

WEEKLY MASSES	MARYCHURCH/STM (MC) Mass times and intentions		ST PETER'S (SP) Mass times and intentions	
Sun 24/12	9.30 am STM 11.00am 4.00pm	K. Stones, Int Kathleen Rhine, RIP Parishioners	9.00am 11.00am 9.30pm	Gwen W. Healing Parishioners Philomena, Healing
Mon 25/12	10.30am	Doris Thomas, RIP	10.30am	
Tue 26/12	11am	Altar Servers		No Mass
Wed 27/12	10.30am		9.30am	Elzy Anthony's Thanks
Thu 28/12		No Mass	7.00pm	
Fri 29/12	10.30am		9.30am	O'Donnell Family, Int
Sat 30/12	6.00pm	Mr L. Perdoni, RIP	10.30am	
Next Sunday Readings: 1. Genesis 15:1-6.21:1-3. 2. Hebrews 11.8.11-12.17-19. Gospel Luke 2:22-40				

IMPORTANT PARISH INFORMATION

INFANT BAPTISM: Contact parish office. Preparation with the catechist is an obligation.

MARRIAGE: Contact parish clergy, 6 months notice is required to allow time for preparation and paper works.

CONFESSIONS: MC = Saturday: 5.15 - 5.50pm. SP: Saturday 11am - 12noon (and by appointment for both parishes).

DEVOTIONS: Sacred Heart Novena: MC: Friday during adoration SP = Friday after mass.

Rosary MC: Wed after mass. **SP:** Wed after mass. Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour:

MC & SP = Tues after mass. **FATIMA ROSARY:** Contact Lucia Federici: 07933436387

HATFIELD SVP: Contact: 07960785673, John

CATHOLIC HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY LISTER: John O'Neil: 01438285518.

TEA & COFFEE: After 11am Mass on Sunday at both parishes.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: MC = Last Sunday of the month. SP = During 11am mass. Except 1st Sunday when there is **CHILDREN'S MASS**.

MORNING PRAYER: SP = 9.10am before morning mass Tues, Wed and Fri

RCIA: Want to become a Catholic, or find out more? Are you an adult Catholic wanting confirmation? Please contact the parish clergy or Philip Crabtree: 07379497097.

MASS & HALL BOOKINGS: Please note all masses and hall bookings are on a first come basis. Masses may be booked by telephone, online or filling out a mass intention request. Hall bookings may be booked by telephone or online, through the parish office.

FUNERALS: Please speak to the parish clergy before making any funeral arrangements.

Holy Father's intention for the month of December: We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



The Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster

Parishes of Marychurch & St Peter's, Hatfield
Served by The Missionaries of St Paul, MSP

Parish Priest: Fr Agbor F Isek, MSP

Asst. Parish Priest: Fr Innocent Odiaka, MSP

hatfieldsouth@rcdow.org.uk or hatfield@rcdow.org.uk

Telephone: 01707 262121/262439

Mailing address: The Presbytery, Bishops' Rise, Hatfield South, AL10 9HN



*Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year B
24th December 2023*

READINGS: 1. Samuel 7:1-5.8-12.14.16 2. St Paul 16:25-27; Gospel Luke 1:26-38. Response to Psalm Ps 88:2-5.27.29. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord. Gospel Acclamation; Alleluia! Alleluia! *I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!*

REFLECTION: Today is the fourth and last Sunday of Advent. Today's celebration is an excellent song to God's everlasting love revealed in his covenant with David. The mystery of the Old covenant will soon be revealed in Mary, the ark of the New Covenant. In our first reading, in appreciation to God's love, David wished to build a house for God. However, God would not allow him. Instead, God made a promise to David and sealed it with a covenant: "I will preserve the offspring of your body after you... your throne will be established forever." It is based on this promise that St Luke and Matthew traced and wrote the genealogy of Jesus to prove that He is an offspring of David. The hidden mystery of the Old covenant is about to be revealed in the new.

The gospel presents us with two important figures in the Nativity drama. First, the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary with a message of promise. It is about the revelation of the hidden mystery of the Old covenant in the new. Mary's role in the history of salvation stands out clearly. She receives the angel's message with humility thus "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your Word." With these humble words, she accepted her role in the history of salvation. Mary's answer was a statement of her total self-donation to God's Will and love for humanity. Mary reminds us that this is a season of joy, a season of receiving and sharing of gifts. Like Mary, we should make our Christmas celebration other-centred and Christ-centred by sharing joy around. Merry Christmas to you all!

All things pass; God never changes. Patience attains all that it strives for. They who have God, find they lack nothing. God alone suffices.' St Teresa of Avila



Marychurch, Salisbury Square & St. Thomas More, Welham Green.
 Telephone: 01707 262439
 Office: Wednesday 9am - 12.00noon
 Emails: hatfield@rcdow.org.uk
 Gift Aid: 01707262439 giftaidhatfield@rcdow.org.uk
 hatfieldsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk, Grace Tapfumaneyi - 07748 499606
 WEB <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hatfield/>



SICK OR HOUSEBOUND: Please pray for Clara Sakala, Sr Jo, Martina Knightly, Anne Owens, Joyce Davies, Josie Ashwell, Maudy Tapfumaneyi, Michael MacPherson, Maria Campbell, Christine Donnelly, Paul Donnelly, Ruth Emery, Ella Russell, Yvonne Stephens, Remi Clarke, Violet Prabu and Pedro.

