them not to tell anyone but then to everyone's surprise 'began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things...'.

He acknowledges that He is the Messiah but then completely redefines the Messiah's role not as one of kingship and glory but as one of abject suffering and death. How can this be part of God's plan the disciples must have thought? How can the God who is trustworthy allow this to happen to the Messiah? As with the covenant relationships of the Old Testament all would be revealed. But before then the disciples would go through days of dark doubt and uncertainty, days when God and His promises seemed far from being trustworthy. They were to learn that following Christ would mean more than just a few minor adjustments to their daily lives, it would completely change their outlook on life and their way of living. It was a call to share in the glory of the Messiah but also a call to share in His suffering, to take up their own crosses in following Him. Sometimes Christians are seen as being rather radical, holding polarised and extreme positions on matters of ethics and truth. Perhaps we are, but surely the bigger question is, are we radical enough as Christians in the way we live our lives to the glory of God. Does our faith make radical changes in the way we live our lives, as it did to the disciples, or just mean a few minor adjustments. Lent offers us the time to reflect on our lives and our walk with God and perhaps, just how radical we are prepared to be as we step out with a God who is, and always will be trustworthy. A God who keeps His promises to us, even if, like Abraham and the disciples, we find that takes some faith to believe at times. *Sam Cappleman*

Meditation

Many people either give something up for Lent, chocolate, biscuits, alcohol for example, and others sometimes take something on, reading a book, spending a few minutes more each day in prayer. Important as these acts are it's equally important that these Lenten practices and how well we're doing with them do not become our focus in themselves. Their real purpose is so that we can better discipline ourselves to listen to God and grow in obedience to whatever God is asking of us.

Hymns (*Please distribute Mission Praise and Morning Worship*)

The God of Abraham praise, 645; Will you come and follow me (Partnership News); In the cross of Christ I glory, 338; Hail thou once despised Jesus, 203; All hail the power of Jesus' name, 13

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Guide us, O Lord waking, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen

As we remember how you suffered on the cross for our sake, give us compassion for all those who suffer today. May we have the will and the wisdom to relieve their need and heal their pain. Amen

Spirit of integrity, you drive us into the desert to search out our truth. Give us clarity to know what is right, and courage to reject what is merely strategic and pragmatic; that we may abandon the false innocence of failing to choose at all, but may follow the purposes of Jesus Christ. Amen

The sacrifice of God is a broken and contrite spirit; a broken and contrite heart He will not despise. Our sin is always before us: we acknowledge our transgression in penitence and faith. Ps 51v 17

God of Sarah and Abraham, long ago you embraced your people in covenant and promised them your blessing. Strengthen us in faith, that, with your disciples of every age, we may proclaim your deliverance in Jesus Christ to generations yet unborn. *AmenKate Huey*

May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give you a contrite heart; may Christ, who bore our sins in His body on the tree, heal you by His wounds; may the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, speak to you words of pardon and peace. Amen

Starting This Week

St Marks and Putnoe Heights Lent Course 2009

The Life, Meaning and Teachings of Jesus
Tuesday 10 March 2009 at Putnoe Heights .
Sessions 7.30pm refreshments, 8.00pm start,
9.00pm finish. First session : The Teaching of
Jesus, What did Jesus really teach? - How did He
teach? - What did He mean? Leader: Paul Fricker

50 Plus -Are you interested in a new programme of
sports coaching aimed at adults 50 years plus. The
sessions include badminton, golf, line dancing,
squash, swimming and yoga. Please take a booklet
from the table in the foyer.

Wanted occasional newsletter distributors. We
will pay £6 per 100 & tell you where to distribute.
For more details please ring the Parish Council
Bedford 271708 or email with your details
to :clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk

For Sale—Electronic Keyboard CASIO CA.-100
Tonebank Keyboard. £75.00 ONO. 25% to Church
Funds. Contact D Wren 01234 400279.
22 Rhineland Way, Brickhill Bedford.

Greetings cards for Mothering Sunday and Easter
are now available on the card stall at
the rear of the church and on the
brochure table.

Saturday 28th March Church of the
Transfiguration, Bedford Road
Kempston. Bring and sing with
Kempston Musical Society, Faure
Requiem. Rehearsal 4.30pm, Tea
6.00pm, Performance 7.30pm.
Singers £5 including tea, Audience £5
for concert. All welcome, further
information 01234 854858

House Group April 2009 Wendy
Waters is proposing, subject to
interest, to hold a house group at 13
Farnham Way, Putnoe on 4 Monday
evenings in April and May. We will
use a 'York Course' entitled Faith,
Hope and Love. The course
comprises of a CD which provides
thought provoking input from well
know Christians such as, Bishop Tom
Wright and Anne Atkins and a booklet
which forms the basis of informal
exploration and discussion. The dates
would be 20, 27 April and 11 and 18
May starting at 7.45. If you are
interested in being part of the group or
for more details please contact
Wendy Waters on 401834 by 22
March.

