



Partnership News

**Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church
9 November 2014
Remembrance Sunday**



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

9 November– Remembrance Sunday

9.30am St Marks - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs. Wendy Waters
Intercessions - Mrs. Morag Steward
Organist - Miss Marion Prior

11.00 am Putnoe – Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mr. Barry Southam
Intercessions - Dr. Tim Wilkes
Organist – Mrs Pam Kinselly

16 November– Ordinary 33

9.30am St Marks - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd. Canon Charles Royden
Leadership - Mrs. Jean Bank
Intercessions - Mrs. Wendy Waters
Organist - Mr. Clive Simmonds

11.00 am Putnoe – Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd. Canon Charles Royden
Leadership - Mrs. Veta Hudson-Rae
Intercessions - Mr. Alan Bayliss
Organist – Mr. Clive Simmonds

Readings 1. Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
2. 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 3. Matthew 25:14-30

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

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights this week are given by Doreen Denny in loving memory of her dear husband Len

The flowers in the Church at St. Mark's Church this week are given by Elizabeth Bean and Family in loving memory of Phil .

The flowers in the Chapel at St Mark's this week are given by Gill Williams in memory of David on his 75th birthday.

Prayer for Sunday

God, our heavenly King,
you made each one of us to
be like you and blessed us
with the rich and fruitful
earth. You gave humanity
responsibility for the good
ordering and wellbeing
of the world. Inspire us to
work for a world
of peace and justice
where all may experience
the power of your love.

Amen



The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

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

Deacon Jane Mills

c/o Putnoe Heights Church Centre
Tel. 348091 Mobile 07807 146535
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Canon Charles Royden

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
309175 Mobile 07973 113861 vicar@thisischurch.com

Partnership News is sent out by email every Saturday in a colour edition. If you would like to receive a copy please send an email entitled 'Partnership News' to vicar@thisischurch.com. Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website and may appear in other local media sources.

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

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Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinators

Mrs Wendy Waters 342613 office@Thisischurch.com
Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved, housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services. Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.

Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am –5.30pm, Friday 9-1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Geoff Gypps 365630
Leadership Team Mrs Jenny Snelson 344417
Treasurer Mr John Hitt 404186 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Youth Team Leader Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mrs Jean Bank 355698
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

Hazeldene Heights Pre-school. Sessional and Full Day care available—open Mon.—Fri. Full Day Care 8.30am to 5pm Sessional times 9am—12noon and 12.45pm - 3.45pm

For more info please contact Laura Leggett 01234 326685 or www.hazeldeneheights.com

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

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

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

9.00-3.45pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

(See website for more details)

9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights

Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mrs M. Berry 211955

10.30am U3A Play reading Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

11am-12noon Pilates St. Mark's. Liz Mason

07816522200 (starts 8 Sept.)

1.30pm Chat & Make. Term time for babies and

toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys, songs, story and refreshments

£1. More details contact St Mark's Church Office on 01234

342613 or Janine 01234 297481 Restarts 8 September

12.00 noon Storybox Putnoe Heights We welcome the

under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon

and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based

story and singing. Contact Carolyn Morris

youth@thisischurch.com 365630

2pm U3A Music Appreciation Putnoe Heights Contact

Janet King 313946

2.00pm U3A Italian Putnoe Heights— fortnightly

4.15pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha

Mistry 01908 392698

5.30 - 8.30 NHS Eat Smart Think Active at Putnoe

Heights. For more details contact Emily Taverner 01234

792013

6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 826190

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner

01767699399 or 07720713738.

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

6.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga - Putnoe Heights

Contact Jane Butcher 07891879571

6.30pm-8pm Cubs at Putnoe Ages 8 –10.5

Email:phxg.enquiries@gmail.com Tel Tom 07974566509

6.30pm Boot Camp Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor

341152 / 07976259081

7.00pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's (1st week in month)

Pat Nicholson 353518

7.00pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. (1st week in

month) Mr J Dewhurst 01908 377020.

7.00-8.00pm Laughter Club at St. Mark's 2nd week each

month) Cheryl Green 07729187399

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

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's (Weeks 3 & 5 in the

month).. Next meeting— 17 November Judith Stanton.

823313

7.30pm No Fear Bridge Club St. Mark's Mrs. Susan Ford

300218.

7.30pm House group 30 The Ridgeway. The home of

Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567

7.45-9.15 Get Fit Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights Diane

Field 01234 404976

Tuesday

9 –1pm Bedford Stop Smoking at Putnoe Heights. For

more details please contact Olivia Tornyie 01234 276826

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights.