NOTICES AND EVENTS

MC: COFFEE MORNINGS: Sundays after 11am Mass and every Wednesday from 9.30am, 'Lord you have need of my hands'...coffee, natter, create, care and plant club etc. Please support Father and the ladies that make the tea/coffee. Get to know people and what's happening in your parish.

FOR SALE: Fujitsu Windows 10 laptops, Intel i3 CPU, refurbished with a new battery. Sold state drive with a DVD and card reader. Mains adaptor included. £60 each with all proceeds going to Marychurch. Only 4 left, so please speak to Gillian Sutton for further details.

MC & SP: CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023: Thank you to everyone for supporting the Children's Christmas Party and an amazing time was had by all, especially the children. We plan to hold a Children's Christmas Party annually due to requests. If you did not make it this year, we hope to see you next year. On behalf of the Youth Club, have a wonderful Christmas.

MC & SP: CONFIRMATION CLUB is starting in January 2024 for ages 8-11. Please fill out a Confirmation Club form located at the back of the Churches and return to the parish office; **all completed forms (with copy of Baptism certificate and £10 fee) need to be returned by Sunday, 31st December 2023.**

MC & SP: The parish office will be closed from Thursday, 21st December, reopening on Tuesday, 2nd January 2024. Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and New Year.

VINIE PACKS: The SVP are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless. Please consider sponsoring packs for a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack. Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London, SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out the SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West, sort code 60-60-04, account 46088237. Thank you so much for your support.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES: The Pope has asked us to pray for people with disabilities in December. There is a good podcast at www.cbcew.org.uk on 'Valuability' - 'we' not 'they'. There is also great material at www.kairosforum.org

MC/STM: WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR PARISH: Direct Debit is very easy, fast and secure. Our Account Details: Acct Name: **WRCDT Hatfield**, Sort code - 40-05-20, Acct Number: 41266217. We accept regular plate giving in cash or cheque. Thank you for donations or legacy in memory of your loved ones.



St Peters R C Church, Hatfield South/Parish Secretary
 Telephone: 01707 262121
 Office: Tuesday 9am-2pm, Wednesday 12.00noon-2pm and Friday 9am-2pm
 Emails: hatfieldsouth@rcdow.org.uk
 Safeguarding: hatfieldsouthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk, Chinonso Ijdzie - 07432674955 & Dr Eric Chiejina - 07717578052
 Gift Aid: 01707262121
 WEB: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hatfieldsouth/>



SICK OR HOUSEBOUND: Please pray for Cathy Ryan, Jack Cook, Edwin Levy, Leonora Mashumba, Anna Lodge, Pauline Redottee, David & Margaret Grundy, Elizabeth McLoughlin, Richard Atkin and Mary Damoah.

SP: CHURCH CLEANING: Chinonso
FLOWERS: Connie & Team

SP & MC: Last minute gifts in the Repository Shop at the back of St Peter's Church – plenty of Christmas items, from Nativity sets, Christmas ornaments, stocking fillers, candles, beautiful jewellery, calendars and diaries Prices from just £1. Please come in and visit and support our parishes.

SP & MC: YOUTH CLUB: Our Youth Club is on every Friday at 5pm for our children aged 7-11. Fun, games, sports, arts, crafts and much more. Tuck shop available with an entry fee of £2 only. Family discounts available. Please contact Caroline on 07557 819858 or hatfieldyouth@rcdow.org.uk

Youth Club volunteers needed - if you could kindly spare 2 hours a month on a Friday evening assisting with our Youth Club, this would be kindly appreciated. For more details please contact Caroline on 07557 819858 or hatfieldyouth@rcdow.org.uk Please note, an enhanced DBS will be required for the above role.

SP & MC: ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR: As a parish we are tasked by Caritas Westminster to support those in our community in need this Christmas. With St Vincent de Paul, we are putting together food hampers on behalf of 'The Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield Schools Partnership' who have requested our help to provide hampers for the neediest families in the area. We are using the **Advent Giving Calendar** poster. **Please scan barcode** with your phone as a guide for the products required. Some products are non-food but also essential and those should go into the boxes provided by St Philip Howard school. Please start collecting the items requested and leave in boxes provided at back of the churches. Thank you.



SCAN ME

SP: HALL EVENTS GROUP - HEG: We are looking to put a Hall Events Group together to plan events like a Christmas party, summer party and other events to help raise funds to refurbish the hall and back garden at St Peter's as well as to help with other social action events such as food hampers. If you are interested, please contact Jemma on 07550 181144.

SP: WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR PARISH: Direct Debit is very easy, fast and secure. Our Acct Details: Acct Name: *WRCDT St Peter's Hatfield South*, Sort Code – 40-05-20, Acct Number – 81094602. We accept regular plate giving in cash or cheque. Thank you for donations or legacy in memory of your loved ones.