



# NEWSLETTER

23 - 29 June 2025

**R**evive  
**R**estore  
**R**each Out

## Sunday Worship 9am

### Prayer for Our Church

**Dear God,**

Thank You for all You're doing in the life of our church, even when we don't see or understand it. Shine through us and guide our steps. Help us make a difference in the world for Your glory.

Help us follow Your voice, not the crowd, and stay close to You. Your love lasts forever.

**In Jesus' Name, Amen**



You are invited to pray this prayer individually, in small groups, Bible study groups or at other gatherings during the week.

### Wednesday Morning Prayers

Rod will be leading early morning prayers on Wednesdays at the church from 7am. The session will last about 30 minutes. All are welcome.

### Term 2 Roster

The roster is currently being prepared up to the end of October. If you would like to be included on the roster or change your involvement in any way please contact Cathy.

If you will be away for an extended period please let us know so that we can work around those dates.

### Previous Sermons

If you have missed any of our previous sermons you can listen to them on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@nrcc6214> or read them on Rod's blog at <https://rodbenson.com/>

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## Dates for your Diary

June	
27	Games Night
July	
11-13	Synod 2025
26	Social Afternoon
Aug	
8-9	BaseCamp
30	Serving at NRPS Fete
Sept	
6	Trivia Night
13	Community Garden Working Bee
Dec	
6	Fair Trade Market

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## Community News and Notices

### The Past for Today

The Christian faith has a very rich history that is largely unknown to members of congregations today. There is a benefit in looking at the past.

- It can give us a sense of perspective on the present.
- It can show us where we have come from.
- It can also show us the times when the church got things 'right' and when it did not.

You are invited to attend a series of studies that helps relate history to present life and faith. It will be led by Rev Dr Clive Pearson and hosted by St Matthews UC (Baulkham Hills). It is open to everyone. Please click [here](#) for more information.



Medicare rebates are available with select practitioners. We offer competitive fees and concession rates; however, please note that we do not provide a bulk billing service.

Our Practice Managers can provide a free 15 minute phone consultation to help find the best match from our team. Call us on 02 9683 1444 or email us at [manager@bridgescounselling.com.au](mailto:manager@bridgescounselling.com.au)

For further information, please visit: [www.bridgescounselling.com.au](http://www.bridgescounselling.com.au)

Located in **Oatlands & Norwest**, our team of 20 plus experienced, Christian therapists have availability and are ready to support your staff and church community in:

- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Faith struggles
- Burnout and ministry fatigue
- Grief, loss or trauma
- Depression and anxiety
- Support for missionaries (before, during, and after service)
- Addictions & Eating Disorders
- Trauma & PTSD
- Conflict resolution & communication
- Marriage, relationship, or family difficulties
- Pre-marriage counselling (Prepare/Enrich)
- Parenting challenges and family transitions



## Parramatta Mission Winter Appeal

Every day, more people are turning to Parramatta Mission for support. With your help, we can grow to meet this rising need — together. Your donation to our winter/tax appeal can help provide meals, crisis relief, and connections to services that empower people to find stability, dignity, and hope.

Just last month, a young family came to Meals Plus after hearing about our food hampers. The mother, Denise, had taken time off work to care for their three young children and support their eldest daughter, Mali, as she started school. Her husband, Dario, was working, but with rising rent and grocery prices, they simply couldn't make ends meet.

By the time they walked through our doors, the pressure was immense. They were skipping meals—sometimes for days—just so their children could eat. Denise quietly admitted she'd often cried when opening the fridge, wondering how she would get through another week.

That first hamper made an immediate difference. "It felt like someone finally saw us," she said. The food was important—but so too was the message that they weren't alone. Denise began returning each week, collecting groceries and essentials that helped stretch their budget just a little further. At the same time, we helped the family negotiate with their landlord, preventing another rent increase that would have pushed them past breaking point.

"It's still tough with prices going up, but now we're managing. That little bit of help gave us the push we needed," Denise said.

Stories like this show us what's possible when the right support is available at the right time. And right now, more people than ever need that support.

Your gift today can help more people like Denise and her family get the support they need to get back on their feet.



Donate at [www.parramattamission.org.au/winter-appeal-2](http://www.parramattamission.org.au/winter-appeal-2) or scan the QR code.

## Uniting Church Assembly and Synod News Links

Uniting Church Assembly: <https://uniting.church/news/>

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

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

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## Reflection of the Week

Since the very beginning of history, God has chosen to commission His people to testify to His name. Today, He is still calling His children to share His Gospel with the world.

After His resurrection, Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20).

The Great Commission is not only for preachers, evangelists, and missionaries. The Great Commission is for every believer and follower of Jesus Christ. We do not need seminary degrees or a library full of commentaries to tell others about Christ. Once we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we receive all the qualification we need. His Holy Spirit will guide our words and actions. He will equip us to speak with whomever He leads us to, no matter how intimidated or nervous we may feel. He will prepare the way for us; we only need to follow obediently.

*Prayer: Father, thank You for giving me all the qualification I need to share Your Gospel with the world. In*

*those moments when I feel nervous about speaking out, help me to remember that You will give me the words to say. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"The Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say" (Luke 12:12).**

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## **Prayer Points for This Month**

### **For Our Church**

- Pray that we might, listen to God's voice and trust in his guidance.
- Pray for Rod, that he may find strength and wisdom through you. May he be a blessing to our church community.
- Pray for our Church Council, that they make decisions that honour you and serve our church faithfully.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

### **For the Wider Church**

- Pray for wisdom and discernment for church leaders at all levels —congregational, Presbytery, Synod, and Assembly - as they work for justice and peace.
- Pray for the Synod meeting in July for your guidance in their decisions.
- Pray for missionaries and mission organizations, especially those reaching the unreached. Grant them strength and wisdom as they work to bring joy and transformation to all they serve.
- Pray especially for the missionaries that we support, Mike & Jacky, Richard & Lindsey, Bill & Sandra.

### **For Australia**

- Pray for provision and comfort for those in our communities who are struggling.
- Pray that our political leaders govern with discernment, empathy, and a deep sense of justice.
- Pray for unity, peace and reconciliation, that our communities might be drawn together in understanding through God's love.

### **For the World**

- Pray for peace love and justice in our world. Help us to care for your creation and treat each other with kindness.
  - Pray for world leaders, that they would govern with wisdom, justice, and compassion.
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## Ministry Leaders

**E - give** (Anonymous Direct Electronic Giving)

**Account Name:** North Rocks CC - Giving  
**(BSB):** 634634 **Account Number:** 100025906

Supply Minister: Rev Dr Rod Benson / 0412421678 / [rod@northrocks.org.au](mailto:rod@northrocks.org.au)

## Prayers

If you have any prayer requests or would like to know of those with particular pastoral needs to pray for, please contact Robyn or Pastoral Care Team.  
Robyn: 0424 791 916

## Church Council

Chairperson: Cathy Nelson Secretary: Samson Leung Treasurer: Anne Crabb  
Alex Chow, Nicole Critchley, Jenny Keyte