

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

19/20 September 2026

+ 25TH 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:
63; 45; 158



From the Parish Priest's Desk

Why do you stand here idle all day? They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' (Mt 6.12)

In 1981, on the 90th anniversary of *Rerum Novarum*, the highly consequential encyclical of Pope Leo XIII that introduced and systematised Catholic Social Teaching in the Church, St John Paul II issued another far-reaching encyclical, *Laborem Exercens.* Both encyclicals were written to defend the dignity of labour and the rights of workers against all the ideologies and efforts that threaten or undermine them. Pope St John Paul II starts his encyclical by underlining the necessity of everyone having to work and earn their daily bread, and to contribute in their own ways to the advance of human civilization. That opening statement echoes what Divine Teaching says, that all work with their hands (1 Thess. 4.11) and "earn their own living" (1 Thess. 3.12), and that "if any one will not work, let him not eat" (2 Thess. 3.10). We say that there is "no food for a lazy man," a saying that reflects Divine Teaching in Proverbs 6.6-11; 12.27. The Church has always taught that we work not only to support ourselves, take care of our needs, and help others; we work primarily to express and perfect ourselves through our work, and to participate in God's ongoing creative activity that perfects the world. Work gives meaning to who we are as human beings. It sustains our dignity and gives us pride and joy in our ability to make things and to look after ourselves. Its necessity imposes on society an obligation to create those conditions and opportunities that make it possible for anyone who can to find work to do, and to discourage laziness and over-dependence on others for one's sustenance. Due to no fault or choice of their own, however, some people are not in a position to work and earn their living, and, so, must be supported by society and their brothers and sisters.

Readings of this Weekend



First Reading, Isaiah 55.6-9

Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. **The Word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm, Ps 145[144].2-3, 8-9, 17-18

The Lord is close to all who call Him.

1. I will bless You day after day,
   and praise Your name for ever and ever.
   The Lord is great and highly to be praised;
   His greatness cannot be measured. **R/**

2. 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/**

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, Philippians 1.20-24, 27

Brothers and Sisters: Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ. **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
Open our hearts, O Lord, that we may pay attention to the words of Your Son. Alleluia.

Gospel, Matthew 20.1-16

At that time: Jesus told His disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market-place, and to them he said, "You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you." So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, "Why do you stand here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You go into the vineyard too." 'And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, "Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first." And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" So the last will be first, and the first last.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Communion Antiphon

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord; I know My sheep, and Mine know Me.

MASS DURING THE WEEK

Sat. 19th Sept.	**+ 25TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** Divine Office: *Wk 1*	**5pm**	Chima Ekwuno, 11+ Exam Success
Sun. 20th Sept.		**8.30am**	Parishioners
		11am	Jennifer Ibennah, Thanksgiving
Mon. 21st Sept.	**St Matthew, Ap.**	**NO MASS**	
Tue. 22nd Sept.	Feria	10am	Alfred & Sarah Tolhurst, RIP & Descendants
Wed. 23rd Sept.	St Pio	10am	James Henderson, 1st Anniversary
Thur. 24th Sept.	Our Lady of Walsingham	10am	
Fri. 25th Sept.	Feria	10am	
Sat. 26th Sept.	**+ 26TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** Divine Office: *Wk 2*	**5pm**	Parishioners
Sun. 27th Sept.		**8.30am**	
		11am	Mrs Sheila O'Mahoney, RIP

NOTICES

Home Mission Collection this Weekend: 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.

World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees comes up next weekend Sunday. We remember all migrants/refugees in our prayers.

2026 First Holy CommunionProgramme: The programme 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 adult Catholics 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.

Holy Rosary Sunday: Next Sunday is Rosary Sunday. We are requested to commend our families and the world to the maternal intercession of the blessed Mother of God by reciting the Rosary individually and in our families.

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.

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 intention.

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 -

CES Collection -

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: William Ede, Katie Louise Moran, Betty May McGinley, Leo Joseph Arthur, Bernadette Connelly, Charles Devenney. 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:
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**