

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

1/2 August 2026

+ 18TH SUNDAY, YEAR A +

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

He who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money. (Isaiah 55.1)

The Lord fed over 5,000 people on one occasion with only five loaves and two fish (Mt 14.17), another 4,000 on another occasion with seven loaves and some fish (Mt 15.32-39; Mk 8.1-10), and seven of His Apostles with fish and bread (Jn 21.12-13). By taking and blessing what was presented, He miraculously turned it into the great abundance that fed and completely satisfied large crowds of people. Those who ate the loaves and fish did not have to pay for them. It was no fault of theirs that they were hungry or could not fend for themselves at the time. Yet, their dignity as human beings required that they have their basic needs satisfied, the responsibility resting on those who possessed the means. Today's world hunger statistics remains embarrassingly very high. The World Food Programme 2026 report shows that 318 million people face acute hunger, with 35.5 million children acutely malnourished last year. At the same time, about 1.05 billion tonnes, or 20% of food produced globally are being wasted each year. But for this waste, the world appears to be in a position to feed all its 8.3 billion people. A lot of people are hungry, not because they are lazy and do not work; many of them work very hard every day to earn their living, but are often constrained in their efforts by many factors beyond their control, including poverty, food shortage, war and conflict, structural inequality in society, bad economy, climate change, poor nutrition, food waste, gender inequality, poor public policies, forced migration, unjust global economic arrangements. World hunger can be drastically reduced if people spare a thought for others and generously share their bread with the hungry, if world resources are better managed, if food waste is minimised.

Readings of this Weekend



First Reading, Isaiah 55.1-3

Thus says the Lord: 'Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to Me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to Me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, My steadfast, sure love for David.' **The Word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm, Ps 145[144].8-9, 15-16, 17-18

You open Your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
   slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
   How good is the Lord to all,
   compassionate to all His creatures. **R/**
2. The eyes of all look to You,
   and You give them their food in due season.
   You open Your hand and satisfy
   the desire of every living thing. **R/**
3. The Lord is just in all His ways,
   and holy in all His deeds.
   The Lord is close to all who call Him,
   who call on Him in truth. **R/**

Second Reading, Romans 8.35, 37-39

Brothers and Sisters: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.
Alleluia.

Gospel, Matthew 14.13-21

At that time: When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, He withdrew in a boat to a desolate place by Himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed Him on foot from the towns. When He went ashore, He saw a great crowd, and He had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, 'This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' But Jesus said, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They said to Him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And He said, 'Bring them here to Me.' Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Communion Antiphon

I am the bread of life, says the Lord; whoever comes to Me will not hunger and whoever believes in Me will not thirst.

MASS DURING THE WEEK

Sat. 1st Aug.	**+ 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** *Divine Office: Wk 2*	**5pm**	Parishioners
Sun. 2nd Aug.		**8.30am**	
		11am	Frances Nee, RIP
Mon. 3rd Aug.	Feria	**NO MASS**	
Tue. 4th Aug.	St John Vianney	10am	
Wed. 5th Aug.	Feria	10am	
Thur. 6th Aug.	**The Transfiguration**	10am	
Fri. 7 Aug.	Feria	10am	
Sat. 8th Aug.	**+ 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDIANRY TIME** Divine Office: *Wk 3*	**5pm**	
Sun. 9th Aug.		**8.30am**	
		11am	Parishioners

NOTICES

Fr Livie returns this weekend. Weekday adoration at 9am, Morning Prayer at 9.30am, Benediction at 9.45am, and Mass at 10am will all resume on Tuesday the 4th. Please join us.

PARISH FEAST DAY: Our parish feast which falls on the solemnity of the Assumption of Virgin Mary on August the 15th will be celebrated on Sunday August the 16th. As usual, a number of activities will be lined up for the celelrbation. If you have any ideas about this, please contact Annie, Sheila, or Amaka. Thank you.

World Youth Day Korea 2027: Join Archbishop John Wilson for the Archdiocese of Southwark's pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea, from 2 to 9 August 2027 for young adults aged 18-35. World Youth Day brings together over one million young Catholics from across the world with Pope Leo XIV for prayer, catechesis, pilgrimage, and celebration of the faith. It is a unique opportunity to deepen your faith and experience the joy of the universal Church. Package prices: **Full package including flights: £3,270; Ground package only: £1,870.** A £400 deposit is required by close on Monday 29 June. For full details, fundraising information, and booking, please visit: www.tinyurl.com/wydhome1

2026/2027 RCIA: The programme will start in October. It is for Catholics aged 13 years or above who wAould like to make their First Holy Communion or receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is also for non-Catholic adults who seek admission into the full communion of the Church. Anyone interested in the programme should please contact the Parish Clergy.

MASS BOOKING: You can request that a Mass be offered for any intention of yours, in thanksgiving, in petition for 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 August 2026 Prayer Intention

"Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community."

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

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: **4**
Vice Chair, Parish Council: **Solomon Appah**
Chair, Finance Committee: **Cyril Okolie:** northfleetfc@rcaos.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, Catherine Gomer, John Prior, Denis Griffin, Billy Damer, Sharon Docherty, Michael Mitchel, James Alan Richards, Rasma, Mary Irwin, and Shirley Fahy.

The Week's Death Anniversaries: Lice Lily Burnet, Patrick Joseph Quinn, William Eric Prior, Sean Kilcullen, Vincent Kilcullen, Arthur A. B. Marks, Lilian Matilda Sarah Papa, John Joseph Kelly, Mary Hawkins, Margaret Devenney, and Mary Mudie. 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@rcaos.org.uk**