Pat McCart 365507

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

Lorrie Pearson 01234 340473

11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King 313946

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

1.30pm 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

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

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

Mrs Maureen Watling 262225

2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's

(2nd & 4th week in month) Mary Stubbs 406784.

4.00pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe

Heights. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

7.15-8.15pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher

07891879571

7pm - 8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie

07980447390

7.30pm Ladies Tuesday Club at Putnoe Heights (Meets

fortnightly Next meeting AGM on 11 November. Details

Janet King 313946

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

Wednesday

9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights.

Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430.

10am-2pm Open House at St Mark's for those with

learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and

supporters 342613.

10am U3A Gardening Group 3 St Marks. Contact Janet King 313946

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

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

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

11.15am U3A Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights

12.30pm –4pm St Mark's Nursery

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 19 November Putnoe Heights Office 365630

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

Mr Barnes 261811

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

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

2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights

Mrs Webster 856966

3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's (3rd Week in month). for children of lower school age and their carers.

Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next

meeting 19 November

2014 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
**6-7pm 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
7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe 3rd Wednesday in every
month except August Mrs Jo Street 344600
7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Mike Del-Boyer 348378
8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome.
Ken Marriott 214867
8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club at St Mark's
(1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month). Next meeting will be
19 November Everyone welcome. All dances called, only
£1 including refreshments. Rosemary 405594 or Graham
406359 for more details.
8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's (Week
1 in the month) Greta Cansfield 215016

Thursday

8.30am—12.30pm St. Mark's Pre School Nursery
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634
9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights.
Valerie Capon 356306. Request for prayer can be written
in the prayer diary on the information table.
9.15am Spanish for beginners Plus. at Putnoe Heights
10.30pm Spanish Holiday Survival at Putnoe Heights.
Elena 01234 266968
9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A term time group for
Mums & toddlers.0-5 Contact St Mark's Church Office
01234 342613 or Janine 01234 297481 Restarts
September 11
12pm Storybox . St Mark's welcome the under 5's and
their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a
sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and
singing. Lots of fun. Contact Jaana Swaby 342613
Restarts 4 September

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

1pm-2.30pm Drop in (small hall) Next Steps 9-24months
Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton
(centre assistant) for more information 340552. 2pm -
Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per
session inc. refreshments. New members welcome.
Contact Pat 01234 294220.

2pm U3A Current Affairs - Putnoe Heights Contact
Janet King 313946

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

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society St Mark's Jean
Paterson 307210
3.15-5.15pm Social Care Solutions Drama Group Claire
Creek 262650

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Brenna.
07919402797.

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Nina Ovenden 825059

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

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

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

Bedford Folk Dancers (formerly Barn dancers)
Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers
each week.Except August. All welcome, cost £2.50

Including refreshments. More details Ron 825574 or
Shirley 01767 651767

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's (1st week in
month). John Broadhouse 01525 404014

7.30pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's (2nd & 4th
week in month) Mrs Marie Cotchin 402089

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

Friday

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

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

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

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

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

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

2pm U3A Gardening - Putnoe Heights Contact Janet King
313946

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

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. 1st Sunday Feb/Apr/
Jun/Aug /Oct/Dec. Contact P Harris 01623 621143

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for
the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for
our young adults. A crèche is also available.

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

Messy Church Dates 15 Oct,19 Nov,10 Dec



Diary Dates



St Mark's Church Council -
St Mark's Leadership Team - 26 January
Annual Congregational Meetings— 26 April 2014
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -
Putnoe Heights Management Meeting -
Putnoe Church Council - 20 February
Pastoral Group Meeting -
Churchyard Committee -
Commemoration Service -
Circuit meeting -
Deanery meeting -
Woodland Burial Trustees—
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting - Monday
19 January 2015
*Please advise St Mark's Church Office
of the dates of your meetings.*

Remembrance Sunday



Sentence of Scripture - John Chapter 5:13

Jesus said, There is no greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. *John 5 v 13*

Collect Prayer for the Day *Before we read we pray*
Grant us, O God, a vision of our nation as she could become: where justice would be available to all; where each receives according to their needs and all offer according to their abilities; where all are treated as individuals of equal worth and none are stereotyped in the minds of others; where fear is forgotten because none threatens the wellbeing of others; where all are united in common love for their land and generosity to other nations. Then give us, O God, your grace to bring these things to be. Amen *Michael Counsell*

First Bible Reading Micah Chapter 4:1-5

In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and peoples will stream to it. Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Every man will sit under his own vine and under his own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the LORD Almighty has spoken. All the nations may walk in the name of their gods; we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.

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

Second Bible Reading Romans Chapter 8:31- end

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?? As it is written: For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Third Bible Reading - 1 Corinthians Chapter 15:50 - 58

I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed-- in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.

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

Gospel Reading -Matthew 25 v 1 – 13

At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' " 'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. "Later the others also came. 'Sir! Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!' "But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.' "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

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

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

The Two Minutes Silence

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, not the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them. We will remember them.

Laurence Binyon 1869 - 1943

Hymns (*Please distribute Remembrance Sunday Booklets*)

1. Judge Eternal throned in splendour, MP395
2. The National Anthem, MP194
3. I vow to thee my country,
4. As the deer pants, MP37
5. All my hope on God is founded MP16

Commentary

Looking back with thanks – looking forward with hope

Henri Nouwen, the Dutch Catholic Priest who went on to work with mental and physically handicapped people at the L'Arche Daybreak community after 20 years of teaching in academic institutions wrote, 'When our gratitude for the past is only partial, our hope for a new future can never be full...'

On Remembrance Sunday we look back. Look back to the many conflicts that have troubled the world since the wars and remember with gratitude, not only those who gave their lives but those who came back maimed and injured, many of them scarred for life so that the world could be a better place and that those that followed would have a more peaceful future. If our gratitude to them is only partial, our hope for that new future they dreamed of can never be full. That is why it is important to remember them with gratitude today. Their suffering, hardship and sacrifice is also a salutary reminder that the world's hope is not in the men and women of the world but in God alone.

It is because of the sacrifice of Christ, His suffering, death and resurrection that we have a hope in the eternal future. As Paul says in Romans, if God is for us, who can be against us? Micah, in the Southern Kingdom of Judah, was one of the earliest Old Testament prophets, contemporary with Amos and Hosea in the Northern Kingdom of Israel living in the 8th century BCE. His message was for the capital cities of both Kingdoms, Samaria in the north and Jerusalem in the south. Judah and Israel are infected with the same sins. God's judgement would therefore fall on both Samaria and Jerusalem. But our Old Testament reading, in the second half of Micah, opens expressing fresh hope. A hope that despite the invasion of Assyria and the exile in Babylon and all that will happen to the Jews (over the centuries to follow) there will be a New Jerusalem where there will be peace and the resources of the world shall be shared. That is the hope in which we share, a hope not based on human decisions or interventions, or on governments and organisations, but on God. It is a heavenly hope, a hope we have in God through Christ.

Today we look back and remember, and it's important to do so. We reflect on the events that have brought us and this world to where it is today. But we also look forward. We reflect on those things which have touched our own personal and spiritual lives to bring us to where we are today, so that we are both challenged and prepared for the future in which we have a sure and certain hope in an eternal kingdom through the Christ who died for us. The reading in Matthew brings this hope and expectation down to a personal level. It would seem that rather than absolute vigilance being the priority, it is being ready or at

least as ready as we are able. Clearly the early church longed for the end of time and the coming of God's Kingdom in its fullness on earth, and just as some had done during the First World War, expected it to come soon. They believed they were seeing and experiencing the beginning of the end. There is much discussion regarding what the groom, virgins, lamps and oil represent in the gospel reading. We do know that marriage imagery was often used to represent the relationship between God and His people and the virgins may therefore represent the very people that Christ had come to save. Perhaps in some way the lamp, and particularly the oil represent the essence of how these people had lived their lives and their personal openness to Christ as Messiah. The refusal of the wise to share what they had therefore is not so much a lack of charity or helpfulness, but simply a matter of personal decision and at some stage, it would appear, there is a time beyond which it's too late to make a decision, the door does get shut. Part of our preparation and readiness is therefore our willingness to make a decision for Christ, rather than to leave it until it is too late, because as Matthew points out, we never know when this will be. *Sam Cappleman*

