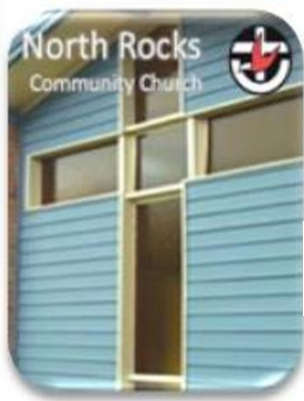




NEWSLETTER

13 -19 October 2025

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the gift of our church. Help us to serve faithfully, using the unique spiritual gifts You have given each of us to be Your hands and feet. Please bless our church community and keep our hearts centred on You. Empower us to reach out to those around us and share the goodness of who You are. May Your love overflow from our lives to every person we encounter.

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.

Rod will be on leave

Rod will be taking a week's leave from Fri 24 Oct - Fri 31 Oct.

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

Oct	
25	Community Garden
Nov	
8	Community Garden
30	Start of 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

Jesus, the Head of the Church

What does it mean for Jesus to be the head of the church—for His people to be His body? It means that Jesus is to be the authority over the church, the congregation. We know physiologically that the mind controls all parts of the body. The head makes the decisions while the different parts and limbs follow and obey the prompts and direction of the mind. All parts of the body must work in coordinated obedience to the mind. Likewise, the body of believers must obey the revealed mind of God found in Scripture. We all must respond to what our head has said.

Tragically, many churches today have limbs telling the head, "I'm not going to listen to You. I'm not sure Your direction is sound or relevant for today." Consequently, we see plenty of dysfunction in the Church. Many Christians are not experiencing growth in their spiritual walk because, like our surrounding culture, we have assumed that we are the masters of our destiny—we are not beholden to the head. This is a serious problem, and not just for the individual who is not maturing in faith. When a Christian stops growing spiritually, it affects the whole body. If I stop growing spiritually, I am impacting you; if you stop growing spiritually, you are impacting me.

So what's the solution? It's really simple: Obey the head, Christ Jesus. Our Lord has told us what to do in His book. We must obey Him in two ways: First, we must obey Him privately, or individually, as we read and feed upon God's Word. Second, we must obey Him corporately as we participate in and mature with the body of Christ. Only when Christ is truly our head—obeyed in both our private lives and our shared life as His Church—can the body be healthy, united, and effective for His glory.

Prayer: Father, forgive us when we act like the body without the head. Help me submit to Christ in my daily life, and help us, as Your Church, to follow Your lead together. Make us a healthy body, fully aligned with Your will and living in obedience to Your Word. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ" (Ephesians 4:15).

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church

- Pray that we listen, speak, and act with grace, always seeking God's will in our actions.
- Pray for wisdom in decision-making, unity of purpose, and a heart for the well-being of our church. Pray for Church Council that they will be filled with wisdom, unity, and effective service.
- Pray for Rod and everyone involved in contributing to our services, that they may be Spirit-filled and guided in their roles.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

For the Wider Church

- Pray for the leaders of our local churches. Grant them wisdom, discernment, and strength to lead faithfully and courageously, hearing and acting upon Your Word
- Pray for the global Church to be united in a joint mission—to take the gospel to the ends of this earth. Let there be a revival across the world in Your name.
- Pray for those who have devoted their lives to spreading the gospel across the world, especially for the missionaries we support - Mike & Jacky Hammond, Richard & Lindsey Parker, and Bill & Sandra Callister.

For Australia

- Pray for respect for Indigenous cultures and histories, and for a journey towards peace and reconciliation.
- Pray for God to guide leaders toward wisdom and justice, and for a society that shows tolerance and respect to all people.
- Pray for a deeper understanding of God's truth, and a move of the Holy Spirit to bring spiritual revival to the nation and its people.

For the World

- Pray for all those who've had to flee their homes due to persecution and conflict. May they find loving communities where they can settle well and find healing from trauma.
 - Pray for countries to find diplomatic solutions that will bring harmony between nations and for wars to end.
 - Pray for all who are affected by natural disasters and issues of climate change that are having such a detrimental effect on people's livelihoods and putting many lives at risk.
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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

Transitional 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