

Volume 13, No. 4
23 December 2018

MASS TIMES

St Peter's

Sunday Mass:

9.15am, 11am, & 6pm

Weekday Mass:

Mon - Wed, Fri: 9.30 am
Thur.: 7pm; Sat.: 10.30am

Holy Days of Obligation:

Mass: 9.30 am & 7pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Sat. 11.00 am – 12 noon

Morning Prayer:

Mon.-Wed., Fri.: 9.10 am

Marychurch/STM

Sunday Mass:

6pm (Sat.), 9.30am (STM),
& 11am

Weekday Mass:

Mon., Tue., Thur., Fri.:
9.30am; Wed.: 7.30pm

Holy Days of Obligation:

Mass: 9.30am & 7.30pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Fri.: 10am – 10.30am

Divine Office:

20 minutes before Mass

**“My house shall be
called a house of prayer.”**

*Before Mass - Talk to God
During Mass - Listen to God
After Mass - Talk to each
other.*



+ 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the Fruit of your womb.” (Luke 1.42)

The Church is noted for her staunch devotion and honour to Virgin Mary. Every day we offer to God by invoking her maternal intercession the most efficacious devotional prayer, the ‘Hail Mary’. In doing so, we are far from being misguided, contrary to what many people, including some Christians, think. A look at the ‘Hail Mary’ itself shows why we are perfectly right. When we say, ‘Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you’, we only repeat archangel Gabriel’s greeting to Mary (Lk 1.28). In saying, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the Fruit of your womb, Jesus’, we recall the exclamation made loudly of Mary by Elizabeth under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (Lk 1.41-42). As we say, ‘Holy Mary, mother of God’, we affirm three truths: (a) the sanctity of Mary which no sane person can deny; (b) the divinity of Christ amply and explicitly stated in Sacred Scripture (Is 7.14; 9.6; Mt 1.23; Jn 1.1,18; 5.18; 8.57-58; Rom. 9.5; Phil. 2.6; Col. 2.9; etc.); and (c) as the mother of Christ who is God, Mary is the mother of God who is Christ (Council of Ephesus, 325 AD). When we say lastly, ‘Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death’, we admit: (a) our fallen humanity that is wrapped in sinfulness which no one can deny without being hopelessly self-delusional (1 Jn 1.8-9); (b) Mary’s ability to mediate with Christ for the faithful even without their asking, and to obtain from God what she seeks for them (Jn 2.3-11); and (c) our constant reliance on every help we can get due to our mortality and perpetual weakness till we die. So to honour Mary is not to do anything strange or unlawful, but simply to consent to what God Himself, Christ who chose to be born of Mary, the angelic hosts, the prophets, and the patriarchs and matriarchs have all done and revealed. We acknowledge her unique place and role in our salvation, given her by God from eternity, specifically after the catastrophic fall of Adam and Eve (Gen. 3.15), and affirmed in prophecy (Is 7.14). The human race that fell from grace due to the fault of the woman, Eve (Gen. 3.1-7), was to be restored to grace through the faith and the Offspring of the woman, Virgin Mary (Lk 1.26-38).

READINGS AT SUNDAY MASS

1st Reading: Mic 5.1-4; **2nd Reading:** Heb. 10.5-10; **Gospel:** Luke 1.39-44

Psalm: Ps 79(80):2-3,15-16,18-19; **R/:** *God of hosts, bring us back; let Your face shine on us and we shall be saved.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sun., 23rd Dec.	+ 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>Office, Week 4</i>	9.15am	Holy Souls
		11.00am	Parishioners
		6.00pm	Private Intention
Mon., 24 th Dec.	Christmas Vigil	11.00pm	Johnny Delaney & Mary Ann Doherty, RIP
Tue., 25 th Dec.	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	9.15am	Private Intention
		11.00am	Parishioners
Wed., 26 th Dec.	St Stephen	10.00am	John Nwachukwu & Family Int.
Thur., 27 th Dec.	St John	7.00pm	Sanjith Shajan
Fri., 28 th Dec.	The Holy Innocents	9.30am	Audrey Palmer, Anniversary
Sat., 29 th Dec.	St Thomas Beckett	10.30am	Margaret Bernard, RIP
Sun., 30th Dec.	+ THE HOLY FAMILY	9.15am	Theresa Edward's Intention
		11.00am	Parishioners
		6.00pm	Private Intention

MARYCHURCH/ST THOMAS MORE

Sat., 22 nd Dec..	+ 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>Office, Week 4</i>	6.00pm	Parishioners
Sun., 23rd Dec.		9.30am (STM)	Bishop Raul Gonsalves
		11.00am	Gordon and Ethel Richardson
Mon. 24 th Dec.	Christmas Vigil	5.00pm	John and Bridie Slean, RIP
		10.00pm (STM)	Barry and Julia Holloway, RIP
Tue., 25 th Dec.	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	9.30am (STM)	Ron and Doris Thomas, RIP
		11.00am	Bill and Raynah Watson, RIP
Wed. 26 th Dec.	St Stephen	10.00am	Parish Volunteers
Thur. 27 th Dec.	St John	9.30am	Joe Brennan, RIP
Fri., 28 th Dec.	The Holy Innocents	9.30am	Expectant Mothers
Sat., 29 th Dec.	+ THE HOLY FAMILY	6.00pm	Sylvie Green, RIP
Sun., 30th Dec.		9.30am (STM)	Parishioners
		11.00am	Watson Family

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: Please pray for Lily Clark, Aileen Freeman, Mairead Waugh, Amerita Mericonda, Dorothy Hall, Catherine Coulson, Patricia Martin, Tony Lodge, Jim & Teresa Chatfield, Pat Darling, Patricia Martin, Evelyn McKenna, Margaret Morrin, Nora O'Sullivan, William Naughton, Francis MacDonald, Sharon Childs, Patricia Hayward, and Agnes Clark.