Remembrance Sunday Meditation

Both of the Great Wars, and particularly the First World War, had a profound influence on religious thinking and the understanding that people had of God at that time. The War and its outcomes would impact many of the world's religions, and particularly the Abrahamic faiths of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. In every nation the belief in angels, apparitions and the supernatural was prevalent during the war years, and many spoke of apocalypse and Armageddon, the very end of times. Across the world hopes were dashed and moral, political, theological and spiritual positions needed to be rethought. For the Christian faith one key figure was Karl Barth who reshaped the way many Christian thinkers understand God and His work on earth. For Barth God is 'Wholly other', and for him, rather than the world judging God as theologians had increasingly started to do, perhaps God was the absolute standard by which the world should be judged. Seen in this light, the world was found wanting, as the recent conflict had demonstrated so vividly, because no matter how hard men and women tried, they would always fall short of God's absolute standard and therefore inhabit an imperfect world that could only be saved through God's intervention and incarnation. Barth reasoned, as others had done before him, that God's reality matters in a way that the ways of the world never can. Barth based much of his thinking on Paul's letter to the Romans, again as others had done before. To Barth, Romans was 'a revelation of the unknown God'. God chooses to come to humans not humans to God. One drop of God's eternity was far greater than the ocean of finite things in Barth's reckoning. These thoughts, which would have been very familiar to great reformation thinkers such as Luther and Calvin, sounded prophetic at the time and still have influence on our thinking today. As we look at the world in our current times it can be easy for us to slip back into an old way of thinking and reflecting, or questioning what God is doing and asking where He is in a world which still seems riven by conflict. In so doing we are seemingly passing our judgement on God and expressing what we think He should be doing. Our reading from Romans, an Epistle which has been hugely influential over the years, reminds us of the importance of seeing God as the absolute standard against which we are to be judged and to live our lives. It is God who justifies, and in Christ and through His love for us we have an inseparable relationship with that God, who we call Father, and empowered by the Spirit are called to live the justified life based on God's own standard, not ours nor the world's around us. *Sam Cappleman*

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

We thank you, Lord, for all those who have died for their nation. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in whose hands are the living and the dead: we give you thanks for all your servants who have laid down their lives in the service of their country. Grant to them your mercy, and the light of your presence, that the good work you have begun in them may be perfected; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy Spirit, you hovered over the world as order came from chaos.

Bring order to the chaos of this world. **Send us peace.**

Holy Spirit, you came to the disciples gathered in fear in the Upper Room.

Inspire and excite us when we are faced with change. **Send us peace.**

Holy Spirit, you enabled the disciples to speak in many languages.

Give us gifts of communication across the nations. **Send us peace.**

Holy Spirit, giver of life and love, help us to build your Church, and your world, with the gifts of gentleness, self-control, love, joy and peace. **Amen.**

A prayer for those afflicted by war

Lord Jesus, you knew the loneliness of fear: hold in your hand those who fear for their lives, those who live in places of violence. Help us to bring comfort to the oppressed, and compassion to those who suffer, so they may hear the song of love which triumphs over evil. Amen.

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

Men's Fellowship Meal 11 November at 7.30pm at The Pheasant Public House. £15 for two courses and first drink. Deposit £5 to be paid by 2nd November with choices. For details of menu and further information contact Barry Southam 01234 219714, mobile 07860639595 email barrysoutham@aol.com

Roderick Williams, Baritone, with Joseph Middleton, piano. As seen at the BBC Last Night of the Proms 2014. Saturday 22 November 2014. St Andrew's Church. Advance tickets £8, £7 concessions, Students 16-21 £3 Children free accompanied by an adult. At the door are £9/ £8 concessions available Church Centre Office, Kimbolton Road, tel 01234 216881 Central Box Office, Bedford, tel 01234 718112

Open House Children in Need Fundraising Event Open House will be holding a coffee morning on Wednesday 12 November between 10.30am and 11.45am to raise funds for Children in Need. On sale there will be tea, coffee, homemade cakes, pickles, jams as well as jewellery by Open House members. There will also be games and a lucky dip and other goodies for sale. Please come and join us to raise money for this worthy cause. Last year we raised a staggering £400.

Mission Update Thank you to everyone who has contributed financially to our Autumn Mission project. The total donated has already climbed to over £1500 which is outstanding and makes a significant contribution to offer hope and a new beginning to the companions who live and work at Emmaus Thank you for your generosity. If you have not yet been able to pick up an envelope with details of how to support the project, these are available from the Ministers or either church office.

Putnoe Heights Table Top Sale and Coffee Morning to be held Saturday 15 November 10am – 12 noon. To book table (£6 in advance £8 on the day) contact Putnoe church office 01234 365630 or Jenny Snelson 01234 344417. Donations of cakes for refreshments / sale greatly appreciated.

Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB). Everyone is invited to a Circuit Advent Service on Sunday 7 December at 4pm at Priory Methodist Church. Refreshments will be available after the service.

£186.00 has been donated to Christian Aid for the DEC Ebola Crisis Appeal as a result of the retiring collections after the Quiz night and after the

11.00 worship at Putnoe Heights on 2nd November. Thank you all for your generosity.

Priory Methodist Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday 15 November from 10 until 3pm. Cards, crafts, paintings, raffle etc. Refreshments, lunches etc. Admission £1 (acc.children fSt Mark's Weekly Please come and bring your friends for an enjoyable browse.

Offering Envelopes Replacement sets of weekly offering envelopes are available after the service this morning. If you do not currently use the envelope scheme or would like to find out more about regular giving to the Church please contact Jim Williams tel. 01234 360605.

Are You Willing - November is Will Writing Month and we are encouraging everybody to make a will. Your church is important to you, so please consider leaving a legacy, however large or small. It can make a huge difference to the church and ensure that we are able to continue to provide Christian ministry in the years to come. To maintain the ministry of our churches we are dependant on generosity. A special leaflet is being distributed to every member of St Mark's Church this week in Partnership News.

Bowls at St Mark's today Sunday 9 November The following session will be on 23 November. Sessions will revert back to the first and third Sundays in December. Ray Seymour

Putnoe and Holy Cross Scouts (based at Putnoe Heights) have the following voluntary vacancies. Further details from Tom Oldershaw phxg@bedfordscouts.org.uk Treasurer: To handle monies, produce annual accounts, and work with GSL and Executive Committee to manage the Group's finances. Must be able to work with other adults with a flexible approach. No finance experience or qualifications are required. Approx 4 hours/month. Chairman: To work with GSL in managing the Scout Group. In particular, to lead the Executive Committee to manage property, equipment and finances. Needs to work with other adults in a constructive manner. No Scouting experience is required. Time flexible, approx 5 hours/month.

Clear out your wardrobe

St Mark's are installing a textile clothing bank and we want your old clothes, curtains, sheets, soft toys, belts, handbags and shoes. Every kilo which you give us will help raise money for church funds. We will hopefully have the container in the church car park this week so please start clearing out those unwanted items now. You can drop them off at the church office in the meantime if you want to make a start !





Christmas Craft Fayre

The leaflets for the Christmas Craft Fayre are on the table this morning for delivery around Brickhill etc. We would be very grateful if you would take your street or any other street to help advertise the Christmas Craft Fayre. Many thanks for your help in this matter. Avril Williams

St Mark's Christmas Craft Fayre 22 November 2014

Two weeks to go - Just a quick reminder of items need for our stalls etc.:-

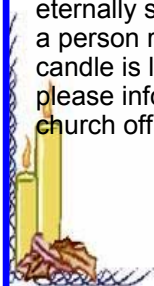
Raffle Tickets – Will be on table in Foyer after service. Please take a few books home to family and friends returning anytime during week beginning

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

Shirley Tatum

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



17 November fore the Fayre on the Saturday.
Tombola – Any **NEW** unwanted gifts\Christmas presents etc. for our Tombola stall.
Cake Stall- homemade cakes required see Milly
Refreshments – homemade traybakes to sell at our Refreshment Counter.
Secondhand Book & Jigsaw Stall – Any books or paperbacks in good condition
Indoor/Outdoor Plant Stall – Any plants accepted please see Marion Prior or Jean Bank
 There again donated items for the above stalls can be bought up to Church anytime week beginning 17 November.



'Christmas Craft Fayre Hamper

We have a hamper again as a prize in the raffle. We would be grateful if it could be filled with your donations. There is a list on the table in the foyer of suggested items so that we don't get duplicates. Many thanks to those who have offered their help either in goods or on the day etc. It is very much appreciated on all fronts. Avril Williams

Celebrate 100 Beer

We are down to our last ten cases of Celebrate 100 beer. Please help us ensure we sell all our stock which is now at rock bottom prices! See Sam and we will arrange delivery



Forthcoming Funerals

A celebration of the life of Vera Wenlock will be held at Anjulita Court on Tuesday November 11th, following a brief service of committal at Norse Road crematorium at 12.15pm.

The funeral of Doreen Mills will be at Putnoe Heights at 2pm on Thursday November 13th.

The funeral of Marjorie Taylor (formerly of Ladyslaude Court) will take place at Priory Methodist Church on Monday 10th November at 1.30pm