



NEWSLETTER

22 -28 September 2025

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Dear God,

Help us to serve our community with open hands and open hearts. Teach us to look beyond ourselves—our needs, our routines, our comfort—and to see the people around us with Your eyes. Give us wisdom and courage to engage with those we don't yet know. Show us how to build bridges, offer kindness, and be a reflection of Your love in every corner of our community. May our actions speak louder than our words, and may everything we do point others toward You.

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.

North Rocks Road - nightworks continues

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.

Sometime soon, the Northbound lanes will be **completely closed for a month**.

Dates to be confirmed, more information will follow when the schedule is announced.

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

| | |
|------|--------------------------------|
| Sept | |
| 27 | Community Garden |
| Oct | |
| 11 | Community Garden |
| 12 | Guest Preacher: Richard Parker |
| 25 | Community Garden |
| Nov | |
| 30 | Advent |
| 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

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

When Elisha looked into the widow's situation, he immediately told the woman about three conditions under which her jar of oil could become her miracle. Today we will look at the first condition.

The first condition was this: Get lots of empty jars. "Go around and ask all your neighbours for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few" (2 Kings 4:3).

What are these borrowed vessels? These borrowed vessels represent her capacity to receive from God. The more vessels she had, the more she was going to receive. For, every jar she gathered in faith would be filled—the oil would continue to pour. The moment the widow ran out of empty vessels, the oil stopped flowing.

God blesses you to the capacity that you make yourself available for Him to bless. If you close off areas to Him, your capacity to receive His blessing is stunted. But if you open your life to Him, His blessing can flow freely into every area of your life.

If your heart is filled with a spirit of bitterness and anger, God's Holy Spirit cannot pour into it. When you are filled with the spirit of control, God's Spirit cannot fill you. When you are filled with the spirit of greed and covetousness or lust and sexual immorality, there is no room for the Spirit of God to dwell in you and bless you with His fruit.

When you fill your vessel with things that are not glorifying to God, you become spiritually as dry as a bone. You must offer God an empty jar, an empty vessel, to receive His spiritual blessings. If you want to experience the work of the Holy Spirit in your life, empty yourself of those things that are not from Him.

Prayer: God, help me to empty myself of anything that is not of You. I want to be an empty vessel that You can freely pour into. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me' (Matthew 16:24).

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church

- Pray that God might enable and inspire members to use their spiritual gifts to serve each other and to bear spiritual fruit.
- Pray that Rod will know Your divine strength and wisdom as he leads our church.
- Pray for leaders in our church for wisdom to guide their decisions, strength to endure the challenges, and humility to serve as you called us to. May they lead with selfless love and kindness.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

For the Wider Church

- Pray for healing of the divisions caused by sin, power, and money, and reconcile us across different cultures and languages. Unite us as Your children as we live together in Your love, revealing Your glory in the world.
- Pray for the leaders of Your church. Grant them wisdom, discernment, and strength to lead faithfully and courageously, hearing and acting upon Your Word
- 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 healing for those who are struggling or marginalised. May they find hope in You.
- Pray for our leaders, that they may govern with wisdom, compassion, and a commitment to justice for all. Grant us reconciliation, understanding, and unity, especially as a multicultural nation.

For the World

- Pray that all people might strive to protect the earth, its resources, and to live in harmony with the environment.
- Pray for guidance and good judgment for those in positions of power to make just decisions.
- Pray for a desire for conflicts to cease and for a sense of calm to spread across the globe.

Ministry Leaders

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

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, Sue Vasilevska