

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

12/13 September 2026

+ 24TH 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
5/6 September 2026:
44; 45; 208



From the Parish Priest's Desk

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (Mt 6.12)

"So also My heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart" (Mt 18.34). These words conclude Our Lord's teaching on ecclesial communion, and sums up our pathway to the peace and joy of salvation. It teaches that for us to access God's mercy and forgiveness for ourselves, we must truly forgive one another (Mk 11.25; Mt 6.12, 14-15; 5.23-24; Lk 11.4). We are, as it were, all in the same boat. We may not be guilty of the heinous sins of serial murder, multiple rape, fraud, child molestation, and so on. Yet, we all sin (cf. 1 Jn 1.8, 10), and we all fall short of God's glory (Rom. 3.23). In various ways, at various times, we offend God and one another. Were God to mark our guilt, none of us could stand (Ps 130 [129].3). So we all need to be treated with mercy, to be forgiven. In Our Lord, God has in fact forgiven us (Col. 1.14; Eph. 1.7; 4.32). However, His superabundant outpouring of mercy and forgiveness in the Lord will not personally benefit a soul that has rendered itself impervious to grace by its hard-hearted refusal to forgive another (*Catechism* 2840). We are invited to take part in the Lord's act of mercy and forgiveness by having in us the heart of the Lord (Phil. 2.5), the heart that readily forgave even those who put Him through hell in His Passion and sadistically rejoiced to see Him suffer and die most painfully on the Cross. With Him, we are to turn the hurt we suffer into an intercession for those who hurt us (Mt 5. 44; *Catechism* 2842). Forgiveness, as the hallmark of our Christian service, is the means by which we bear powerful witness to the fact that love is stronger than might, and its fire fiercer than vengeance; we owe this as a duty to all who offend us (*Catechism* 2844).

Readings of this Weekend



First Reading, Sirach 27.30-28.7

Anger and wrath, these are abominations, and the sinful man will hold them fast. The one who seeks vengeance will be paid vengeance from the Lord, and he who keeps a record will have his own sins recorded. Forgive your neighbour the wrong he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray. Does one person harbour anger against another and yet seek for healing from the Lord? Does he have no mercy towards someone like himself and yet pray concerning his own sins? If he himself, being flesh, maintains wrath, who will make atonement for his sins? Remember the end of your life and cease from enmity; remember destruction and death and be true to the commandments. Remember the commandments and do not be angry with your neighbour; remember the covenant of the Most High and overlook error. **The Word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm, Ps 103[102].1-2,3-4,9-10,11-12

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

1. Bless the Lord, O my soul,
   And all within me, His holy name.
   Bless the Lord, O my soul,
   And never forget all His benefits. **R/**

2. It is the Lord Who forgives all your sins,
   Who heals every one of your ills,
   Who redeems your life from the grave,
   Who crowns you with mercy and compassion. **R/**

3. He will not always find fault;
   nor persist in His anger for ever.
   He does not treat us according to our sins,
   nor repay us according to our faults. **R/**

4. For as the heavens are high above the earth,
   so strong His mercy for those who fear Him.
   As far as the east is from the west,
   so far from us does He remove our transgressions. **R/**

Second Reading, Romans 14.7-9

Brothers and Sisters: None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.
Alleluia.

Gospel, Matthew 18.21-35

At that time: Peter came up and said to Jesus, 'Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven. 'Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, "Pay what you owe." So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, "You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also My heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Communion Antiphon

How precious is Your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of Your wings.

MASS DURING THE WEEK

Sat. 12th Sept.	**+ 24TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** Divine Office: *Wk 4*	**5pm**	Wellbeing of Anna Wisniowska
Sun. 13th Sept.		**8.30am**	Parishioners
		11am	Santara, God's Blessing & Protection
Mon. 14th Sept.	**Exaltation of the Cross**	**NO MASS**	
Tue. 15th Sept.	Our Lady of Sorrows	10am	Agnes, Birthday Thanksgiving
Wed. 16th Sept.	Ss Cornelius & Cyprian	10am	
Thur. 17th Sept.	Feria	10am	
Fri. 18th Sept.	Feria	10am	
Sat. 19th Sept.	**+ 25TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** Divine Office: *Wk 1*	**5pm**	Parishioners
Sun. 20th Sept.		**8.30am**	
		11am	Jennifer Ibennah, Thanksgiving

NOTICES

Catholic Education Service Collection, CES: CES acts on behalf the Church in England and Wales to support Catholic Education. There are over 2,000 Catholic schools, academies and colleges in England and Wales, with a total student population of about 800,000. CES is the chief negotiating and advisory body on matters affecting all aspects of Catholic education. To support it in its work, a collection will be taken this weekend. Your usual generous support is solicited and will be highly appreciated.

Home Mission Collection, Next Sunday: The collection provides the bishops of England and Wales with the resources to support Home Mission, that is, the spread of the Gospel in our own country. The money raised will be used in a breath of work to be done to support parish evangelisation. May you be blessed and richly rewarded as you generously support this important work.

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.

Funeral Service: Please pray for the peaceful repose of **Shirley Fahy** who has died. Her funeral service will take place in the church on Monday the 21st at 11am, followed by a cremation service at 12 noon. Please join us to bid her our final farewell.

2026 First Holy CommunionProgramme: This has started. Each child is required to attend Mass every weekend and report to the Parish Priest at the end of Mass. The child may attend Mass in another parish but should ensure that the attendance is signed by the officiating priest there. Thanks.

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.

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."

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

5/6 September 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, and Mary Irwin.

Death Anniversaries this Week: Patrick Hughes, Lillian May Newdick, Patrick Kilcullen, Nora Clare O'Connell, Margaret Philomena Jackson, Domittila Tolhurst, Terry Joseph Marsh, Bartholomew Francis Kelleher Culleton, Frederick Watkins, Richard Trevor Hall, Michael Corrigan, and Ada Georgina Fryer. 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.

For our bank details, please contact:
Bank: NatWest; 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**
☎ **01474533689; 07459718783** ✠ ✉ **livinusonyebuchi@rcaos.org.uk**

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