

Stations of Water

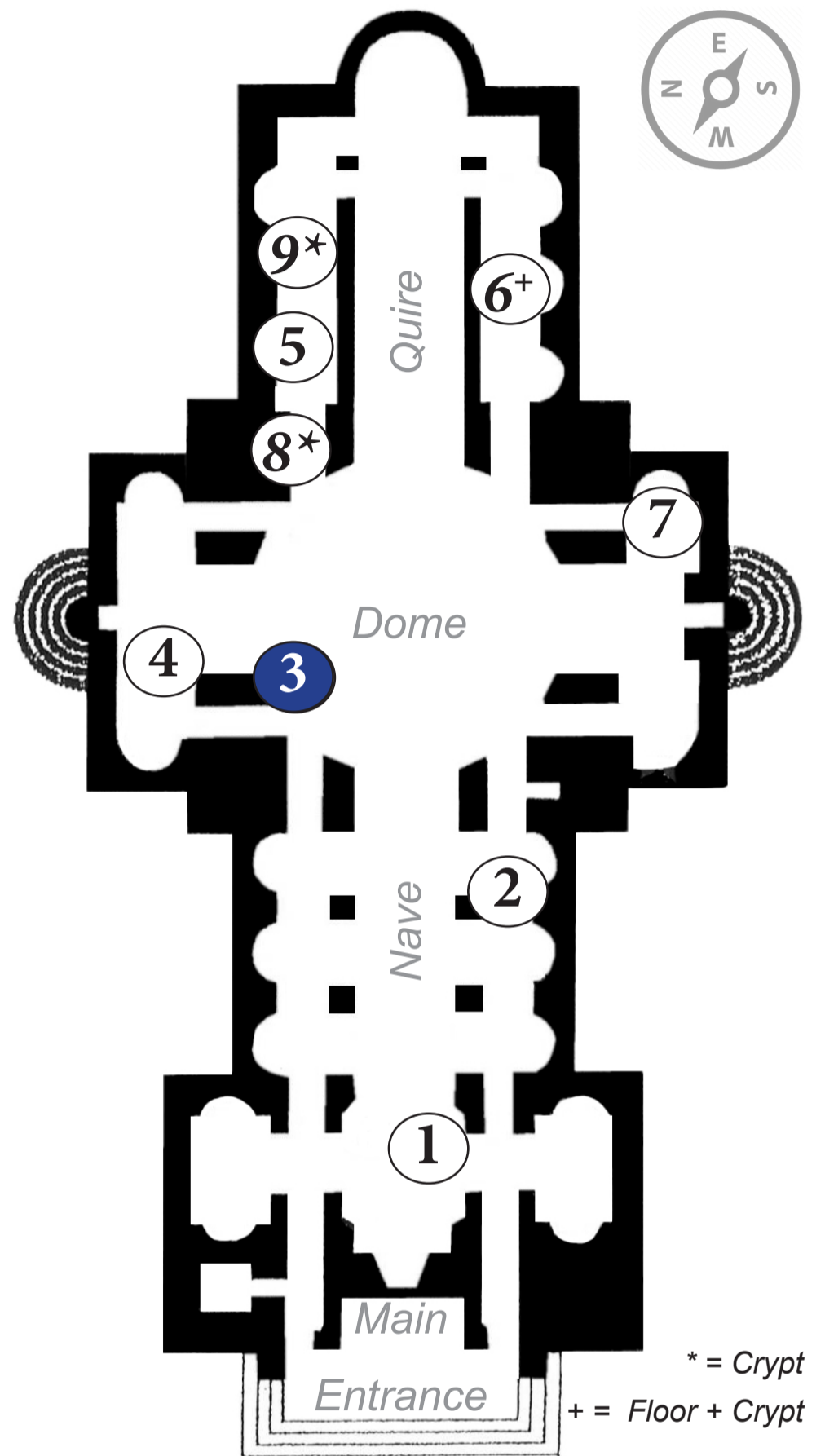
Regan O'Callaghan

The Slippery Longfin Eel of New Zealand
[Te Parengorengo Tuna Kuwharuwharu o
Aotearoa], 2017, plastic clerical collars,
acrylic rods

Nearly 90% of New Zealand's wetlands have been drained and there is an increasing problem with pollution of rivers. A recent New Zealand Government paper reports that nearly three quarters of native freshwater fish are threatened with extinction.¹ This Water Station draws attention to the plight of the New Zealand Longfin eel. Considered an environmental indicator of the health of rivers, this ancient species is also threatened with extinction.

The use of clerical collars made out of plastic alludes to the serious issue of pollution in our rivers and oceans.

Cathedral Floor



¹ Ministry for the Environment Manatu Mo Te Taiao "Our Fresh Water 2017" April 2017.

Regan O'Callaghan is an artist and Anglican priest who studied his MAFA at Chelsea College of Arts (UAL), 2015. Originally from New Zealand, he has lived in the UK for 24 years. In 2008, he was artist in residence in St. Paul's and was commissioned to paint an icon of the Cathedral's patron saint. Since 2011, he has also designed the Cathedral's Paschal candle which can be found by the Baptismal font. This year's candle includes the *Tuna Kuwharuwharu* [Longfin eel] and the extinct *Huia* [wattle bird].

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The artist would like to thank colleagues for their kind donation of clerical collars.