



NEWSLETTER

18 April – 24 April 2022

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

▪ **Preachers while Steve is on leave**

This Sunday Anne will be sharing with us on what it means to be *“Chosen to be Christ's Bride”*

Robyn (1st May), Steve T (8th May) and Sue (15th May) will be preaching while Steve is away. It will be a great blessing to listen to their messages for us. Please invite your family members or friends who might want to join our Sunday services and our fellowship.

While Steve is away please contact Robyn (pastoral matters), Jenny or Cathy (worship and other church related matters).

Community News and Notices

▪ **Moderator's Flood Appeal to help devastated communities**

The Uniting Church NSW/ACT has launched a special appeal to help those communities devastated by record-breaking floods.

<https://nswact.uca.org.au/communications/newsroom/media-release-moderator-s-flood-appeal-to-help-devastated-communities/>

Reflection of the Week

Trials in our lives often get worse before they get better. Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Salome experienced this firsthand in the days following Jesus' crucifixion. Before they could be surprised by the resurrection, they had to struggle through three torturous days as hopelessness threatened to overwhelm them.

Read James 1:2-12. In this Scripture, the Lord urges us to view our trials through a certain lens—the lens of promise. God promises us that persevering through trials leads to maturity, completeness, and the crown of life (v. 12). This is why He calls us blessed when we persevere under trial.

As Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Salome approached Christ's tomb, they were in the throes of trial. They also had a seemingly unsolvable problem—a huge boulder likely stood between them and the body of Jesus. While they were on their way to the place where He was laid, they asked each other, "Who will

roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" (Mark 16:3). It seemed that every obstacle stood in their way.

Yet, they persevered in going to the tomb. And to their utter amazement, when they arrived, they discovered that the stone had been rolled away.

The massive stone had been placed there to stop Jesus from returning from the dead, as He had promised. Roman soldiers also stood guard in front of it. But neither the soldiers nor the stone could keep Christ from overcoming death. What was such an immovable obstacle for these three women was like a grain of dust to the resurrected Jesus.

Today, we are all in need of this same resurrection power. As we continue to celebrate the wonder of Resurrection Sunday, God wants to remind you afresh that there is no great stone in your life that He cannot remove. As you walk with Him, He will bring you through the fiery trial and give you the crown of life. So persevere in seeking His face, trusting Him to move the immovable stone—whatever it may be—in His timing.

Prayer: Lord, I praise You for Your resurrection power. Thank You for that same power working in me to give me new life as I submit to Your will. I know that in every trial, I can have peace because You have made a way and moved the stone. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him" (James 1:12).

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.
Robyn: 0424791916

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: Steve Lee Discipleship: Alex Chow Pastoral Care: Robyn Pike Fellowship: Sue Vasilevska
Interген: Fiona & Cathy Mission: Steve Turner

North Rocks Community Church

132-136 North Rocks Rd, North Rocks. NSW 2151

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

Facebook: North Rocks Community Church

Email: enquiry@northrocks.org.au

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/>