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 10/10	5.00pm STM		10.30am	
Sun 11/10	10.00am	Private Intention	8.30am	Nelly Tyrer, Healing
			11.30am	Titus Ngum, RIP Geoffrey Turner, Healing
			6.00pm	
Mon 12/10	7.00pm	Mr Lari, RIP		
Tues 13/10			9.30am	In Thanksgiving
Wed 14/10	10.30am	Anne Holloway, RIP		
Thu 15/10				NO MASS
Fri 16/10	10.30am	Pauline Kirkham, RIP	7.00pm	Mikaela, Thanksgiving
Sat 17/10	5.00pm STM		10.30am	
Next Sun Readings: 1. Prophet Isaiah 45:1,4-6 Ps 96(95):1,3,4-5.7-8.9-10a,c. 2. Saint Paul to the Thessalonians 1:1-5b Gospel Matthew 22:15-21				

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: SP: Saturday after 10.30am Mass (and by appointment for both parishes).
DEVOTIONS: Sacred Heart Novena: MC: Friday during adoration before 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 October 2026. For mental health ministry. Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illness.

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

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 10th & 11th October 2026

READINGS: 1. Prophet Isaiah 25:6-10a 2. Saint Paul to the Philippians 4:12-14,19-20 Gospel Matthew 22:1-14 **Response to Psalm Ps 23(22):1-3a.3b-4.5.6. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.** Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which he has called us. Alleluia

Reflection: **What does tomorrow hold for us? What is there to hope for? Often our imagination projects into the future. As children, we wondered "What will it be when like when we grow up?" Parents promised new freedoms and new possibilities. As adults we may indeed have to trim down and focus our hopes and fantasies into more precise channels, with the passing years. But we are still gripped with interest in what lies ahead–not just for oneself and family, but for the wider society and world. What steps in science and technology lie just around the corner? How will society develop, between now and the year 2050? The changing balance between richer and poorer countries; the unstable marital climate of our own nation; proposed educational changes and law reforms; new employment initiatives; the provision of better medical and recreational facilities – all are subject to our keen analysis and hopeful projections. Today's Scriptures invite us all to raise our sights, and our hearts, when thinking of the future. Beyond this present life, God has planned a great future for all of us. Isaiah's prophecy of the heavenly banquet is an invitation to think of our eternal destiny. There is more to live for than what we see in this present world, interesting and challenging though it is. What really counts, is whether we succeed in reaching our eternal happiness with God.**
Perhaps our predecessors in the faith had a stronger sense of the afterlife than we have today. Like St Paul, they believed that history is in God's hands and that divine justice will have the last say. Difficulties in one's present life could then be seen as growth-pains, or as a means of purifying the spirit from selfishness and sin. Under it all, the world was "in travail," in process of bringing a new era into existence. So it was that Paul–and many other men and women of faith–could be inwardly at peace, no matter how hard the circumstances in which they found themselves. We can "do all things in Him who strengthens us," if we hold on to the hope of everlasting life.
The eternal banquet must not be abandoned as so much "pie in the sky'! Christians don't literally expect to sit down to an everlasting meal, an eternal eating and drinking festival somewhere in the stratosphere. While heaven is described in vivid anthropomorphic images, we realise that "eye has not seen.. nor can the human heart imagine, what God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Cor 2:9.) Still, the banqueting atmosphere of friendly conviviality is a good image for that perfect loving communion with God and with others towards which our lives are destined.

" You pay God a compliment by asking great things of Him." St Teresa of Ávila



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 07988 346166



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: OCTOBER DEVOTION TO OUR LADY IN MARYCHURCH: Procession: 1st November at 11am, closing procession to end month of the Holy Rosary and to celebrate All Saints Day. Marian Exhibit: '*The Power of the Rosary*' runs from now to 1st November in the Lady Chapel. Everyone welcome.

MC & SP: THE THEOLOGY OF JOHN HENRY NEWMAN and its relevance for today's Church on Wednesday 14th October at 2.30pm in the Parish Centre, SS Alban and Stephen Church. The Herts Circle of the Newman Association will be showing a recording of a Margaret Beaufort Institute talk entitled, 'Authority and Obedience' by Dr Geertjan Zuijdwegt (KU Leuven). All parishioners are welcome to attend. The Church is located at 14 Beaconsfield Road, St Albans, AL1 3RB.

MC & SP: WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2ND COLLECTION on Sunday 18th October. The Holy Father invites all Catholics to support MISSIO – his charity for world mission – through a special collection. Thank you for your support.

MC & SP: MARY'S MEALS is hosting a free screening of its new feature film, Lettie. All welcome at St Albans Cathedral, 22nd October at 7pm. Please visit Eventbrite for free tickets.

MC & SP: ST PHILIP HOWARD CATHOLIC PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL: Reception visits on 5th November, 10th December and 7th January – 9.30am – 10.30am. Please contact the school on 01707 263969 to book your place. For children, whose birth date is between 01/09/2022 & 31/08/2023.

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 Ijdczie - 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: Mary

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: LORETO COLLEGE – SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING on Wednesday 14th October, 6.00pm – 8.00pm. Guided tours will be organised from 6.00pm – 8pm. Please note that there are no parking facilities available at the school, and that parking locally is restricted. Please use paid public parking nearby, Civic Centre and the Maltings car parks.

SP & MC: There is no morning Adoration or Mass on Thursday 15th October as Father Paul is attending an induction day for priests in Westminster.

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.

SP & MC: BLESSING OF GRAVES at Oak Hill Cemetery, 1st November, 1.30pm – 4pm.

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.