

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

3/4 October 2026

+ 27TH 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. – Fri. 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
19/20 September 2026: 46; 58; 163



From the Parish Priest's Desk

The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel. (Is 5.7)

In June 2015 Pope Francis published his widely-acclaimed encyclical on ecology, *Laudato Si.* Inspired by his patron saint, the pope describes St Francis of Assisi as "the example par excellence of care for the vulnerable and of an integral ecology lived out joyfully and authentically." St Francis did not just love and admire nature; he also sought and forged harmony with it, seeing and treating it as sharing a common brotherhood with humanity. There were times he spoke to a killer-wolf and to birds which amazingly appeared to heed his voice. The way he related to nature eloquently reminds all that we are stewards entrusted with the natural world, to care for and to responsibly use it. Born to a wealthy merchant, St Francis was named Giovanni at baptism, but made by his father to bear the name Francesco. He grew up as a huge party-goer and lived a life of luxury, pleasure, debauchery, and unbridled ambition, attracting to himself "a retinue of young people addicted to evil and accustomed to vice." He got gradually converted after encountering Our Lord in the Gospel, in a damaged church building, on his way to the Holy Land on a crusade, and in a leper he met on the road. After his conversion, he renounced all his wealth and began to live an austere life as a poor mendicant, simple, bare-footed, sack-clad, having nothing, yet possessing everything. He begged from door to door for sustenance good enough to be thrown away. But full of constant joy and with a loving spirit, he was admired by so many people, believers and non-believers alike, and has won over tens of thousands of followers. His extraordinary life is marked in his feast day on October the 4th which this year happens to fall on a Sunday, today.

Readings of this Weekend



First Reading, Isaiah 5.1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.' I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are His pleasant planting; and He looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry! **The Word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm, Ps 80[79].9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;
   You drove out the nations and planted it.
   It stretched out its branches to the sea;
   to the River it stretched out its shoots. **R/**

2. Then why have You broken down its walls?
   It is plucked by all who pass by the way.
   It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
   devoured by the beasts of the field. **R/**

3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
   look down from heaven and see.
   Visit this vine and protect it,
   the stock Your right hand has planted,
   the son You have claimed for Yourself. **R/**

4. And we shall never forsake You again;
   give us life that we may call upon Your name.
   Bring us back, O Lord God of hosts;
   let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.
   R/

Second Reading, Philippians 4.6-9

Brothers and Sisters: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise: think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me – practise these things, and the God of peace will be with you. **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. I chose you out of the world, says the Lord, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide. Alleluia.

Gospel, Matthew 21.33-43

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence round it and dug a wine press in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than at first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance." And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They said to Him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes"? Therefore, I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Communion Antiphon

Though many, we are one bread, one body, for we all partake of the one Bread and one Chalice.

MASS DURING THE WEEK

Sat. 3rd Oct.	**+ 27TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** Divine Office: *Wk 3*	**5pm**	Parishioners
Sun. 4th Oct.		**8.30am**	George & Catherine Fernandes, RIP
		11am	Frances Nee, RIP
Mon. 5th Oct.	Feria	**NO MASS**	
Tue. 6th Oct.	Feria	10am	Alfred & Sarah Tolhurst, RIP & Descendants
Wed. 7th Oct.	Our Lady of the Rosary	10am	
Thur. 8th Oct.	Feria	10am	
Fri. 9th Oct.	St John H. Newman	10am	
Sat. 10th Oct.	**+ 28TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** Divine Office: *Wk 4*	**5pm**	Peter Irwin, Anniversary
Sun. 11th Oct.		**8.30am**	Parishioners
		11am	

NOTICES

Mission Appeal: The Augustinian Order has been permitted by the Bishops Conference to ask for our support for its missionary activities. Fr Emmanuel Asseril osa is visiting us this weekend for this purpose. We are requested to offer him our warm welcome and generous support. Thank you.

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 starts this month. 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. Please contact the Parish Clergy if you are interested in the programme.

Pope's October 2026 Prayer Intention

"Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses."

October Devotion: The month of October is usually devoted to the honour of Our Lady who appeared to the three children of Fatima in 1917. We are encouraged to say the Rosary every day for peace in the family and in the world, individually or in groups. Those who say the Rosary in the church, in the family, or in a group may gain Plenary Indulgence each day. A Partial Indulgence may be gained in other situations.

EMHC Training The session for all those being called to the Extraordinary Ministry of Holy Communion will be on **Saturday the 17th of October @ 11am** in the church. The commissioning will follow on **Saturday October the 24th @ St George's Cathedral.** Those concerned are requested to please keep these dates in their diaries.

CHURCH REPAIRS: The work to repair our church that has been leaking in many places for a long time has started. The initial repairs focus on replacing the broken and missing roof tiles. Attention will next move to the flat roofs which may require the approval of the Historical Churches Commission. The entire work will take almost £40,000. We solicit your generous donations to help us carry out these essential repairs. Thank you for your support.

Divine Mercy Devotion
Sun. after the 11am Mass.

St Pio Meeting & Rosary for World Peace

Tue., 9.45 am – 10.45 am.

Tea & Coffee

Last Sunday of the month, after the 11am Mass. Please join us.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

26/27 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: James C. E. Mead, Queenie Nightingale, William J. Stewart, Helena S. Bamford, Julia Wray, Jeane B. Wilder, William T. Whelan, Elizabeth Willliamson, John Easterby, Simon Sheehy, Joseph M. Baker, William Buckley, Irene E. Haskell, Mary A. Hughes, Julia M. Eakins, Edith Lovering, Sidney H. Harris, Thelma Payne, Sean Mooney, Julia R. Alewood, Margaret Whelan, and Maurice Reardon. 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**