WEEKLY MASSES	MARYCHURCH (MC) ST THOMAS MORE (STM), WELHAM GREEN, AL9 7PF Mass times and intentions		ST PETER'S (SP) Mass times and intentions	
Sat 26/09	5.00pm STM	Fr Bernard Lang, RIP	10.30am 12noon	 SVP Healing Mass
Sun 27/09	10.00am	Chapple Family, Ints	8.30am	Lyn Savage, B/day Ints
			11.30am	Terence Ngum, RIP
			6.00pm	Victor Ikechukwu, Ints
Mon 28/09	7.00pm	George, RIP		
Tues 29/09			9.30am	St Philip Howard School
Wed 30/09	10.30am	Tom Birkin, 2nd Anni RIP		
Thu 01/10			9.30am	Mr Lari, RIP
Fri 02/10	10.30am	Paul Sutton, Ints	7.00pm	Private Intention
Sat 03/10	5.00pm STM	Carter Family, Ints	10.30am	Francis Loh, Ints
Next Sun Readings: 1. Prophet Isaiah 5:1-7 Ps 80(79):9,12.13-14.15-16.19-20. 2. Saint Paul to the Philippians 4:6-9 Gospel Matthew 21:33-43				

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MPORTANT 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: SP: Saturday after 10.30am Mass (and by appointment for both parishes).
DEVOTIONS: Sacred Heart Novena: MC: Friday during adoration after Mass
ROSARY: MC = Wed after Mass.
NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR: SP Tues after Mass.
HATFIELD SVP: Pauline, 07738 074614 and Claudia, 07949 832850.
CATHOLIC HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY LISTER: John O'Neil, 01438285518.
TEA & COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY MASSES: After 10am at MC and after 11.30am at SP.
CHILDREN'S LITURGY: MC = First & last Sunday of the month during 10am Mass.
SP = During 11.30am Mass. Except 1st Sunday when there is CHILDREN'S MASS.
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, 07379 497097.
MASS & HALL BOOKINGS: Masses may be booked by telephone, online or filling out a Mass intention request. Hall bookings may be booked by telephone, online or through the parish office.
FUNERALS: Please speak to the parish clergy before making funeral arrangements.

Holy Father's intention for the month of September 2026. For the care of water. Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster
Parishes of Marychurch with STM & St Peter's, Hatfield
Served by The Missionaries of St Paul, MSP
Parish Priest: Father Paul Dadson, MSP
hatfieldsouth@rcdow.org.uk or hatfield@rcdow.org.uk
Telephone: 01707 262121/262439
Mailing address: The Presbytery, Bishops' Rise, Hatfield South, AL10 9HN

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 26th/27th September 2026

READINGS: 1. Prophet Ezekiel 18:25-28 2. Saint Paul to the Philippians 2:1-11 Gospel Matthew 21:28-32 **Response to Psalm Ps 25(24):4-5b.6-7.8-9. Remember your compassion, O Lord.** Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord, and I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia.

Reflection: A theme common to all three readings is that of changing one's mind. Our capacity to change our minds leaves us open to hazard and to hope; hazard when we choose to "renounce our integrity and to commit sin, hope when we choose to renounce sin to become law-abiding and honest" (Isaiah.) The Gospel story shows us the nobility of a humble change of mind. The first son "thought the better of it." He was open to change, to better thoughts. The second son was set and closed. The ability to change one's mind is essential to all healthy relationships. A mind that is closed, whether from pride, stubbornness or stupidity, tends to destroy all relationships–e.g., when we refuse to admit a mistake, when we are unwilling to apologise and change our ways, when we persist in prejudice against a person or group, when we think we know it all. The second reading, from Philippians, talks of a more specific and positive change of mind: "in your minds, you must be the same as Christ Jesus', or as an older translation put it, "let this mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus." This is the direction in which we must be constantly changing our minds day by day.

Paul emphasises one aspect of the mind of Christ–his humble openness and self-emptying in contrast to the conceited grasping and clinging of Adam: "he did not cling to (or grasp at) his equality with God (as Adam did in Eden) but emptied himself.."

Ever since Adam, we are all born as clingers and graspers. The new-born babe has a tight grip, and as we get older the grip often gets stronger. Clinging permeates all of life; we cling to people (possessiveness) ; to things (greed) ; to power and position (ambition) ; we cling to opinions (pride). At the root of our clinging lies fear and insecurity. The apparently strong person who clings aggressively to set ways or ideas is full of fear. Notice your physical reactions to fright; you clench up and grasp at something or someone, as a frightened child clings to its mother.

In the Buddhist tradition, clinging is seen as the root of all suffering. When you are unhappy, it can be enlightening to pursue the question "What am I clinging to?" It might be an idea, a plan, an expectation, power, possessions, reputation, a place, a person, health, even life itself. All wise traditions recommend a light grasp of everything. Anxious clinging leads to misery. As soon as we begin to relax our tight grasp and let go, we begin to be free and happy. Jesus did not cling. He knew that reality could be trusted, because at the heart of reality is "Abba–dear Father," and that underneath everything, even death, are the everlasting arms. So, he did not cling even to life, "accepting death, death on a cross." "Into your hands,. I commend my spirit." May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

"Praise & bless my Lord and give him thanks and serve him with great humility." St Francis



Marychurch, Salisbury Square, AL9 5JD & St. Thomas More, Welham Green
Office: Wednesday 9am – 2pm/Telephone: 01707 262439
Emails: hatfield@rcdow.org.uk WEB: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hatfield
Gift Aid: 01707 262439 hatfieldsouthbk@rcdow.org.uk
Safeguarding: hatfieldsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk, Grace Tapfumanei 07748 499606



SICK OR HOUSEBOUND: Please pray for Clara Sakala, Sr Jo, Joyce Davies, Maudy Tapfumaneyi, Christine Donnelly, Paul Donnelly, Ella Russell, Remi Clarke, George, David de Laubenque, Kyler and Pat M.

