



The Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Boniface was built between 1856 and 1858 and is the Mother Church of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Plymouth which was created in 1850 covering the counties of Devon, Cornwall, and Dorset. The Church was originally built without a spire, one being added in 1867. The walls are built of Plymouth limestone which was widely used throughout the city of Plymouth. The opening of the Church took place on Lady Day, 25th March 1858. This was the day when, at Lourdes in France, the Virgin Mary is believed to have told Bernadette 'I am the Immaculate Conception'.



1 FONT The Font has **8** sides and the shape is an **Octagon**. **Water** is put into the Font when someone is Baptised; the water is sprinkled on the head of the child by the Priest as the first step in a life-long journey of commitment and discipleship.



2 PASCHAL CANDLE There are **3** angels carved into the base of the candle holder. The Paschal candle is a large, white candle. A new Paschal candle is blessed and lit every year at Easter and is used throughout the Paschal Season (i.e. Easter until Trinity) when it is often placed near the altar. At other times of year it is lit for special occasions such as baptisms and funerals and is often placed near the font.

3 BISHOPS' BOARD The first Bishop was called **George Errington**. Bishop Errington was Bishop of Plymouth for **4** years, 1851 – 1855, and was succeeded by William Vaughan who was the Bishop when the Cathedral Church was built and opened.

4 SACRED HEART CHAPEL The statue is of **Jesus** and His Image can be seen at **the top of the middle window**.

The Red Heart is a symbol of God's boundless and passionate love for mankind.

5 TABLE The table is the **Altar** which is used for the celebration of Mass.

The Mass is the main service in the Catholic Church in which bread and wine are consecrated and become the body and blood of Christ.



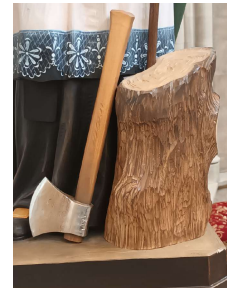
6 ORGAN



Air goes through the pipes to make the sound. The pipes which you can see are never all the pipes of the organ – you might see 10 or 20 but there will always be many more hidden from view. The **longest pipes** make the deepest sounds.

7 ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL The man on the white horse is St George and he is **slaying the dragon**. St George is the Patron Saint of England and was martyred in the 3rd Century for his Christian beliefs.

8 STATUE OF ST BONIFACE The statue was dedicated by **The Right Reverend Bishop Mark O'Toole** on the **10th December 2019**. The tool is an **axe**. St Boniface was born in England in the 7th century and he travelled to what is now known as Germany spreading the Christian Faith. St Boniface used an axe to chop down a sacred oak of the Germanic god Thor.



9 LADY CHAPEL **Mary** is the lady above the Chapel Altar and she is holding the baby **Jesus** in her arms.

A Piscina is a **place to pour the Holy Water after the Priest has finished the service**.

10 SANCTUARY ROOF The three letters in the circle are **I H S**. IHS is an abbreviation of the Greek word IESOUS meaning JESUS. It is known as The Sacred Monogram. **Jesus** is the person hanging on the crucifix. A crucifix is a cross with the figure of the crucified Lord hanging upon it, as distinct from a bare cross.



11 ST JOSEPH'S CHAPEL The images on the wall hangings are of a **man**, a **lion**, a **calf**, and an **eagle**. The bell is rung **during the service** to tell people that Jesus is present at the Altar.



12 BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL The light is **red**. The small cupboard is called a **tabernacle**.



The light is called a Sanctuary Lamp and is kept burning day and night wherever the Blessed Sacrament is kept.

The Tabernacle contains any consecrated bread which has not been used in the Service.

13 WAY OF THE CROSS There are **14** of these carvings around the church, each one numbered with Roman numerals. These carvings tell the story of Jesus Christ from His condemnation by Pontius Pilate to His Crucifixion and are used as an aid to prayer.



14 FURNITURE This piece of furniture is called a Confessional and is where a Priest hears people **talk about the things that they have done wrong and ask for forgiveness**. The Priest sits behind the doors on the right-hand side and the person kneels behind the curtain on the left-hand side. The two sides are divided with a lattice screen.