



NEWSLETTER

25 - 31 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.

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.

We will accept cash or EFTPOS on the night. (EFTPOS will attract a 1.6% surcharge)

Trivia NIGHT?
Get your team ready

All funds raised will go to help the work of Parramatta Mission

When? Saturday 6th September, 7.00pm
How much? \$10 includes tea & coffee
Where? North Rocks Community Church, 132 North Rocks Road, North Rocks
How many in a team? 8 people per table
Do I need to book? You can register your team by emailing the church office at enquiry@northrocks.org.au by August 30, or join a table on the night.
What you I need to bring? BYO nibbles and drinks, and loose change for games on the night

 North Rocks Community Church
Revive, Restore, Reach Out
<https://northrocks.uca.org.au/>

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.

Traffic controllers will be on site and two-way traffic flow will be maintained.

It is expected that night work will be scheduled for up to five (5) nights a week.

Another weekend closure of North Rocks Road is anticipated later in the year.

Dates to be confirmed, more information will follow.

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	
30	Serving at NRPS Fete
Sept	
6	Trivia Night
13	Community Garden Working Bee
21	Annual General Meeting
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

St Pauls Castle Hill is hosting its Annual Fair Trade Market. All stalls are undercover and there is plenty of parking at 421 Old Northern Road Castle Hill. We'll have Fair Trade Stalls, coffee, and hot food. It's a great place to find unique Christmas gifts from around the world!



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.



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

The prophet Isaiah wrote, "When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him" (Isaiah 59:19, NKJV). At some point, we all have felt the weight of the enemy surrounding us.

We experience panic or stress over work deadlines, bills to be paid, or relationship conflicts. We catch ourselves focusing on what people will think or say. Then we begin to suffer discouragement and even depression.

No one wants to be scorned, ridiculed, or taken for granted, but at some point we will be. Even Jesus suffered the ridicule of others. The chief priests, teachers of the law, and elders mocked Him, saying, "He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God'" (Matthew 27:43).

No matter what we face or how others ridicule us, God is our rock and our fortress. He is our deliverer. We can find refuge and security in Him. Although you may not feel God's presence or help, He is near, just as Psalm 91:15 promises, "He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honour him."

Do you feel that God has forgotten you? The writer of Hebrews reminds us that the Lord will not forget us, for God Himself has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5).

So no matter what others say or how discouraged you may feel, remember that the Lord has the answer to your anxiety and despair. All you have to do is cry out to Him. He longs for you to seek His power. Ask Him to be the source of your strength and deliverance.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for never leaving or forsaking me. I cry out to You now for the strength I need for today. Thank You for Your new mercies every morning. Great is Your faithfulness. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God" (Psalm 42:11).

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