

Hello All

This weekend we celebrate the feast of the baptism of the Lord. This marks the end of the Christmas season. It continues the theme of Christ bringing light into our darkness, which has been the characteristic refrain of this year's Christmas celebrations.

By sharing in the rite of baptism he gives us the sacrament of baptism and makes the waters holy, so that when we are baptised, those holy waters join us to him. He shares his light and life with us.

Yet there is still darkness in the scene as there has been throughout the life of Jesus so far.

At the Annunciation, the angel said to Our Lady the child will be named Jesus. The name means Saviour, signifying his destiny to save others—at his own cost. When Joseph and Mary presented Jesus in the temple, Simeon told his parents that he was a child of destiny, a destiny which would be like a sword through his mother's heart. The wise ones included the gift of myrrh when they came from the east—the spice for death and burial given to a toddler. Now at his baptism, when Jesus is about 30 years old, John points to Jesus and says behold the lamb of God—that is, behold the sacrifice.

In order for Jesus to bring God's light to us he had to enter and share all the darkness of the world. He did so not to be overcome by it, but to conquer it. The light shines in the darkness still, and the darkness can never overcome it.

Petroc



# Catholic Parish of the Holy Trinity Plymouth



10 January 2021

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## The baptism of the Lord (year of Mark)

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Mass (of the baptism)</b>	<b>5.30pm at Saint Paul's</b> Int: Charles McCarthy
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mass (of the baptism)</b>	<b>9am at Holy Family</b> Int: People of the Parish
	<b>Mass (of the baptism)</b>	<b>10.30am at Holy Redeemer</b> Int: Eileen O'Brien RIP
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Mass (of the weekday)</b>	<b>10am at Holy Redeemer</b> Int: Deceased of the Moffitt family RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Mass (of the weekday)</b>	<b>10am at Holy Family</b> Int: Edward & Caroline Dunn RIP
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Mass (of the weekday)</b>	<b>10am at Holy Family</b> Int: Condon family RIP

## Temporary Closure of Church

The roofing timbers at St Paul's church have some woodworm in them. At present this is not a problem, but if they are not eradicated, then in the decades to come they will make the roof unsafe.

The work was due to start the very first day of the first lockdown at the start of last year, but had to be cancelled because of the work restrictions. We have been trying to get the work rescheduled since then and it will now start this Monday (11th) and finish on Friday 22nd.

In order to access the roof timbers the church has to be scaffolded out internally, which means we cannot celebrate mass here during that time.

So there will be no masses here Thursday 14th and 21st, or Saturday 16th.

The Thursday mass will move to Holy Family church.

During last week we moved from tier 3 to 5 (lockdown)

The new strain of the virus is here and spreading quickly

An agreement has been made between the bishops and  
the government (now passed into law)

so that for the moment

mass can continue to be celebrated publicly,  
but it cannot be an occasion for social mixing.

Please honour this agreement