



Church of Our Lady of the Assumption

Archdiocese of Southwark

(Registered Charity number: 1173050)

3 The Hill, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 9ES

Parish Office ☎ 01474533689; ✉ northfleet@rcaos.org.uk

Website: ourladyofassumptionnorthfleet.com

Facebook Name: [Our Lady of the Assumption R. C. Church](https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyoftheAssumptionR.C.Church)

7/8 March 2026

+ LENT 3RD SUNDAY +

LITURGY TIMES

Sunday Mass

5pm (Sat.), 8.30am,
11.00am

Weekday Mass

Tue. – Fri: 10.00am

Holy Days of Obligation

10.00am & 7.00pm

Exposition/Adoration

Tue. – Fr. 9.00am

Morning Prayer

Tue. – Fri.: 9.30am

Benediction

Tue. – Fri.: 9.45am

BAPTISM

See the Parish Priest.

*Preparation is
obligatory*

CONFESSIONS

Sat., 4.20 pm – 4.45 pm
or on request

MARRIAGE

Contact the Parish Priest
6 months in advance

Parish Office

Tue. & Fri.: 11.00 am –
2.00 pm



From the Parish Priest's Desk

**We are justified by faith, and we have peace with
God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom. 5.1)**

Our second reading today speaks of one basic tenet of our faith, i.e. our justification. We believe that we were made righteous while we were still sinners, and children of God while we were still slaves, God totally overlooking our faults. The Lord died for the ungodly while we were still sinners and helpless (Rom. 5.6,8). While still enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son (Rom. 5.10). We have no merit of our own to vindicate us. That we had our sins washed away, that we were made children of God, that regardless of our sinfulness and unworthiness we were reconciled to God, is entirely due to the grace God gave us in the shedding of the blood of His Son. By faith, and not by works of the law (Rom. 3.28; Acts 13.39), each of us is to make this justification their own. We were saved by grace through faith which is God's free gift, not as a result of our efforts, lest anyone should boast (Eph. 2.8-9). But, contrary to what protestants believe, this does not mean that good works play no role in our justification. Faith here does not stand alone; it is intrinsically joined to good works. Neither is it passive; it is living and active, and naturally expresses itself through good works, else it is wholly dead. St James puts it nicely: "What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has no works? Can his faith save him? . . . so faith apart from works is dead" (Jam. 2.14-26). Separating faith from good works is intolerable to the Lord Who says: "Why do you call Me Lord and do not do what I tell you?" (Lk 6.46) And what does He tell us if not to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to welcome strangers, to cloth the naked, to visit prisoners and the sick? "Truly I say to you, as you did it to the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me" (Mt 25.31-46).

Readings of this Sunday

First Reading, Exodus 17.3-7

In those days: The people thirsted for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?' So, Moses cried to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' And the Lord said to Moses, 'Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.' And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarrelling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?' **The Word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm, Ps 95(94).1-2, 6-7, 7-9

**O that today you would listen to His voice!
'Harden not your hearts.'**

1. Come, let us ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the Rock Who saves us.
Let us come into His presence, giving thanks;
let us hail Him with a song of praise. **R/**
2. O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the Lord Who made us,
for He is our God, and we the people,
the people of His pasture, the flock of His hand.
R/
3. O that today you would listen to His voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your forebears put Me to the test;
when they tried Me, though they saw My work.'
R/

Second Reading, Romans 5.1-2, 5-8

Brothers and Sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die – but God shows



His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

**Glory to you, O Christ, You are the Word of God.
Lord, You are indeed the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

Gospel, Matthew 17.1-9

At that time: Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as He was from His journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give Me a drink.' (For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to Him, 'How is it that You, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?' (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and Who it is that is saying to you, "Give Me a drink", you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.' The woman said to Him, 'Sir, You have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' The woman said to Him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water. Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to Him, 'I know that Messiah is coming – He Who is called Christ. When He comes, He will tell us all things.' Jesus said to her, 'I who speak to you am He.' Many Samaritans from that town believed in Him. So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them, and He stayed

there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world.'. **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Communion Antiphon

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

MASS DURING THE WEEK

Sat. 7th Mar.	+ 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT <i>Divine Office, Wk 3</i>	5pm	John O'Callaghan, RIP
		8.30am	Parishioners
Sun. 8th Mar.		11am	Josephine Ngozi Umeh, God's Healing
Mon. 9th Mar.	Lent Feria	NO MASS	
Tue. 10th Mar.	Lent Feria	10am	Bridget M. Winton & Parents, RIP
Wed. 11th Mar.	Lent Feria	10am	Alfred & Sarah Tollurst, RIP & Descendants
Thur. 12th Mar.	Lent Feria	10am	Angela Okafor, RIP
Fri. 13th Mar.	Lent Feria	10am	Angela Okafor, RIP
Sat. 14th Feb.	+ 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT <i>Divine Office, Wk 4</i>	5pm	Thomas and Mary Nolan, RIP
		8.30am	Parishioners
Sun. 15th Mar.		11am	Josephine Ngozi Umeh, God's Healing

NOTICES

First Scrutiny: This Rite will take place at the 11am Sunday Mass. Please keep all our RCIA catechumens and candidates in your prayers.

Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2026: I warmly invite you to join me on this year's SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: 21 to 28 August 2026. A pilgrimage is a great opportunity to refresh and renew our relationship with the Lord Jesus, with the help of Our Lady's prayers. I have also found it a blessing to be able to accompany and to be inspired by other pilgrims, some of whom are sick, elderly or disabled. Last year, Deacon John Fogarty and I did a short presentation in parishes, which we would be happy to repeat in your parish, if it can be arranged. Details for booking travel and accommodation can be found at <https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-ca/>. We also ask pilgrims to complete a form with details, including medical requirements (if any) at

<https://www.catholicassociation.co.uk/join2026>. For more information, please contact Canon Edward Perera (edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk), or Deacon John Fogarty (johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk), or myself, Bishop Paul Hendricks (paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk).

Stations of the Cross, every Friday at 7.00 pm throughout Lent. Come and join us and retrace the steps of Our Lord's final journey during His earthly life, from His condemnation by Pontus Pilate to His death on the Cross.

Lectio Divina: As part of our Lenten observances, Deacon John is leading a session of Scripture reading, shared reflections, and prayers every Wednesday at 7pm in the church. All are invited to the session.

BOOKING OF MASS: You can request that a Mass be offered for any intention of yours, in thanksgiving, in petition for your needs, for the peaceful repose of a deceased loved one, or for any other good intention. Please use the brown envelope at the back of the church to book a Mass. The archdiocese recommends a donation of £10 or more for each Mass.

Pope's March 2026 Prayer Intention

"Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence."

Divine Mercy Devotion

Sun. after the 11am Mass

St Pio Meeting & Rosary for World Peace

Thur., 9.45 am – 10.45 am.

Tea & Coffee

Last Sunday of the month, after
the 11am Mass. Please join us.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

21/22 February 2026

Loose Plate - £

SO/Contactless - £

CAFOD - £

Thank you very much.

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

Mt 21.13; Jer. 7.11

Please be sensitive to those
who want to pray in the
church.

*Before Mass – Talk to God
During Mass – Listen to God
After Mass – Talk to each
other*

KEY PARISH VOLUNTEERS

Safeguarding: **Anastasia Appah**, Ph: 07894890967;

northfleetsg1@safeguardraeos.org.uk

Vice Chair, Parish Council: **Solomon Appah**

Chair, Finance Committee: **Cyril Okolie**

northfleetfc@raeos.org.uk

Gift Aid Coordinator: **Dixciam Costa**

Bookkeeper: **Eileen Norris**

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School: Springhead Rd.,
Northfleet, DA11 9QZ; Ph: 01474533515; Email: office@st-josephs-northfleet.kcsp.org.uk; Mrs Lucy Owen; www.st-josephs-northfleet.kent.sch.uk

Our Lady's Pre-School: Springhead Rd., Northfleet, DA11
9QZ; Ph: 01474365877; ourladyspreschool@gmail.com; Mrs A.
Franco; www.ourladypreschoolnorthfleet.com

Get Well Soon: Please pray for Mandy Ermis, Rosemary Reilly, Rasma Gurskiene, John Prior, Sheila Griffin, Billy Damer, Sharon Docherty, Rodolfo Rodriguez, Josephine Umeh, Michael Mitchel, Cathy Reilly, Sandra Gomes, Pedro Spina Jr., Ekenedilichukwu Lourdes.

The Week's Death Anniversaries: Stella Williamson, Teresa Nina Clements, Daniel Thomas O'Connell, Giacomina Goulding, Reuben Bernard Broad, George Ballard, Liam Flynn, David Griffiths, Mary Ellis, Joan M. Saxton, John Saxton, Maria Ann Barnes, Canon Daniel Moriarty, Emma Phyllis. Peard. Inwood, RIP

DONATE TO HELP PAY OUR BILLS

You can donate for your weekly offering by:

- Using the QR Code on the right,
- Setting up a Standing Order, or
- Sending your offering envelope to the Parish Office.

Our bank details are:

NatWest Bank; Sort Code: 60-09-10

Account Number: 71502122

Please let us know when you set up a Standing Order. Thank you.



Parish Priest: Fr Livie ONYEBUCHI msp

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Parish Deacon: Revd John FOGARTY

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