

Parish Priest: Fr. John Byrne

Fr. Voytek Przyjalkowski

ST. MARY & ST. JOSEPH

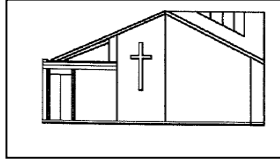
ST. MARK'S

GROVEHILL AND HIGHFIELD

These Parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Westminster. Registered charity No: 233699



St John's Road, Boxmoor



Hollybush Lane

(Back of JFK School)



Church of the Resurrection

(Henry Wells Square)

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Hospital Chaplain: Mrs. Lynn Bassett: Tel: 01727 897254

24th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

13TH SEPTEMBER 2009

MASS TIMES

St Mary & St Joseph

Boxmoor

Sun 9am
11.30am
6pm
Mon 9.30am
Wed 9.30am
Thurs 12.30pm
Fri 9.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

(confession):

Sat 11am – 11.30am

St Mark's

Hollybush Lane

Sat 5.30pm (Vigil)
Sun 10.30am
Tue 7pm
Wed 1.30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

(confession) –

before evening Mass

Church of the

Resurrection

Highfield & Grovehill

Sat 5pm (Vigil)
Sun 9.30am
Mon 7.30pm
Tue 9.30am
Fri 9.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

(Confession) –

after morning Mass

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

DEADLINE IS

WEDNESDAY

Who do you think you are?

I really enjoy the television program “Who do you think you are?” because, although each week it focuses upon a single person, week by week it displays the amazing diversity of the origins of the people living in Britain. This diversity was celebrated in a recent TV documentary by Eddie Izzard called “Mongrel Nation” where he presents overwhelming evidence for the benefits of diversity of culture.

But this can be of no surprise to a Catholic, as we travel around and experience the Mass in different places, even if it is just up the road, we cannot help but be struck by the universality of our faith albeit celebrated in a diversity of cultures.

Who do people say you are?

Our appearance, our words and our actions all affect the opinion other have of us, both as individuals and as a community. As a society, obsessed with self image and self worth, we spend inordinate amounts of time and money cultivating an attractive appearance; we like to look our best in the hope that others will have a good opinion of us. But no matter what we look like or what we say or what we do, there will always be a large diversity of opinions about us, some good, some not so good. No-one is universally liked nor universally loved.

If we apply the two questions above to ourselves we invariably get different answers. The “who” we think we are, is so often different from the “who” people say we are. But if we apply these two questions to Jesus the opposite is true, the two questions yield the same answer.

Jesus, at the point of his life we read about in today's gospel, knew exactly who he was – the Christ – and he knew exactly what that meant, that He was born to suffer and die, as prophesied by Isaiah in our first reading, but His sacrifice would save the world.

Jesus also knows exactly what people think about Him, some good, some not so good, but Peter, the rock on which our Church is built, speaks for us all when he says “You are the Christ”.

“Who do you say I am?”

Knowing who we are and what people think of us is important to us, but knowing who Jesus is, is far more important. For some Jesus was just an historical figure, a Jewish prophet, but for us He is the Son of God and the Saviour of us all. Let us pray that even though some people may think less of us for believing in Jesus, the Christ, may our words and actions testify to this truth.

Deacon Simon