There will be Mass to usher in the New Year on December the 31st at 10.30pm. Please join us in a vigil of prayer and praise.

RCIA: The 2018/2019 programme has started at St Peter's. Adult Catholics who have not received the sacrament of Holy Communion or Confirmation or both, and non-Catholics who wish to become Catholics can still join the programme by completing the forms at the back of the church and returning them to the parish office.

FAMILY ROSARY 2019: You are warmly invited to Mass at 10.00am on Tuesday January the 1st 2019, the feast of Mary Mother of God, followed by the Rosary. This is to launch our second year of the weekly house-to-house Family Rosary. If you would like to say the Rosary and host the Our Lady of Fatima statue in your home for one week during 2019, please contact Lucia by mobile 07933436387.

FIRST FRIDAY/FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS: We will start the **First Friday devotion** at Marychurch with all-day Exposition and Adoration **on Friday, 4/1/2019**. The **First Saturday devotion**, with healing Mass and Anointing of the Sick, will be at St Peter's **on Saturday, 5/1/2019**. Please, join us.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND: Places are still available for the parish pilgrimage to Ireland from 27 to 31 May 2019. The details are on the noticeboard. For the booking form or any question, please contact Lynda O'Reilly on 07958721336, or lyndadawn2003@yahoo.com.

The Children's Christmas Party will take place on **Saturday 5 January 2019** in the church hall, starting at 12.30 pm. There will be games, music, refreshments, and, hopefully, a visit from Santa Claus. Tickets cost £1 each. Owing to health and safety regulations, there will be only 50 available and these are reserved for the children who regularly attend Sunday Mass. For any queries, call Tony Dodd on 01707 646383.

Reception 2019 Applications: The closing date for applications to St Philip Howard Catholic Primary School Reception Class is **Tuesday the 15th of January**. This is for children born between 01/09/2014 and 31/08/2015. Applications should be made on line and a SIF (school information form) should be returned to the school. For more information or help please phone 01707 263969. **Nursery 2019 Applications close on the 15th of February 2019** - For children born between 01/09/2015 and 31/08/2016. There is no online application required but SIFs should be returned to school before the closing date.

Crib Offering 2018: This Christmas our Crib Offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society to support their work with disadvantaged children and families. This will help provide mental health services, family support, and emergency grants for vulnerable children in our Diocese.

Thank you for returning the hymn books/Mass cards to the shelves at the end of Mass.

Parish Office: SP: Tue.,
Wed., Fri.: 9.30am-1.30pm;

MC/STM: Wed. – Fri.:
8.30am-1.30pm

Safeguarding Officer: SP:
Sue McLellen, 01707 646383;
Email: hatfieldsouthsg@safegu
ardrcdow.org.uk;

MC/STM: Angela Madden
01707275214

Planned Giving: SP:
Pat Malsher: 01707 265530;

MC/STM: Gillian Sutton,
01707269693

Lead Catechist: Linda
Graham, 07768777768

Hall Booking: Enquiries to:
SP: Parish Secretary;
MC/STM: Parish Secretary

Baptism: See Parish Priest.
Preparation is obligatory

Confessions: SP: Sat., 11am –
12 noon; 5-5.30 pm;

MC/STM: Sat., 5-5.45pm; or
by request

Marriage: See Parish Priest; 6
months' notice required;
Preparation is obligatory

Sacred Heart Novena: SP:
Fri. after Mass; **MC/STM:**
Thur. after Mass

Rosary: SP: Wed. after
Mass; **MC:** Mon. after Mass;
STM: Mon. 9.30am

**Novena to Our Lady of
Perpetual Succour:** Tuesday
after Mass in both parishes

Christian Meditation:
MC: Wed. 8.00pm in term
time

Hatfield SVP:
07960785673

St Pio Prayer Group: SP:
1st Thur. monthly at **6pm**

**Proclaim Our Lady of
Fatima Family Rosary:**
Contact: Lucia Federici,
07933 436387; Email:
luciafederici@mountcarmel
kindergarten.co.uk

Tea & Coffee: After 11am
Mass in both parishes.
Please, join us.

Weekly Rota:
Cleaning: From 16 Dec.
Henry & Janet Cornelius

Flowers: For 16/23 Dec.
Christmas Group

St Philip Howard:
Primary: 01707 263969

Nicholas Breakspear: Senior
Mixed – 01727 860079

Loreto College, St Albans:
01727 856206

**Catholic Chaplaincy Lister
Hospital:** John O'Neil,
01438 285518

Suggestion/Comment Box:
There is a box on the table in
the porch, if you wish to
express any suggestions or
comments in relation to either
parish.

Last Week's Collection

Thank you.

Text: ParishHATSO to 70800
to donate £5 by mobile phone.

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Bishop's Rise, Hatfield, Herts, AL10 9HN

Phone: 01707 262121

Email: hatfieldsouth@rcdow.org.uk

Websites: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hatfieldsouth/>;

www.stpetershatfield.org/; <https://parish>

Parish Secretary: Pauline Hayes

PARISH OF MARYCHURCH, HATFIELD

with ST THOMAS MORE, WELHAM GREEN

26 Salisbury Square, Hatfield. AL9 5JD

Phone: 01707 262439

Email: hatfield@rcdow.org.uk

Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/hatfield

Parish Secretary: Yvette Rawle

Parish Clergy: *Fr Livie Onyebuchi msp*; Email: livinusonyebuchi@rcdow.org.uk
Fr Julius Otoaye msp; Email: juliusotoaye@rcdow.org.uk