



# NEWSLETTER

30 June – 6 July 2025

**Revive**  
**Restore**  
**Reach Out**

## Sunday Worship 9am

### Prayer for Our Church

**Dear God,**

Thank You for the many blessings You have poured out on our church. In times of challenge and discouragement, help us to persevere and seek Your guidance.

May we continue to be a light in the world, bringing joy and peace through Your presence.

**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.

### Term 3 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.

### **COMPLETE CLOSURE OF NORTH ROCKS ROAD NOTICE:**

**From 8pm Friday 11 July to 5am Monday 14 July 2025**

There will be a COMPLETE CLOSURE of North Rocks Road between Church St and the Woolworths entrance, except for pedestrians and buses.

The suggested detour for those normally coming up from (or down to) the bottom end of North Rocks Rd is via James Ruse Rd, Pennant Hills Rd, Bettington Rd/Statham Ave to the top end of North Rocks Rd and then down to the Church (or the reverse).

This detour is about 7km and you should allow an extra 15 minutes drive time on Sunday morning, and more at other times.

Access to and from Woolworths car park will only be from the North.

Another weekend closure of North Rocks Road is anticipated for late-July or August. Dates to be

confirmed, more information will follow.

Night works will also be carried out at other times during July and August, but with only slight traffic delays expected.

### **Social afternoon - Saturday 26th July, 2-4pm.**

Come along for a cuppa, a chat, bring your latest craft project to work on, borrow a book from our library, play a game, or simply relax. We'd love you to see you there!

If you'd like assistance with transport or have any other queries, please contact Jenny

### **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**



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

### Praise-Enhanced Prayers

Do you sometimes struggle with the right words in prayer? Or do you wonder exactly what to pray for? You are not alone. But God will empower you for meaningful prayer as you begin to praise

Him. Praise reflects our acknowledgment of all that God is and all that He has done, is doing, and has promised to do.

Praise sets the stage for prayer that is focused, specific, and powerful. And the more we praise God, the more we realize that He not only knows about our needs but also desires to provide all that we need. God wants us to ask Him to meet our needs, not so that He'll become better informed about them but so that we will become more aware of what is truly burdening us and tugging at our hearts.

By praising God for being all-powerful and all-merciful, by praising Him for his patience and forgiveness, we realize that He is already supremely concerned about and fully capable of handling any petition we could ever make.

One of the questions I hear most about prayer is "How do I know if my prayer requests are within the will of God?" We begin by focusing our prayers on the promises God makes to all believers in His Word. Then we can make our petitions in light of the things that count for eternity and praise God for His indescribable gifts. As you develop a lifestyle of praise, you will become more aligned with and attuned to the will of God.

*Prayer: Father God, You have promised in Your Word that You love me and that You understand the struggles that I face. Help me to remember these Truths during trials. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD" (Psalm 117:2).**

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## **Prayer Points for This Month**

### **For Our Church**

- Pray for God's guidance and wisdom as we endeavour to connect with our wider community in a meaningful way.
- Pray for Rod as ministers to us and guides our church in our mission.
- Please pray for our Church Council—that they may continue to lead our congregation with wisdom and collaborate effectively with Rod.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need

### **For the Wider Church**

- Pray for wisdom for our senior church leaders, ministers, pastors, and teachers as they work towards reconciliation and peace.
- Pray for the Synod meeting in July for your guidance in their decisions.
- Please pray for the missionaries we support—Mike & Jacky, Richard & Lindsey, and Bill & Sandra—that they may continue to find meaningful ways to share God's Word with those who have not yet heard it.

### **For Australia**

- Pray for strength for those struggling with the cost of living.
- Please pray that our political leaders would listen to those they represent and lead with wisdom and integrity in their service.
- Pray for unity, peace and reconciliation, that our communities might be drawn together in understanding through God's love.

### **For the World**

- Pray for those in areas of conflict, that they might know your peace, and love.
- May all people learn to treat your creation with love and care.
- Pray for world leaders, that they would govern with wisdom, justice, and compassion.

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

**Account Name:** North Rocks CC - Giving  
**(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 or Pastoral Care Team.  
Robyn: 0424 791 916

### **Ministry Leaders**

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

### **Church Council**

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