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 24/10	5.00pm STM	Fr John Kearney, RIP	10.30am	
Sun 25/10	10.00am	Peter Dobie, RIP	8.30am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
			11.30am	Titus Ngum, RIP
			6.00pm	
Mon 26/10	7.00pm	Fr John Clayton, RIP		
Tues 27/10			9.30am	Martina Polomba, Ints
Wed 28/10	10.30am	Mr Lari, RIP		
Thu 29/10			9.30am	Sherin Britto, B/day Thanksgiving
Fri 30/10	10.30am	Irene & James Collins, RIP	7.00pm	
Sat 31/10	5.00pm STM		10.30am	Johnson Fernandez, RIP 20th Anniversary
Next Sun Readings: 1. Revelation 7:2-4,9-14 Ps 24(23):1-2.3-4b.5-6. 2. Saint John 3:1-3 Gospel Matthew 5:1-12a				

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

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 24th & 25th October 2026

READINGS: 1. Book of Exodus 22:21-27 2. Saint Paul to the Thessalonians 1:5c-10 Gospel Matthew 22:34-40 **Response to Psalm Ps 18(17):2-3a.3b-4.47,51ab. I love you, Lord, my strength.** Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him. Alleluia

Reflection: **Life is becoming increasingly complex. We value people who have the gift of getting beyond the multiple dimensions of an issue to zoom in on the heart of the matter. Such people prevent us from missing the wood for the trees. They are good at separating out what really matters from the things that are less important. They encourage us to invest our energies in what is worthwhile, rather than allowing them to be dissipated by what is not significant.**

Jesus was a person who knew how to go to the heart of the matter. On one occasion someone asked him to intervene in a family dispute about inheritance. In his reply, he ignored the concrete issue and, instead, he called on the person who approached him to "Be on your guard against all kinds of greed" (Lk 12:13-15) . He saw that the real issue was not the details of the particular case but the greed which underlay the dispute.

This capacity of Jesus to get to the heart of the matter is clear from his response to the question put to him by one of the Pharisees in today's gospel reading, "Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?" In the time of Jesus there were known to be 613 commandments in the Jewish Law. The potential here to miss the wood for the trees was enormous. Preoccupation with the detail of regulations could result in people ignoring what really matters, like straining out a gnat but swallowing a camel (Mt 23:24). Jesus answered the Pharisee's question by going straight to the heart of the Jewish law. He was asked if there is one "greatest" commandment, but in reply he named the *second* greatest commandment as well. For the first commandment, loving the Lord your God with all our heart and soul, is inseparable from the conjoined commandment, of loving my neighbour as myself. For Jesus, what God wants from us above all else is love. There is no genuine love of God unless it finds expression in love of our neighbour. Love of neighbour, in turn, presupposes a healthy self-love, recognising and appreciating myself as fundamentally good, because I am created in the image and likeness of God.

"The measure of love is to love without measure." St. Augustine



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:	Sept 2026	Sept 2025
Offertories Envelopes	324.50	584.50
Offertories SOs and Online	1778.67	1555.67
Offertories Loose Plate	704.10	831.57
General Donations & Fund Raising	250.00	290.00
Total Income	3057.27	3261.74

Sept 2026 total is -6.69% less than Sept 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: CHRISTMAS CARDS: From the weekend of 31st October/1st November, we will be selling beautiful recycled Christmas cards and other Christmas items at the back of Marychurch. All proceeds to the Marychurch Refurb Fund. Thank you for your support.

MC & SP: FOOD BANKS at the back of Marychurch and St Peter's. Please donate food that is in date and non-perishable. If you would like any item from the Food Bank, you are very welcome to take what you need. This is for everyone: families and students. We do not wish for people to be without the food they need in our own Church community.

MC & SP: KREUPASANAM MARIAN SHRINE: In this month of October, dedicated to the Holy Rosary, we would like to share the Kreupasanam Marian Shrine in Kerala, India, a recent place of pilgrimage and prayer associated with reported apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Many testimonies have been shared of graces received through Mother Mary's intercession, and the shrine offers prayers and spiritual resources for those wishing to deepen their faith and Marian devotion. For more information, please contact Georgeena on 07415 709157.

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:	Sept 2026	Sept 2025
Offertories Envelopes	657.36	585.93
Offertories SOs & Online	1724.00	1577.00
Offertories Loose Plate	1183.07	1912.44
Offertories Contactless	1409.00	591.50
General Donations	75.00	389.00
Total Income	5048.43	5055.87

Sept 2026 total is -0.15% less than Sept 2025. Thanks for your continuing support.

SP: CHURCH CLEANING: Every Saturday after 10.30am Mass, join us and help clean St Peter's. 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: CATHOLIC SOCIETY (CATHSOC) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE for new and returning students to join our society. We meet every Sunday at 6pm Mass. We will host our Freshers Fair on the 1st November and host other events and socials on the last Sunday of the month. Our aim is building community, growing in faith together, and supporting Catholic students on campus. Please scan the CathSoc QR codes at the main entrances to St Peter's to join the society, or contact us via Instagram @uhcathsoc or speak to us after the 6pm Mass.

SP & MC: The Parish office will be closed from Monday 26th October to Monday 2nd November inclusive. It re-opens on Tuesday 3rd November from 9am.

SP & MC: BLESSING OF GRAVES at Oak Hill Cemetery, Sunday 1st November, 1.30pm – 4pm. St Luke's Cemetery, Hatfield, Monday 2nd November in the afternoon at 2.00pm. Please join Father Paul if you can.

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.