



# NEWSLETTER

7 - 13 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.

### Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Thank you so much for supporting the Australia's Biggest Morning Tea held at the Church in June ! I'm very happy to share that your incredibly generous support assisted in raising \$1785.08! So many people helped out in different ways – both on the day and in the lead up. Donating money towards the Cancer Council was just one part of it. We had a wonderful day of fun, food and conversation.

Thank you all for joining in, from Beverley

### 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.

### 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 0417249116

## 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.

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

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### **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**

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

**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.

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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**

### **God's Ambassador**

In most cases, our citizenship to the country in which we live is bestowed upon us for simply being born into that country. Receiving citizenship into God's Kingdom requires us to surrender our "citizenship" to this world and devote our lives to following Christ. Becoming a citizen of God's Kingdom results in some incredible benefits.

However, we must remember that wherever we go in the world, we are ambassadors for Christ. Just as your behaviour in a foreign country gives others an idea of what people from your country are like, so our behaviour as believers tells the world what it means to be a Christian.

Citizens from God's Kingdom carry with them the answers to some of life's most difficult questions. The dying world in which we live is desperately seeking to find meaning and purpose in its existence.

As believers, we are infiltrating enemy territory, armed with the Truth of God's Word, which will defeat the enemy's tired, empty propaganda. Those people who are desperate for answers cannot afford for believers to live passively in their faith.

We must be wise in our approach yet gentle in our speech. Threats of eternal condemnation will not change many lives, but the Truth about how God's love washes away our sin will transform the hardest of hearts when the Holy Spirit is at work.

To live in a world that is far from our home certainly presents a number of challenges. But our citizenship in God's Kingdom empowers us to live in such a manner that God will use us to radically change the world around us.

*Prayer: Lord, use me to make an impact in the world around me as I passionately seek You. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us" (1 Peter 2:12).**

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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.

### **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, Jenny Keyte