



NEWSLETTER

8 - 14 December 2025

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Loving God,

As we enter this Christmas season, we thank You for the gift of Jesus, the true Light of the world. Guide our church to be a place of welcome and warmth for all who come from our community. Open our hearts to notice those around us and to share Your love in simple, meaningful ways. May everyone we meet come to know the real meaning of Christmas—the hope and joy found in Christ.

Bless our gatherings and conversations, and let Your light shine through us.

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.

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.

LATEST ON NORTH ROCKS ROAD CLOSURES

Currently the Closure of all Northbound traffic 24 hours per day between Church St and the Woolworths entry continues until late on Friday 19th December. Southbound traffic is permitted, but there may be some delays.

From Saturday 20th December until June 2026, two way traffic will be allowed with some delays. There may be a few Complete Weekend Closures during that period. We will keep you informed of any changed details.

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

Dec	
13	Community Garden
21	Guest Preacher: Sathi Clarke
24	Christmas Eve
25	Christmas Day Service 9am

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

Different ways you can help those in need this Christmas

If you are looking for ways to help those in need please click on the images below for charities to donate to, or presents to give your friends and family that will make a difference to someone in need.





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

Read Romans 5:15 and 2 Corinthians 9:15.

This Christmas, every gift you receive will pale in comparison to the ultimate gift—salvation in Christ Jesus. This gift from God to the world, revealed in human history at the birth of Jesus Christ, is truly incomprehensible.

We've read through the Bible every year for decades, but We still find ourself speechless when it comes to trying to describe how wonderful salvation truly is. How can We do justice to the reality that a sinner like me can be forgiven? "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us" (Psalm 103:12). This promise, the message the angels declared to poor shepherds (see Luke 2:10-11), is enough to make us shout.

Christ Jesus came to earth to remove our filthy rags of self-righteousness, shame, and guilt. In their place, He clothes us in His perfect righteousness. And, as if that weren't enough, He made it possible for all who believe in Him to be adopted into the family of God—enjoying all the privileges of being His sons and daughters.

Most startling of all, this great gift is granted not to God's friends but to His enemies (see Romans 5:8). This Christmas and every day, may we exclaim with the apostle Paul, "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

Prayer: Lord, what a wondrous love You displayed on that cross. Though I deserve Your wrath, You called me out of darkness and shower me with grace upon grace. May I live a life that honours You. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!" (Romans 5:15).

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church

- Pray for listening hearts this Christmas season, that in the midst of celebration we would hear God's guiding voice.
- Pray for encouragement and strength for all who faithfully serve in our church family.
- Pray for Rod, that the Holy Spirit would continue to inspire and uphold him as he teaches and leads us, helping us grow in faith and in our understanding of the true meaning of Christmas.
- Pray for those in need of healing and restoration.

For the Wider Church

- Pray for those involved, from Parramatta Nepean, Murray Darling and Sydney presbyteries, in working together to become the new Central Presbytery.
- Pray for strength and perseverance for churches around the world that they may share the message of Christmas to the communities in which they worship.
- Pray for those in mission as they reach out to those who do not yet know you. We pray especially for the missionaries we support - Mike & Jacky Hammond, Richard & Lindsey Parker, and Bill & Sandra Callister.

For Australia

- Pray for a peaceful Christmas season for all Australians, for comfort and calm for those in distress.
- Pray for safety and resilience for communities facing natural disasters like fires, floods, and droughts.
- Pray for reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.
- Pray for those working to protect the environment and for more effective action to safeguard the planet for future generations.

For the World

- "We pray for the whole human family, that the glory of Christmas will shine forth across the earth and bring fresh heart to all who long for peace."
- "We pray for the nations and peoples of the Middle East, that the catastrophic toll of death and destruction there will finally persuade leaders to agree to terms of peace."
- "We pray for peace, justice, and wisdom for those in positions of authority, and for the salvation of all people, that they may come to know Christ."

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