

NEWSLETTER

1 November – 7 November 2021

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

• Sunday @ 9 AM

We look forward to seeing everyone in person at church. Here are some safety measures for the safety of all who will be attending our service.

- If you are feeling unwell, please consider others - stay away and get tested
- 4 sqm indoors. Ensure 1.5m physical distancing where possible
- Check in using our QR code. If this is not possible, please check in at the desk.
- Wear a mask while indoors.
- Singing is not allowed except the music team
- At the end of the service please help by wiping down your chair
- We won't be serving morning tea for now

Recipe of the Week

Do you love cooking but are getting tired of cooking the same thing over and over? Do you need some new recipes? Have you cooked something this week, or do you have a favourite recipe, that you would like to share with the rest of us?

I am always looking at recipes but the best ones are always those tried and tested by friends. It can be any type of recipe at all, savoury, sweet, entree, snack or a meal.

If you are interested send your recipe to enquiry@northrocks.org.au Once life returns to normal perhaps we could do a church cook book.

Stir fries are quick and easy to cook, and this one is a family favourite

THAI CASHEW CHICKEN STIR FRY

Prep time: 10 mins / Cook time: 8 mins / Serves 2

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp peanut oil (or canola or vegetable oil)
- ½ cup raw cashews
- 1 garlic clove, finely minced
- ½ onion cut into thin wedges
- 200g chicken thighs sliced into 1cm thin strips
- 2 spring onions cut into 2.5cm lengths, white part separated from green part



- ½ red cayenne pepper, deseeded and finely sliced

Sauce:

- 1 tbsp oyster sauce
- 1 tsp dark soy sauce
- 2 tsp fish sauce
- 1 tsp white sugar
- 3 tbsp water

Serving:

- Red chilli, finely sliced (optional garnish)
- Jasmine rice (or other rice if preferred)

Instructions

1. Mix all the sauce ingredients in a small bowl.
2. Heat oil over medium heat in a large skillet. Add cashews and cook for 5 minutes until they become a dark golden colour. Remove from skillet with a slotted spoon
3. Turn heat up to high. Add garlic and onion. Cook for 30 seconds
4. Add chicken. Cook for 1 minute until the outside changes to white
5. Add white part of spring onions and chilli. Cook for 1 minute until chicken is just cooked through
6. Add sauce and cook for 1 minute until it reduces down to a syrup, coating the chicken.
7. Add green part of spring onions, and cashews. Toss for 30 seconds
8. Serve with rice, garnished with extra red chilli (optional)

Community News and Notices

What has Christ got to do with COP 26?

Wednesdays: 7:30-8:30pm online: 10, 17, 24 November, 1 December

The purpose of this 4 part presentation is to explore how our understanding of Christ engages with the 'superwicked problem' of climate change and the arrival of the Anthropocene. It will weave together current insights from the life of faith (via the Bible, theology), the Earth System scientists, Australian writers and IPCC reports. There will be links to resources for those who may wish to delve more deeply


Each evening will consider a different setting and theme:

- ▶ Signs of the times
- ▶ 'A citizen of no mean city' - Urban settings
- ▶ 'Am I not your neighbour?' - Islands
- ▶ Fire and drought - In the bush

This series will be led by members of the Centre.

Contact

For registration purposes (and zoom details):

 cliverpearson@gmail.com



Centre for Faith
& Public Issues



Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia's (CRSA) Group Mentorship Program, gives opportunities for groups and Churches to provide practical support and friendship to newly-arrived refugee households in NSW/ACT.