NOTICES AND EVENTS

Monthly Offertory – Marychurch with St Thomas More:	August 2026	August 2025
Offertories Envelopes	462.65	709.20
Offertories SOs and Online	1543.67	1439.67
Offertories Loose Plate	828.44	868.70
General Donations & Fund Raising	331.00	334.00
Total Income	3165.76	3351.57

August 2026 total is -5.9% less than August 2025. Thanks for your continuing support.

MC: COFFEE MORNINGS: Sundays after 10am Mass and every Wednesday from 10.30am, Coffee, natter, create, care and plant club etc. Get to know people and what's happening in our parish.

MC & SP: ADORATION: Starting on Friday 2nd October onwards, ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT in Marychurch will be at 10am, followed by Holy Mass at 10.30am.

MC & SP: OCTOBER DEVOTION TO OUR LADY IN MARYCHURCH: Processions: 3rd October at 11am, Opening Salvo Rosary Procession. 1st November at 11am, Closing Procession to end month of the Holy Rosary and to celebrate All Saints Day. Feast Of Our Lady of the Rosary, 7th October at 6pm, public rosary outside Marychurch, east side entrance. Marian Exhibit: '*The Power of the Rosary*' runs from 3rd October to 1st November in the Lady Chapel. Everyone welcome.

MC & SP: CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY on Friday 2nd October.

MC & SP: DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Blessing of Graves, Oakhill Cemetery on Sunday 1st November at 2.00pm. Westminster Youth Service Summit at Our Lady's in WGC on Saturday 28th November, 2.30pm, followed by Mass at 6.00pm.

MC/STM: To donate to Marychurch with STM, scan the QR code using your mobile and click 'rcdow.org.uk' to enter. You can choose between one-off or set up a standing order donation. If you wish to donate via transfer, the details are: **Acct Name: WRCDT Hatfield, Sort Code: 40-05-20, Account Number: 41266217.** If you are a UK tax-payer, please GIFT-AID all donations. Thank you.



St Peters R C Church, Hatfield South, AL10 9HN/Parish Secretary
Office: Tuesday and Thursday 9am – 2pm/Telephone: 01707 262121
Emails: hatfieldsouth@rcdow.org.uk WEB: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hatfieldsouth
Gift Aid: 01707 262121 hatfieldsouthbk@rcdow.org.uk
Safeguarding: hatfieldsothsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk hatieldsouthsg2@rcdow.org.uk
Chinonso Ijdzie - 07432 674955 & Dr Eric Chiejina – 07717 578052

SICK OR HOUSEBOUND: Please pray for Jack Cook, Edwin Levy, Anna Lodge, Elizabeth McLoughlin, Richard Atkin, Mary Damoah, Dulia Prado, Pat Hayward, Frances Kennedy and Mary Paiva.

Monthly Offertory – St Peter's Church:	August 2026	August 2025
Offertories Envelopes	778.20	844.23
Offertories SOs & Online	1426.00	1595.00
Offertories Loose Plate	1492.52	2203.10
Offertories Contactless	935.00	408.00
General Donations	55.00	141.00
Total Income	4686.72	5191.33

August 2026 total is -10.8% less than August 2025. Thanks for your continuing support.

SP: CHURCH CLEANING: Every Saturday after 10.30am Mass, join us and help clean. Thank you
SP: FLOWERS: Elsie

SP: REPOSITORY SHOP: Christmas has arrived in our Repository shop, with a lovely selection of new Christmas stock. Please pop in after Mass to browse seasonal cards, gifts and other festive items – perfect for sharing the joy of Christmas with family and friends. Your support is greatly appreciated.

SP & MC: ST PHILIP HOWARD YEAR 6 SCHOOL CHILDREN will be joining us for Mass on Tuesday 29th September at 9.30am in St Peter's.

SP & MC: THE CLOSING DATE FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME is Friday 2nd October. Applications forms are available at the Ignite Youth Club which runs every Friday at St Peter's Church hall, 5pm – 6pm. Fee is £3 per session. Attendance at the Ignite Youth Club is part of the programme. For more information, please speak to Corine or Linda at the back of the Church.

SP & MC: ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING DAY on Saturday 17th October, 2.00pm at St Peter's Church – anyone interested, please see Linda at the back of St Peter's or Damilola at Marychurch. We had to change the day; apologises for any inconvenience caused. If you have not picked up a sheet regarding items found on the altar, please see Linda after Mass.

SP: To donate to St Peter's R C Church, scan the QR code with your mobile and click 'rcdow.org.uk' to enter. You can choose one off or set-up a standing order. If you wish to donate via transfer the details are: **Acct Name: WRCDT Hatfield South, Sort Code: 40-05-20, Account Number: 81094602**. If you are a UK taxpayer, please GIFT-AID all donations. Thank you.