



NEWSLETTER

16 - 22 February 2026

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Dear God,
As a new year begins, we humbly ask for Your Spirit to guide our church. Give us the wisdom to seek your will in all that we do, trusting your unchanging love amidst life's uncertainties. Help us to put aside differences so that we might build your kingdom sharing the Gospel with love and compassion. Open our eyes to the sorrows of the world, empowering us to respond with sacrifice and tenderness to those in need, reflecting Your grace and mercy.
We ask this 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.

Freedom to Flourish

Please [click here](#) for the latest newsletter from Mike & Jacky Hammond.

CWCI E3 Conference

The E3 Conference is being held March 13-15. NRCC won't be organising a livestream gathering but if you are interested please click [here](#) for all the information.

Practising the Way - NRCC Feb-Mar 2026

The **Practising the Way Course** is designed as a framework for spiritual formation built around teaching, community, and practice. At North Rocks Community Church, we aim to integrate **sermons, supplied videos, discussion groups, and homework**. Below is an **eight-week plan** that balances those elements, structured around a weekly rhythm.

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

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.

Jan	
24	Community Garden
Feb	
14	Cleaning Bee
14 & 28	Community Garden
21	An Afternoon in Song

Community News and Notices

North Rocks Community Church
Invites you to attend

*An Afternoon
In Song*

FEATURING:
"Small Things"
"Tony Keyte"
"Emma Goodsir"

WHEN: Saturday February 21st, 2026
WHERE: 132 North Rocks Rd, North Rocks
TIME: 3pm to 5pm

*Café Style seating - BYO drinks and nibbles
(Free Coffee and Tea available)*

**** Suggested donation \$5.00 ****

Lecture and Panel Discussion on spirituality and ethics

1.00-3.00pm Saturday 14 March

Pitt St Uniting Church, 264 Pitt St, Sydney

Venerable Geshe Lhakdor, Director of the Library of Tibetan Works and Artifacts at Dharamsala, India, will present a lecture on "Turning inward: The first step to universal compassion." Afterward, he will join Rev Dr Rod Benson, General Secretary of the NSW Ecumenical Council, for a moderated dialogue on Buddhist and Christian approaches to spirituality and ethics.



Our world urgently needs a movement of attentive and generous discipleship.

The climate crisis is undoing decades of progress, driving poverty, food insecurity and forced migration across our world. There's profound injustice at its heart: those who've contributed the least to this crisis are suffering the most, while those who've burned the most fossil fuels have largely insulated themselves from its effects.

UnitingWorld's [Lent Event](#) offers a way to step into meaningful action. Take part in 40 For The Future - a climate challenge for all ages living more simply and raising funds for UnitingWorld projects

▪ **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

What True Humility Looks Like

Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-13.

If you read the Bible regularly, you'll notice something about God's ways: They run counter to the ways of the world. You see, in the Kingdom of God, we conquer by yielding; we find rest under a yoke; we reign by serving; and we are made great by becoming nothing. We become wise by being fools for Jesus' sake; we are made free by becoming slaves to Christ; and we possess all things by giving up everything. We triumph through defeat; we have victory and glory in our infirmity; and we live by dying. That's why a true servant of Jesus will always be an enigma and a paradox to this fallen world.

In 1 Corinthians 4, Paul explained this principle, using himself and the other apostles as examples: "This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ . . ." (v. 1). What is the first concern for the servant of the Lord? Not: *How can I be happy?* But: *How can I please the Master?* Paul did not say the servant of Jesus must be eloquent or clever or an extraordinary communicator. No, the servant of Jesus must humble himself under Jesus. So Paul doesn't want to be known as a tremendous leader or an expert church planter or a brilliant theologian. He wants the Corinthians to think of him simply as a servant of Jesus Christ. This is true humility: being obedient to our Lord above all else. Humility has everything to do with the submission of one's thoughts, one's opinions, one's ideas, to the Truth of God's Word. It's a greatness the world simply cannot understand.

Prayer: Lord, Your ways are not my ways. You call me to a life that confounds the world, but it is the best life. Make me more like You, humble and loving. You alone are worthy of my worship. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed" (1 Corinthians 4:1).

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church

- Pray for encouragement and strength for our congregation as we learn to serve each other as Jesus does.
- Pray for Rod that he will receive God's wisdom as he leads our church through Practising the Way.
- Pray for wisdom for church council as they work together to serve NRCC.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

For the Wider Church

- Pray for the Community Services Ministries of Parramatta Nepean Presbyteries – [Gateway Family Services](#), [Junction 142](#) and [Parramatta Mission](#).
- Pray for strength and perseverance for churches around the world in areas of conflict. May they continue to know peace that can only come from you.
- 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

- Prayers that leaders will act with integrity, wisdom, and courage to make just decisions for all.

- Pray for unity and healing, for overcoming division, reducing tension, and fostering peace.
- Pray for the vulnerable and voiceless, and bring justice to those who have suffered injustice

For the World

- We pray that world leaders might find peaceful solutions to conflict between countries.
 - Pray that local churches and Christians worldwide remain faithful, act as conduits of hope, and bring God's love to their communities.
 - We [pray](#) for Austria, Liechtenstein & Switzerland.
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Prayers

E - give (Anonymous Direct Electronic Giving)

Account Name: North Rocks CC - Giving

(BSB): 634634 **Account Number:** 100025906

If you have any prayer requests or would like to know about those with particular pastoral needs to pray for, please contact Cathy or another member of the Pastoral Care Team
Cathy: 0411 055 403

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