



NEWSLETTER

28 July – 3 August 2025

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Dear God,

Thank You for working through our church. Help us be a place of welcome, hope, and love for our community. Give us wisdom to reach those who don't know You, and let us shine Your light as we share Your good news.

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.

Guest Preacher

This Sunday we welcome Rev Dr Sathi Clarke to preach and preside over communion.

Trivia Night

Trivia night is just over a month away. Please invite your friends to come along for a fun evening. The event is on Facebook to share or you can pick up some flyers at the back of the church. If you have any items that can be used as prizes they can be left in the church office. We are also looking for donations of chocolate bars to use for prizes.

Latest news from Jacky & Mike

For Jacky & Mike's latest newsletter click [here](#).

Request for Support for Mission Work

Mitch Archer - Power to Change



YOUTH Performance Team Missionary



Connecting people to Jesus and each other



More about my role:

Power to Change's Youth Strategy is all about helping high schoolers encounter Jesus, because we realise it's a very significant time in people's lives for figuring out who they are and what they believe in.

As a missionary on the performance team, I will be playing bass in the band **Amber Lights** — performing in high schools, youth groups and online, to share the gospel and challenge teenagers to think deeply about their direction and purpose in life. I'll also be involved in running small groups online that meet throughout the week to read the Bible and pray together.

Thank you for your support in helping us see young people encounter Jesus today!

Contact me:

☎ 0457 507 035 ✉ mitch.archer@powertochange.org.au

Scan here
to partner with me:



Summary of Church Council Meeting

- The AGM will be held in the coming months. Due to Nicole's resignation from CC we will be seeking a new member. Please pray about who may be suitable for nomination.
- Jenny & Jacky have stepped back from organising the Games Nights so it will no longer be running.
- We are planning to run a church-wide course to help us deepen spiritual formation & encourage missional outreach. More information will be shared once details have been decided.
- A reminder that we will be serving at the NRPS fete again this year on 30 August. Steve will be organising the roster. Please speak to him if you are interested in helping.

North Rocks Road - nightworks

Monday 14 July to Saturday 30 August 2025

A new nightworks program will begin on North Rocks Road from Monday 14 July continuing until Saturday 30 August 2025.

During this time, nightworks will start at 8pm, with North Rocks Road reinstated to normal use by 5am the following morning.

Two-way traffic will be maintained throughout, with traffic controllers in place to direct motorists. It is expected that night work will be scheduled for up to four (4) nights a week.

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/>

Dates for your Diary

Aug	
3	Guest Preacher—Sathi Clarke
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.

Community News and Notices



More Than Awareness – A Week of Community, Connection & Care

On **Wednesday 6th August** Parramatta Mission will be hosting our biggest **Hub Day** yet, where service providers will come together to offer support, service, and smiles.

This year, we're launching a **Matched Giving Appeal** to triple the impact of your kindness. Thanks to **Parramatta Leagues Club & Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club**, every dollar you donate – up to \$40,000 – will be **matched**! This means when you donate \$50, Parramatta Mission receives \$150.

The need is urgent - Public housing wait times in Parramatta are now **over 10 years**. City of Parramatta Street Count 2025 identified 48 people sleeping rough within the count area, compared to 26 in 2024.

With your support, we can continue to stand on the frontlines and ensure **no one is forgotten**.

Together, let's show our friends doing it tough that **they matter**.

Safe Church Awareness / Culture of Safety Training

Synod provides safe church training to all Uniting Church Ministry leaders and church council representatives so they can maintain safe places and programs, and to congregation safe church persons. This is not just about compliance, although there are many legal obligations to consider, it is primarily an outworking of our desire to make a Jesus-shaped difference in our communities.

All members of the church are able to attending this training. If you are interested there are a few sessions being held in our area in September. If you are interested in attending please click [here](#) for further information, or talk to Cathy.



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

For further information, please visit: 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

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/>

Reflection of the Week

Some people believe that if they have a certain level of wealth, then they will have peace—or if they marry right, then they will know contentment. Others mistakenly believe that if they can just live in some ideal location or receive certain recognition at work, then they will have all they could ever hope to achieve.

However, none of these scenarios is capable of providing the peace and contentment we long to experience. True peace only comes as a result of living a life filled with the Spirit of God through a relationship with Jesus Christ. Drawing from Isaiah 26:3, Charles Spurgeon wrote, "The God of

peace gives perfect peace to those whose hearts are stayed upon Him."

We can try to achieve peace through accomplishments and hard work. We may look for peace everywhere—thinking that new experiences, possessions, or large bank accounts will deliver peace. However, apart from God, we will never find lasting peace.

In order to experience the peace of God, we first must have peace with God, which only comes through complete surrender to Christ as our Lord and Saviour. Once we are saved, God's peace is available. A famous actress once lamented that she had everything she could possibly want, but she still did not have a sense of peace. There are some things that money cannot buy, and peace is one of them.

Before His death, Jesus comforted His disciples with these words: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid" (John 14:27).

We, too, can find the peace and comfort we need within His eternal care.

Prayer: Thank You, Lord, for the peace You offer me as Your child. I know the world can never offer the transcendent peace that can be found only in You. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7).

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church

- Pray for enthusiasm among our members as we ask God for guidance as we look for ways to connect with our local community.
- Pray that Rod's ministry would be blessed as he preaches God's Word with authority & conviction and cares for our congregation.
- Please pray for leaders in our church, that they will have a spirit of humility and a heart to serve others.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

For the Wider Church

- Pray for wisdom for our senior church leaders as they find ways of working together to bring us your reconciliation and peace.
- Pray for other churches in our local area, and for Uniting Churches at Carlingford, West Epping, Parramatta and Baulkham Hills.

- 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 the vulnerable, marginalized and voiceless, and bring justice to those who have suffered injustice.
- Pray that God will give our leaders wisdom & strength to work towards unity among all people.

For the World

- Pray for the world, asking for freedom from conflict, unity in troubled nations, and wisdom for world leaders.
- May all governments and people of the world commit to looking after your creation.
- Pray for peace around the world and that leaders will lead with compassion for their people.

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

Church Council

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