

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

24/25 October 2026

+ 30TH 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
10/11 October 2026:
43; 91; 153



From the Parish Priest's Desk

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and your neighbour as yourself. (Mt 22.27, 39)

Anyone visiting the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, may come across several plants and flowers there that have 'narcissus' as part of their names. Originally Narcissus was the name of a figure in Greek mythology. Narcissus was a very handsome young man who fell in 'love' with his own reflection on a pool. He was so absorbed in his admiration of his image on the water that he could not move away even to eat until he starved and died. A flower that goes by his name later grew where he died. That flower could belong to the species of those that now grow at Kew Gardens. Narcissism has come to mean self-absorption, self-obsession, self-centredness, egocentricism, self-love, vanity. People are said to be narcissistic when they think mostly of themselves and their interests only and behave as if the world revolves around them, or as if they alone ought to exist. Apparently, there is something pathological about this, as some people think. We are commanded in the Gospel to love our neighbour as we love ourselves. That assumes that we truly love ourselves. The love of self in question surely cannot be the self-love of Narcissus, but is something else, since loving oneself to death hardly deserves the name of love. The object or outcome of love is always something good that positively enhances the life of both the person who loves and the one who is loved, though quite often the perception of that object or outcome as good may be completely wrong and misguided. Love of self, then, has to mean that I seek and do the things that are good for me, and being good for me has to take full account of my overall wellbeing that includes my physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual wellbeing; and it has to be good for me, not in the short or immediate term only, but in eternity. Seen in this way, something I do that advances my temporal wellbeing but harms my overall wellbeing in the long term cannot be a genuine expression of my love of self. On the other hand, to advance my wellbeing in a way that promotes my eternal happiness genuinely expresses my love of self, even when it causes me pain in the short or immediate term.

Readings of this Weekend



First Reading, Exodus 22.21-27

Thus says the Lord: 'You shall not wrong a sojourner or oppress him, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child. If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to Me, I will surely hear their cry, and My wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless. If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a money-lender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. If ever you take your neighbour's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.' **The Word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm, Ps 18[17].2-3, 3-4, 47, 51

I love You, Lord, my strength.

1. I love You, Lord, my Strength;
   O Lord, my Rock, my Fortress, my Saviour. **R/**

2. My God, my Rock where I take refuge;
   my Shield, my Saving Strength, my Stronghold.
   I cry out, 'O praised be the Lord!'
   and see, I am saved from my foes. **R/**

3. The Lord lives, and blest be my Rock!
   May the God of my salvation be exalted.
   The Lord gives great victories to His king,
   and shows merciful love for His anointed. **R/**

Second Reading, 1 Thessalonians 1.5-10

Brothers and Sisters: You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the Word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, Whom He raised from the dead, Jesus Who delivers us from the wrath to come. **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, says the Lord, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him.
Alleluia.

Gospel, Matthew 22.34-40

At that time: When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question to test Him. 'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?' And He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Communion Antiphon

Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, as a fragrant offering to God.

MASS DURING THE WEEK

Sat. 24th Oct.	**+ 30TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** Divine Office: *Wk 2*	**5pm**	Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart
Sun. 25th Oct.		**8.30am**	
		11am	Parishioners
Mon. 26th Oct.	Feria	**NO MASS**	
Tue. 27th Oct.	Feria	10am	
Wed. 28th Oct.	**Ss Simon & Jude, Ap.**	10am	
Thur. 29th Oct.	Feria	10am	
Fri. 30th Oct.	Feria	10am	Linda Lowne, 1st Anniversary
Sat. 31st Oct.	**+ SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS** Divine Office: *Wk 3*	**5pm**	Josie and Dinah Nolan, RIP
Sun. 1st Nov.		**8.30am**	Birthday of Diogo Costa's Dada, RIP
		11am	Parishioners

NOTICES

Solemnity of All Saints: The solemnity comes up next Sunday November the 1st, and will be followed on Monday the 2nd by the feast of All Souls. A plenary indulgence for the Holy Souls alone may be gained by visiting a church and offering there Our Father and the Creed, by sacramental confession, Holy Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intention on the 1st and the 2nd of November; and by visiting a cemetery and praying there for the faithful departed between November the 1st and the 8th.

Christmas Fayre – 5 December 2026: The fayre is a wonderful opportunity to bring our parish and local community together while raising funds for the parish. We warmly invite everyone to get involved. We need donations for our hampers and stalls, sponsorships, and volunteers to help on the day. Every contribution, big or small, will make a difference. Thank you for your continued support. Let's work together to make this a joyful and successful event. You can contact Annie on: 07894890967.

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."

MONTH OF ALL SOULS: The month of November is dedicated to All Souls. We are requested to remember and pray for all our deceased loved ones throughout the month. Please collect the All Souls envelopes at the back of the church and return it with the names of those you want to be remembered at Holy Mass. Please include your free-will donation and drop the envelope in the basket in front of the altar. Thank you.

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.

2026 RCIA: The session meets at 9.45 am in the sacristy every Sunday. It is for adult Catholics who want to make their First Holy Communion or to receive their Confirmation. It is also for non-Catholics who want to be received into the full communion of the Church. They will receive the sacraments at the 2027 Easter Vigil Mass.

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

10/11 October 2026

Loose Plate -
SO/Contactless -
World Mission -

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: Mabel Nellie Melvin, David John More, Michelle Tuggey, Celeste Rossi, James McGloin, Iris Ivy Kallai, Nora Christine Rooney, Margaret Britton, Glennifer Theresa McMasters, Julia O'Brien, Iwan Majko, Eva Eileen Clanchy, William Simmons, Robert Rodgers, Bill Buckley, and Frederick Joseph A. Courthey. 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**
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Deacon: **Revd John FOGARTY**
✉ johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk