



NEWSLETTER

9 - 15 March 2026

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Dear God,
As we work through Practising the Way, encourage and guide us. Help us to know how to live our lives for your Kingdom rather than striving to fit in to the world in which we currently live. Give us the wisdom to follow you and to become more like Jesus every day. May we seek God amid the suffering and hardship faced by us and our loved ones. 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.

There will be a **Congregational Meeting** after the Church service on Sunday 22nd March. It will begin at approx. 10.20 am and is expected to finish by 11 am.

This is an opportunity for all members of NRCC to hear more about what is happening in their church and to ask questions.

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.**

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

March	
14 & 28	Community Garden
22	Congregational Meeting
29	Palm Sunday
April	
3	Good Friday
5	Easter Sunday
July	
25	Trivia Night

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

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

Only Christ's resurrection power can satisfy our empty hearts. Only His power can defeat our temptations and turn our trials into triumphs. Only His power can exchange our weaknesses for His strength. Any earthly assets that we draw on are rubbish compared to Christ's power.

As imperfect humans, it is easy for us to revert to our independent ways, especially when things seem to go well for us. We quickly forget about Christ's strength and joy when we find comfort and happiness in our circumstances.

But we must be on guard against spiritual stagnation. We must place our relationship with Christ first in our lives. We often shy away from spiritual growth because we know that growth is often accompanied by pain. We want to run from our troubles rather than press forward. But the Bible tells us, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, . . ." (Hebrews 12:1-2).

Paul encouraged the Philippians, "But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14). While we may have to strain our spiritual muscles in order to grow, we will find joy in the midst of our struggles if we focus on Christ, applying the power of His grace to our lives.

Prayer: Father, thank You for using Your infinite power to save me and satisfy my heart. Help me to not run from spiritual growth but press forward to become more like Christ for my good and Your glory. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit" (Psalm 147:5).

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 Ireland; United Kingdom: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales

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