The Uniting Church has a long and proud history of campaigning for the rights of refugees and people seeking asylum and of welcoming and supporting these people in our communities. This is an exciting opportunity for local groups and Churches so please register to learn more about the program and how you could get involved: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/uca-briefing-group-mentorship-program-for-refugees-tickets-190041558417>



Uniting



Details:

Wednesday 17th November 7pm, - 8.15pm via Zoom
All welcome, [REGISTER HERE](#)

For more information, please contact Alex Hogan ahogan@uniting.org / 0423 503 998

▪ **A thoughtful article on scripture and trauma, with a strong pastoral focus:**
<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/10883/scripture-and-trauma>



seeks volunteer Management Committee members

Gateway Family Services (Gateway) is an NGO which has been operating for over 25 years as a mission project of the Blaxland Uniting Church. It provides a range of family support, emergency consultation and relief services in the Blue Mountains, Penrith, and surrounding communities. Operational bases are located in Blaxland (HQ), Katoomba, and Penrith. The Management Committee of Gateway currently seeks interested and appropriately skilled individuals to be volunteer members of the Committee.

In particular the Committee is seeking a volunteer Chairperson. The Chairperson's duties include providing leadership to the Committee at monthly meetings, serving as primary liaison with Gateway's CEO, and shaping the direction and strategy of the organisation in conjunction with the committee and the CEO. The position would suit someone with a Christian faith, a keen interest in community well-being, and solid leadership/governance experience. Knowledge of the health and human services sector, and established networks in this sector would be helpful but not essential.

For further information, please contact the Committee's Acting Chairperson - Peter Tamsett (tamsettpg@gmail.com) - by 15 November 2021.

▪ **Useful sources of information about mental health issues:**

Beyond Blue: <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

SANE Australia: <https://www.sane.org/>

Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia Inc: <https://www.mifa.org.au/en/>

The Blackdog Institute: <https://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/>

Head To Health: <https://www.headtohealth.gov.au/>

Headspace: <https://headspace.org.au/>

UCA Assembly Resource on **Domestic and Family Violence** can be found [here](#).

Reflection of the Week

Poverty and happiness don't usually go together. No one says, "If only I were homeless, then I'd be happy!" But Jesus says poverty and happiness actually go hand in hand. Of course, the poverty Jesus is talking about in the first beatitude is poverty of spirit. Being poor in spirit means we are conscious of our emptiness apart from God and our true sinful nature. Poverty of spirit comes when the Holy Spirit awakens our spirits to see that only Jesus' death on the cross can atone for our sins and secure our eternal salvation.

Without poverty of spirit we cannot discover salvation and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We must first realize we need saving before we can reach out and cling to our Saviour. But being poor in spirit is not just an entry requirement for salvation. While it may be the first step in the structure that Jesus is building with the beatitudes, it is also foundational—all the others rest on this one.

The brokenness we experience when we first come to know Christ stays with us. In fact, as we grow more mature in the faith, we discover new depths to our spiritual poverty—new reasons to hold tightly to Jesus, new reasons to be thankful for His grace and mercy. And as we live our lives in the knowledge that He is our only hope and the source of our every blessing, we can't help but brim with true joy and happiness.

Prayer: Jesus, I know I am nothing apart from You. Thank You for giving me Your righteousness, for washing me white as snow. Help me to grow in spiritual maturity as I reflect on my spiritual poverty apart from Your grace and Your Holy Spirit renewing me day by day. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3).

E - give (Direct Electronic Giving)

Account Name: North Rocks Community Church
(BSB): 634634 **Account Number:** 100025906

Prayers

If you have any prayer requests or would like to know of those with particular pastoral needs to pray for, please contact Robyn, Steve or Pastoral Care Team.

Ministry Leaders

Minister: Rev. Steve Lee / minister@northrocks.org.au / 0433 698 690

Church Council

Chairperson: Cathy Nelson Secretary: Jenny Keyte Treasurer: Anne Crabb

Team Leaders

Worship: Jenny Keyte Discipleship: Alex Chow Pastoral Care: Robyn Pike Fellowship: Sue Vasilevska
Intergen: Fiona & Cathy Mission: Steve Turner

North Rocks Community Church

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<https://northrocks.uca.org.au>

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Phone: (02) 9683 2586

Uniting Church in Australia <https://uniting.church/>

NSW & ACT Synod <https://nswact.uca.org.au/>

Parramatta Nepean Presbytery <https://parramattanepean.uca.org.au/>