

WEEKLY MASSES	MARYCHURCH/STM (MC) Mass times and intentions		ST PETER'S (SP) Mass times and intentions	
Sun 17/12	9.30 am STM 11.00am	Parishioners Luiza Maria Cardozo, RIP	9.00am 11.00am 2.00pm 6.00pm	Rene Kervarec, RIP Parishioners McDonald Family Ints
Mon 18/12	7.00pm			
Tue 19/12	9.30am	Maurice C Ashwell, RIP	10.30am	Noreen Savage, Int
Wed 20/12	10.30am	Family & Friends of Josie Ashwell	9.30am	Seena Shajan, Int
Thu 21/12		No Mass	7.00pm	
Fri 22/12	10.30am	Barry & Anne Holloway, RIP	9.30am	Leslie, Healing
Sat 23/12	6.00pm		10.30am	Advent Penitential Service
Next Sunday Readings: Samuel 7:1-5.8-12.14.16. 2. St Paul 16:25-27. Gospel Luke 1:26-38				

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



Third Sunday of Advent, Year B

17th December 2023

READINGS: 1. Isaiah 61:1-2.10-11 2. St Paul 5:16-24; Gospel John 1:6-8.19-28. Response to Psalm Ps Lk 1:46-50.53-54. My soul rejoices in my God. Gospel Acclamation; Alleluia! Alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

REFLECTION: Today is Gaudete Sunday, which means "Rejoice Sunday". On this third Sunday of Advent, the Holy Mother Church invites us to a brief moment of joy and refreshment in our Advent journey. The Church says to us today; "Gaudete in Domino Semper" (Rejoice in the Lord always). Yes, we are called to rejoice because we are getting close to the fulfilment of God's promise. That's is why the Prophet Isaiah exalts us in the first reading to be joyful thus: "The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me... He has sent me to bring good news to the poor..." His coming to save us, to heal us and give new meaning to our lives. The joy that fills our heart today is a foretaste of what we shall experience when the Word is finally made flesh and the fullness of God's mystery and glory is revealed.

In the gospel, when John the Baptist announces the imminent coming of God's Anointed One, the Messiah, the religious leaders question his authority to speak so boldly in God's name by asking: "Who are you?" John did not claim to be the Messiah or one of the Prophets. He had no doubt about his identity and mission. In humility and sincerity, he said he was only a voice bidding people to get ready for the arrival of the Messiah. Also, he pointed the Messiah to others when he said: "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world." Thus he is called, the forerunner of the Redeemer and Messenger of God. Like John, we are called to accept humbly our mission and carry it out faithfully and also to show Jesus to others by the examples of our life. Maranatha!

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 Tapfumanei - 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: Christmas Nativity: Our Christmas Nativity will be taking place on Christmas Eve at both parishes, St Peter's during the 11am Mass and Marychurch at 4.00pm. If you would like your child(ren) to take part in our Christmas Nativity, please contact Caroline on 07557 819858.

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.**

A Christmas Celebration in Westminster Cathedral: Tickets are now on sale for our annual Christmas concerts which celebrate the mystery of Christ's Incarnation in carols and readings performed by the world-famous Westminster Cathedral Choir, orchestra, and celebrity readers, on **19 and 20 December** at 7.30pm. We encourage everybody to purchase tickets quickly before these popular events are sold out. Tickets can be purchased from the Cathedral Gift Shop or directly from Ticketmaster; go to www.ticketmaster.co.uk and type in Westminster Cathedral when prompted.

VINNIE 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.

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 Peter's 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: Violet & Anna

FLOWERS: Connie & Team

SP & MC: Christmas has arrived in the Repository Shop – plenty of Christmas items, from Nativity sets, Christmas ornaments, candles, 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: Please join us on Saturday, 23rd December at 10.30am for our Christmas Penitential Service and Confessions at St Peter's.

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.