

Parish Priest: Fr. John Byrne

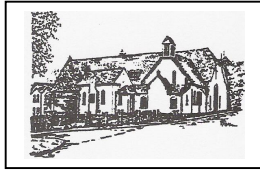
Fr. Voytek Przyjalkowski

ST. MARY & ST. JOSEPH

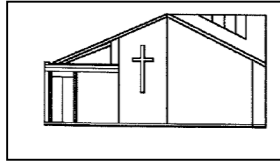
ST. MARK'S

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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6TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

14TH FEBRUARY 2010

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**

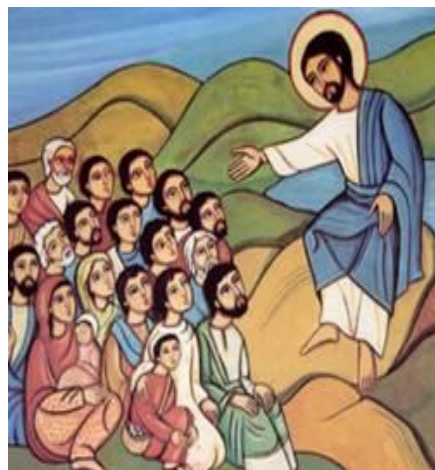
Highfield & Grovehill

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**



Happiness?

Life was difficult for the people of first century Palestine and, like people today, many of them thought that happiness came from possessions, or social status or earthly pleasures. Imagine their surprise when Jesus described happiness in terms that were completely opposite to their prevailing culture. But are we surprised by these words since they too are completely opposite to our prevailing culture; or have we heard them too many times so that Jesus' radical, counter-cultural message has become too familiar, boring, dull?

How can the poor, the hungry, those who weep and those who are persecuted be happy? It does not make any sense at all. Why should the rich, those with food, those who laugh and those who are praised be full of woe? It does not make any sense at all; or does it?

Jesus was not teaching that poverty, hunger, persecution and tears were blessings in themselves. If that were true, He would never have done all He did to alleviate the sufferings of others.

Nor was Jesus teaching that money, food, social status and mirth were a curse in themselves. If that were true, He would not approve of those who give money, food, praise and joy to those in need.

Jesus' message to those suffering is a message of hope. Life is tough both physically and emotionally but with a right relationship with God and right behaviour towards our neighbour, a true, deep, lasting happiness is achieved.

Jesus' message to those with plenty is far more challenging. If we pursue **just** earthly riches and pleasures, and we achieve them, we will become happy, albeit superficially happy and that would be our undoing. 'Alas for you' because, when life gets tough, as it surely will, as it has for so many recently, superficial happiness evaporates.

It is only the true, deep and lasting happiness that we get from a right relationship with God, and right behaviour towards to our neighbour, that can endure the tests of time.

Deacon Simon

