

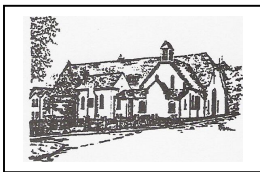
**Parish Priest: Fr. John Byrne  
Fr. Voytek Przyjalkowski**

**ST. MARY & ST. JOSEPH**

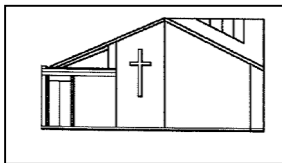
**ST. MARK'S**

**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**

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Hospital Chaplain: Tel: 01727 897254

**4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**20TH DECEMBER 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 a m Mass*

**THIS WEEK DEADLINE  
FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS  
IS TUESDAY**



*Blessed is Mary  
among  
women ....*

The harsh voice of John the Baptist for the last two Sundays changes to softer tones. Women's voices delighted, giving each other their news, good news. If there's a Women's Christmas celebration on 6<sup>th</sup> January, maybe today is Women's Advent, to celebrate life.

It's a lovely scene. Two miraculously pregnant women at the opposite ends of the country and age meet. Small wonder we echo Elizabeth's apt greeting in the Hail Mary. 'Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb'.

Did friendship and charity prompt Mary's visit? Did she need Elizabeth's experience and wisdom to draw on? All we know is that they basked in the secret of the quiet revolution that was to be accomplished through them. They made flesh of the truth that, with God, nothing is impossible. Their days together were probably filled with shared secrets, laughter, a few tears and dreams. Did they rub aching backs and sore feet as their wombs swelled?

On Christmas Eve (when what most people want for Christmas is two more weeks to prepare for it) maybe we have enough time to pray, like Mary and Elizabeth, we will recognise the greatest present in everyone we meet.