



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)

14/15 March 2026

+ LENT 4TH 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

**I am the light of the world; whoever follows Me
will have the light of life. (John 8.12)**

Today's Gospel tells the story of an extraordinary incident – a man who was born blind got his eyes opened and saw with them for the first time in his life. It was so extraordinary that even the authorities refused to believe that the man was actually born blind and had to carry out an extensive investigation to verify his claim. When the man himself discovered the identity of the Lord Who gave him that wonderful gift of sight, he bowed and worshipped Him, professing his faith in Him (John 9.48). Several things happened there. One is that the gift the man received was not just the gift of physical sight; it was more importantly the gift of spiritual sight which enabled him to recognise and worship the Lord as the Son of Man the world awaited. His journey from blindness to sight was a journey from unbelief to faith, a journey from darkness to light, from error to truth; from ignorance to knowledge, from bondage to freedom, from death to life. It is in this sense that we are said to be 'enlightened' with the knowledge of the truth. It is also with this idea in mind that the second reading from the letter to the Ephesians says: "Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord" (Eph. 5.8). To have physical sight is something great, but having spiritual sight is a lot greater. It is bad enough to be blind, without sight, but a lot worse to have eyes and yet fail to see. Even worse than that is to have eyes and refuse to see. This happens when people let their prejudices or passions to becloud their vision and so fail to look at things objectively. The eyes of faith helps us to see this world and all things in it the way they are.

Readings of this Sunday



First Reading, 1 Samuel 16.1, 6-7, 10-13

In those days: The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is before Him.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. **The Word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm, Ps 23(22).1-3, 3-4, 5, 6

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where He gives me repose.
Near restful waters He leads me;
He revives my soul. **R/**
2. He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of His name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow
of death,
no evil would I fear, for You are with me.
Your crook and Your staff will give me comfort.
R/
3. You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head You have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R/**
4. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending. **R/**

Second Reading, Ephesians 5.8-14

Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.' **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows Me will have the light of life. Praise and honour to You, Lord Jesus.

Gospel, John 9.1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

At that time: As Jesus passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then He anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So, the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a Man Who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So, they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And Who is He, sir, that I may believe in Him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen Him, and it is He Who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped Him. **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Communion Antiphon

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

MASS DURING THE WEEK

Sat. 14 th Mar.	+ 4 TH SUNDAY OF LENT <i>Divine Office, Wk 4</i>	5pm	Thomas and Mary Nolan, RIP
Sun. 15 th Mar.		8.30am	Parishioners
			11am
Mon. 16 th Mar.	Lent Feria	NO MASS	
Tue. 17 th Mar.	St Patrick	10am	Elena, Birthday Thanksgiving
Wed. 18 th Mar.	Lent Feria	10am	Patricia Okebu, Birthday T/Giving
Thur. 19 th Mar.	ST JOSEPH	10am	Angela Okafor, RIP
Fri. 20 th Mar.	Lent Feria	10am	Angela Okafor, RIP
Sat. 21 st Feb.	+ 5 TH SUNDAY OF LENT <i>Divine Office, Wk 1</i>	5pm	Parishioners
Sun. 22 nd Mar.		8.30am	Jean and Alex Gemmell
			11am

NOTICES

Mothers Sunday: This Sunday, we celebrate all our mothers, all the love and care they show us, and all the sacrifices they make for the sake of their children. May God bless and reward them abundantly. Please join in the celebration which begins with Holy Mass at 11am and continues after Mass with a reception at Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

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).

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

Poor Parishes Collection will be taken next weekend, to help the archbishop in his grants to poor parishes. Your generous support is solicited and will be highly appreciated.

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.

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 - £

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.kcpsp.org.uk](mailto:office@st-josephs-northfleet.kcpsp.org.uk); Mrs Lucy Owen; [www.st-josephs-
northfleet.kent.sch.uk](http://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: Veronica M. Morton,
Kathleen C. Casey, Antony J. Leydon, John J. Holmes, Nellie
McGoran, Keith Wray, Kenneth R. C. Wray, Mary O’Brien,
Arthur Bracey, John McCarthy, Julie Pollard, Sheila K.
Horlock, Christian Brown, Alice M. Marsh, and Elizabeth H.
Benn. May they rest in peace.

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

✉ johnfogarty@raeos.org.uk