

Hello All

A few days back when many of the priest who were able gathered with the bishop in the cathedral, Bishop Mark in his homily used a striking phrase to describe the time we are living through.

The mass can be seen on the Cathedral web site.

There are obvious contenders for titles we might give to this time. The first most would think of would include words like Covid or Pandemic or Isolation or Restrictions or Heroism, and so on.

Before the pandemic started, Pope Francis wrote that we are not in an “era of change” but in a “change of era”. We are starting a new chapter in our history just as much as we did with the industrial revolution or the collapse of the Roman Empire.

The phrase Bishop Mark used was “a new apostolic age”.

In the new chapter which the world is entering, which has been accelerated by the pandemic, the situation in which the Catholic Church finds itself in that it is in a new apostolic age.

We are entering an age in which the situation of the Church is comparable to that of the first generations of Christians. We have not experienced this for 1,700 years, since the time of the Emperor Constantine.

I would commend this thought to you as a key to how we should think about our future and how we do things.

The bishop’s phrase is only three words long, but it has the greatest of implications.

Petroc.

**Happy Holidays to all kids
who are starting
the school summer break**



Catholic Parish of the Holy Trinity Plymouth



25 July 2021

17th Ordinary Sunday of the Year

(Year B: year of Mark)

Saturday	Mass (of Sunday)	5.30pm at St Paul's & confirmation Int: Patrick & Winifred Mahoney RIP fdn
Sunday	Mass (of Sunday)	9am at Holy Family & confirmation Int: Emmanuel & Winifred Brincat RIP fdn
	Mass (of Sunday)	10.30am at Holy Redeemer Int: Smith, Ivory & Ryan Families, RIP
Monday	Mass (Weekday)	Int: Samuels and Norris-Telling families RIP
Tuesday	Mass (Weekday)	10am at St Paul's Int: Mary McGilligan RIP
Wednesday	Mass (Weekday)	10am at Holy Redeemer Int: Mulcahy family RIP, FDN
Friday	Mass (Weekday)	10am at Holy Family Int: Terence Simpson RIP
Saturday	10am Adult confirmation preparation, Holy Family Presbytery 1130am Memorial Service for Pamela Borthwick , Holy Family church 1.30pm Wedding Vivien Vegera & Laszlo Glogyam, St Paul's church	

Covid and isolations permitting, we will have the last of this years first communions next weekend.

The week after Fr Petroc is on retreat from Monday to Friday, so there will be no weekday masses that week.

There are also no weekday masses at Christ the King from today as Canon Mark is now on his own in the cathedral parish.

Covid Changes

The three elements of our precautions in this present period will be vaccination, ventilation and sensible behaviour.

Vaccination is straightforward, we are encouraged to be vaccinated if we can be.

We are advised to ventilate churches as much as possible, we can do this effectively at Holy Family, but at St Paul's and Holy Redeemer we are only able to do this during mass while the building is occupied, so this will help but it is not as good.

Sensible behaviour means taking into account the prevalence of the virus in our area, and respecting the needs of those who wish to take more or less precautions than we do.

As you will probably know, Plymouth has the highest rate of Covid that we have had since the start of the pandemic, about 1 in every 100 people have the virus in our city right now, but Derriford is not full of Covid patients, and few are in intensive care because of it. In view of these conditions we are making some changes but doing so gradually.

The Sunday mass obligation remains suspended, at least until Advent this year, and those who are in a vulnerable category or wish to continue with more precautions, are encouraged to come to a weekday mass rather than a weekend mass. These are: St Pauls Tuesday 10am, Holy Redeemer Wednesday 10am, and Holy Family Friday 10am. There will be more space at these masses, and because of the school holidays the children will not be present.

Wearing face coverings is a legally matter of choice, but the bishops recommend that we continue to practise for the moment if we can bear it. There will be no policing of this individual decision. People are free not to wear a covering if they wish.

Whatever we choose to do, please behave in a way which respects the feelings of those who have chosen differently from you. This is especially the case if you are not wearing a face covering, please respect the distance around those who are.

One thing which would always help is to cut down talking inside church.

Singing will be re-introduced gradually. We will start with the hymn to Our Lady at the end of mass.

Please use the track and trace QR codes and hand sanitiser at the entrances.