Help wanted . Can anyone recommend a cleaning
lady to work about 2 hours a week as my wife,
Sue, has to have further chemotherapy. Please
ring Sue or Howard Lawrence on 01234-267837 if
you know of anyone. Thank you.

St Mark's Church Welcomes
Kempston Musical Society
Saturday 25 April 2009 at 7.30pm

Programme

Magnificat - John Rutter
The Hundredth Psalm - Ralph Vaughan Williams
Soloist - Miranda Doggett
Choral Suite from the Armed Men Karl Jenkins
Five mystical songs Ralph Vaughan Williams
Soloist -Mark Wisson

Music Director - Janet Welch
Accompanist - Derrick Robinson
Organist - Brian Fox

*Tickets £7 in aid of the
St Mark's Church organ fund*

A Hymn for Sunday

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you, and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer in you, and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free, and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you, and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound in you, and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

world history and which we anticipate each year as we travel through Lent.

Thank you Many thanks to everyone for all your prayers, cards, flowers & visits received during Keith's recent hospital admission. He is home and on the road to recovery thanks to the skill of the team at Papworth Hospital. Trudy & Keith Bunday

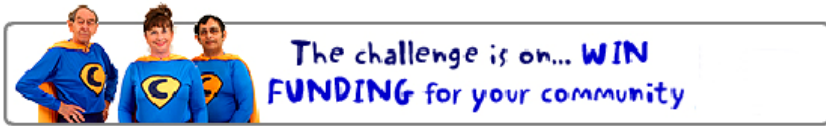
Street Champions is a new volunteer scheme headed by Pride in Bedford to encourage residents to take a more active role in their community. As a Street Champions you will become the 'eyes and ears' of Bedford's streets, informing the Council of environmental issues as they arise. All Champions are provided with an A-Z ringbinder that will give you the necessary information to report any issues that affect your street. In return for your help, we promise to activate the appropriate action as quickly as we can and also feed back to you our response. By becoming a Street Champion you can put something back into the community and help put things right. It's simple and easy, all you have to do is tell us about your concerns ranging from refuse collection, abandoned cars, damaged street lights to graffiti, litter and noise and we will do the rest.
Street Champion Aims
To encourage the public to play an active role in their local area.

To build respect in local communities and to reduce anti social behaviour.
Encourage communities to monitor the cleanliness and maintenance of local streets and parks.
Reduce crime and the fear of crime.

What do you get as a champion? Once you have signed up, we will send you all you need to get started. This will include the Handbook, a notepad for jotting down issues and a selection of leaflets. The Handbook is a A5 ring binder. The main part, is an A-Z section covering issues and organisations that are concerned with local environmental quality. Each entry gives you the information needed to learn about and contact the relevant organisation. As well as the A-Z section, there are also sections on waste, local government and land ownership. You will also get an equipment request form. From this you can order certain items to help you make a difference in your area. These things will include graffiti removal wipes and litter picking equipment.

Congratulations

Beds Festival evening proved very successful for Putnoe in the Bible reading Classes. Rachel Nash got 1st in the 12's + and Rachel Spavins got 1st in the under 11's.



St Mark's gets through to second round of 'Cut Your Carbon.' St Mark's have received notification that they have been selected to go into the second round of the competition. A presentation

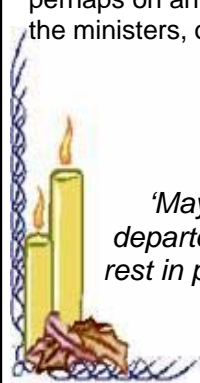
will now be made to the Cut Your Carbon judges on April 1 in Cambridge. If successful at this stage then award may be made of £29,000 towards the cost of Installing solar powered energy and hot water. We now have 81 people signed up as supporters but we need more. Please visit www.thischurch.com and use the link on the front page to log onto the cut your carbon website and support us. It is now really important and we get points if you take the carbon footprint test.

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.

**Ada Hill
Kenneth Goodie**

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



We publish the banns

and pray for the marriage of Avril Platt and Festus Scott of Bromham Parish and on the electoral roll of this Parish. *This is for the 1st time of asking*

Forthcoming Funerals



The funeral of Mr William(Hugh) Furnell will take place at Putnoe Heights on Wednesday 11 March at 3.00pm

The funeral of Alice Hart takes place at Bedford Crematorium 12.15pm, 9 March

The funeral of Stanley Blunt takes place at Bedford Crematorium 11.30 am, 17 March