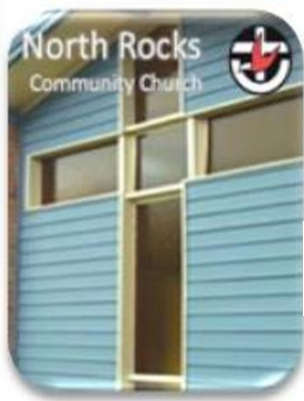




NEWSLETTER

27 October – 2 November 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.

Christmas Services

We are looking for people who would like to help organise the special Christmas services for 24 Dec (6.30-7.30pm, preceded by a community barbecue), and 25 Dec (9.00-10.00am). If you have creative ideas, or would like to help on the night, and would like to join the team please talk to Rod.

5 WEEK NORTHBOUND LANE CLOSURE of North Rocks Rd

From late October to early December (dates TBA) there will be a closure of North Rocks Rd to **ALL** Northbound traffic between Church St and the Woolworths entry. (Buses will be allowed.) Southbound traffic will be permitted, but there may be some delays.

There may be some Complete Weekend Closures as well.

More information will be provided when it becomes available.

The detour is as before:

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.

This detour is about 7km and you should allow an extra 15 minutes drive time on Sunday morning, and much more at other times.

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

Nov	
8 & 22	Community Garden
30	Start of Advent
Dec	
6	Fair Trade Market
21	Guest Preacher: Sathi Clarke

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/>



**SATURDAY
6 DECEMBER
2025**

**CHRISTMAS
FAIR TRADE
MARKET**

*Jewellery
Fashion
Homewares
Bags
Toys
Body care
Fairtrade food items*

**9am - 2pm
North Rocks
Community Church
132 North Rocks Rd, North Rocks
FREE ENTRY**

Choose to buy fair trade products to help create a brighter future for millions of farmers, workers, and their families around the world.

Why not give fair trade gifts for Christmas this year which will give joy to both producer and receiver!

Plus Christmas craft for kids, morning tea with delicious cakes & sausage sizzle.

T. (02) 9683 2586 E. enquiry@northrocks.org.au
Website. northrocks.uca.org.au



Reflection of the Week

Read 1 John 5:1-12.

John makes it clear that the key to living life at its best—a life aligned with the will and design of God our Creator—is victorious faith. This kind of faith is more than a set of doctrines or beliefs, more than church tradition. It's a daily experience of the love of Christ and putting that love into practice. Too many believers are saved by faith and have received their eternal inheritance yet live in utter spiritual poverty because they don't exercise conquering faith. They don't live victoriously over sin by the power of Christ, and so they don't overcome the world (see 1 John 5:3-5).

What world is John referring to? There are two worlds that we face on a regular basis: an outside world and an inside world. The inside world you face includes your head and heart—it's probably the location of the greatest battles of your life. In your internal world, you will face temptations to worry, indifference, selfishness, and more. These can be overcome by the power of Christ so that we have a positive impact in the outside world for His glory. If we want to live this way, we must honestly check our hearts and attitudes. When we see the brokenness, injustice, poverty, and need of the outside world, how do we respond? Do we shrug and say, "Well, what can I do?" or do we draw on the eternal inheritance we have in Christ and connect God's resources with those situations?

We have been given an incredible and powerful inheritance through faith in God and His promises. We must exercise our faith, stretch it, and live by it. We can trust in the Lord, who's given us this victorious faith, and go out and conquer sin and evil in His name. John wrote his gospel to tell us that Jesus is the only way to heaven, that there's no salvation, no real peace or joy, apart from Him. Now in his epistle, John is telling us how to apply the Gospel to our life. He shares that we exercise our faith through love—love for God and love for others. "In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:3-4).

Prayer: Lord, thank You for the gift of faith. May I exercise it daily, drawing from Your strength to apply my faith to my inner struggles and the outside world. I want to keep Your commands and so overcome the world. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God" (1 John 5:5).

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.

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

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