

# 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**

**29/30 August 2026**

## + 22ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME +

### LITURGY TIMES

**Sunday Mass**
5pm (Sat.), 8.30am, 11.00am.

**Weekday Mass**
Tue. – Fri: 10.00am.

**Holy Day 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.

**Mass Attendance**
22/23 August 2026:
**35; 30; 165**



### *From the Parish Priest's Desk*

**If any man would come after Me, let him take up his cross and follow Me.** (Mt 16.24)

The Cross is the single most important and powerful symbol of Christianity. It is placed in places, hung on or affixed to things, and even worn by people to signify their affiliation to the Lord. Our Lord was nailed to it, together with all of us (Gal. 2.20), and with the bond of our sins (Col. 2.14). He died on it (Phil. 2.8) to take away our sins. By the blood of the Cross, He made peace (Col. 1.20), reconciling us to God in one body, and ending the hostility (Eph. 2.16). Despising the shame, He endured the Cross for the sake of the joy that was set before Him (Heb. 12.2). Being the symbol of salvation, the Cross signifies the ultimate triumph over the evil that a Christian, like the Lord, must patiently endure in order to enter into glory (cf. Lk 24.26). The Cross is, thus, part and parcel of our Christian life and identity. While it is not something we seek out for ourselves or someone else, we should not be ashamed of it, or run away from it, or live as its enemies (Phil. 3.18). Nor should we be like those who are perishing for whom the Cross is folly (1 Cor. 1.18). Rather, we should glory in the Cross (Gal. 6.14). Accepting it in faith when it comes our way, and enduring it patiently in hope in union with the Lord, we seek to complete in our flesh "what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of His Body, that is, the Church" (Col. 1.24). We may not be like the apostles who literally rejoiced to be counted worthy to suffer for the Lord's name (Acts 5.41), or St Paul who also rejoiced (Rom. 5.3) and was content with his many sufferings (2 Cor. 12.10). We should at least imitate Simon of Cyrene by carrying the Cross behind Our Lord (Mt 27.32), and suffer with the Lord, like His glorious mother who stood at the foot of the Cross as He hung on it (Jn 19.25).

## Readings of this Weekend



**First Reading, Jeremiah 20.7- 9**

O Lord, You have deceived me, and I was deceived; You are stronger than I, and You have prevailed. I have become a laughing-stock all the day; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, 'Violence and destruction!' For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, 'I will not mention Him, or speak any more in His name', there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. **The Word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm, Ps 63[62].2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9**

**For You my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.**

1. O God, You are my God; at dawn I seek You;
   for You my soul is thirsting.
   For You my flesh is pining,
   like a dry, weary land without water. **R/**

2. I have come before You in the sanctuary,
   to behold Your strength and Your glory.
   Your loving mercy is better than life;
   my lips will speak Your praise. **R/**

3. I will bless You all my life;
   in Your name I will lift up my hands.
   My soul shall be filled as with a banquet;
   with joyful lips, my mouth shall praise You. **R/**

4. For You have been my strength;
   in the shadow of Your wings I rejoice.
   My soul clings fast to You;
   Your right hand upholds me. **R/**

**Second Reading, Romans 12.1-2**

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind that, by testing, you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. **The Word of the Lord.**

**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.**

**Gospel, Matthew 16.21-27**

At that time: Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, 'Far be it from You, Lord! This shall never happen to You.' But He turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind Me, Satan! You are a hindrance to Me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.' Then Jesus told His disciples: 'If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with His angels in the glory of His Father, and then He will repay each person according to what he has done.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Communion Antiphon**

**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

# MASS DURING THE WEEK

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| **Sat. 29th Aug.** | **+ 22ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** Divine Office: *Wk 2* | **5pm** | Parishioners |
| **Sun. 30th Aug.** | | **8.30am** | Edith and Innocent Ibude, Wedding A. |
| | | **11am** | Dixcie Costa, Birthday Thanksgiving |
| Mon. 31st Aug. | Feria | **NO MASS** | |
| Tue. 1st Sept. | Feria | 10am | |
| Wed. 2nd Sept. | Feria | 10am | |
| Thur. 3rd Sept. | St Gregory the Great | 10am | |
| Fri. 4th Sept. | Feria | 10am | Peter Irwin, Death Anniversary |
| **Sat. 5th Sept.** | **+ 23RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** Divine Office: *Wk 3* | **5pm** | Parishioners |
| **Sun. 6th Sept.** | | **8.30am** | Bernard Stanley, Death Anniversary |
| | | **11am** | Frances Nee RIP |

# NOTICES

**First Friday of the Month** comes up on Friday, Sept. the 4th. The devotion will start with Mass at 10am, continue with Adoration, and end with Divine Mercy and Benediction at 3.30pm.

**Statement on the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill.** Ahead of the Bill's Second Reading on 11 September, Archbishop John Sherrington has issued a statement opposing it, citing inadequate safeguards and risks to palliative care. Parishioners are urged to contact their MP via Right to Life UK. You can also send a card to your MP. Copies of the card are available at the back of the Church. More resources are also available on the Catholic Bishops' Conference website.

**National Eucharistic Congress 2026** will take place at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, on **October the 10th,** beginning at 12 noon. Please see **cbcew.org.uk/adoremus-2026** for details.

**Bereavement Training** is being organised to take place at **Aylesford Priory on September the 19th.** Please contact Barbara Salamonczyk at **mflbereavement@rcaos.org.uk** for more information.

**Pope's September 2026 Prayer Intention**

"Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it."

**2026/2027 First Holy Communion:** The programme will start in October and is for the children of regular parishioners who are in Year 3 or 7 years old. Those who want to be in the programme should register with the Parish Priest **next weekend, September the 5th/6th**. Please note that each child is required to attend Mass every weekend. A child whose family are not regular parishioners should get a letter from their own Parish Priest permitting them to be in the programme in our parish.

**2026/2027 RCIA:** The programme will start in October. It is for Catholics aged 13 years or above who have not made their First Holy Communion or received the Sacrament of Confirmation and would like to do so. It is also for non-Catholic adults who seek admission into the full communion of the Church. If you are, or you know anyone, interested in joining the programme 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.

**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**

**15/16 August 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: **Annastasia Appah;** Ph: 07894890967; northfleetsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk
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:** Francis Anthony Pocock, Rose Mullard, Margaret Edwards, Reginald Ashenden, Michael Lavin, Iris Betty O'Reilly, Kathleen Wilkinson, Christopher Redmond Sheehan, Robert Hallum, John O'Brien, Thomas Henry Creighton, and Florence Theresa Casey. 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.

For our bank details, please contact:
**The Parish Clergy, or**
**The Parish Office.**




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

***Parish Priest*: Fr Livie ONYEBUCHI msp**
☎ **01474533689; 07459718783** ✠ ✉ **livinusonyebuchi@rcaos.org.uk**

***Deacon:* Revd John FOGARTY**
✉ **johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk**