



NEWSLETTER

11 - 17 May 2026

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Dear God,
We pray that this Easter season we may be renewed in the joy of the resurrection, boldly proclaiming the Gospel. We pray that your spirit may guide and strengthen us in our mission and service to you. Help us to be unified and passionate about people coming to know and love you. Let us be a church who shows love in action, extending mercy and welcoming those who join with us this Easter.
Amen



You are invited to pray this prayer individually, in small groups, Bible study groups or at other gatherings during the week.

Latest Newsletter from Sandra & Bill

For all their latest news please click [here](#)

Would you like to meet with Rod?

Rod is available to meet with people for a pastoral conversation or prayer, either at the church or at a cafe. If it is easier he can come to you. Please phone him to work out a time.

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.

May	
9 & 23	Community Garden
24	Pentecost
31	Celebrating Practising the Way
July	
25	Trivia Night
August	
2	Families' Service
September	
5	Lamington Drive
December	
5	Fair Trade Market

Community News and Notices

Invitation - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

NSW ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

**SERVICE OF PRAYER
FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
AND FUNDRAISING DINNER**

Co-hosted by Bishop Vincent Long
& the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta.

Friday 22 May 2026

5.45 for 6.00 – 9.15 pm

St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

Tickets \$75

BOOK NOW:
<https://www.trybooking.com/DLGUZ>
 Enquiries: gensec@nswec.org.au

Tickets selling fast! Scan the QR code above or [Click here to reserve seats now.](#)

Friends of the Middle East Theological Library Support

Please donate to help the Near East School of Theology continue to access E-books from The Camden Theological Library (CTL). For more information please click [here](#).



Friends of the Middle East

Re: E-books for the Near East School of Theology (NEST) in Beirut.

If you would like to consider offering some financial assistance, **please email: library@nswact.uca.org.au with the subject 'NEST'.**

Every donation counts.
Donations of over \$20 will attract a tax deduction.

The only way to donate specifically to the e-books is directly via the library as shown above and not via the FME website.



A Place at the Table

Be part of *A Place at the Table* - a meaningful fundraising dinner supporting Meals Plus.

Join us as we share a meal, build connection and raise awareness for those in our community facing homelessness and hardship

Friday 15 May, 2026
6.00 pm - 9.00 pm
119 Macquarie St.
Parramatta



▪ 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

Have you ever noticed that when you are ready to pray, the phone rings or somebody knocks on your door? How often is your prayer time disturbed by things on your to-do list, with daydreams, or with sleepiness?

Prayer is the most important thing we can do as believers. Through prayer, we communicate with our heavenly Father. We also learn more about Him when we pray. We grow in our faith through prayer. When we pray, we find the encouragement, the strength, and the power we need to face life. In fact, Jesus made it clear that we either pray or we will spiritually faint. In the midst of the confusion and chaos of the world, even in the end times, Jesus calls us to always pray and not give up praying (see Luke 18:1).

Satan, however, seeks to interfere with the sacred intimacy of prayer. He did not want Adam and Eve to communicate with God in the Garden of Eden, nor does Satan want us to communicate with God. Rather, he seeks to find ways of making us spiritually weak. He knows that prayer is our vital source of power and strength.

When you receive good news or something wonderful happens in your life, do you immediately thank the Lord? Many of us pray only when we are facing a problem. We cry out to the Lord in our pain, but we often fail to praise Him in times of joy. This is when we realize that we have not made prayer part of our daily lives.

Prayer is not to inform, to persuade, to manipulate, or to cajole God. It is the evidence of our love, surrender, obedience, and sincerity before God. He wants to commune with us. When you understand prayer is joyous, intimate fellowship with the Lord, you will want to make prayer a consistent part of your life.

Prayer: Lord, please forgive me for neglecting prayer and time with You. Thank You for blessing me with an intimate relationship with You. Help me never to neglect my time with You. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" (Romans 12:12).

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church

- Pray that the Holy Spirit will fill us with love and unity in our diversity.
- Pray that Rod will discern Your will and lead us with clarity and conviction.
- Pray for wisdom, patience and guidance for church council as they plan for the future of NRCC.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need

For the Wider Church

- Pray for the Presbytery Ministries of Parramatta Nepean Presbyteries – Bidwell Uniting, Suburban Seeds and Lifeline Macarthur & Western Sydney.
- Pray for strength and perseverance for the church in countries that persecute Christians for their faith in God.
- 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 listen to those whom they serve, and make decisions for the good of all people.
- Pray for all who call Australia home. May we work together and learn from each other to create a sense of unity.

For the World

- We pray for peace around the world, for countries to find diplomatic solutions that will bring harmony between the nations.
- Pray that churches around the world focus on unity, faithfulness to the gospel and strengthening believers amid suffering.
- We [pray](#) for India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

Prayers

E - give (Anonymous Direct Electronic Giving)

Account Name: North Rocks CC - Giving
(BSB): 634634 **Account Number:** 100025906

If you have a confidential prayer request please contact Bev (0404 809 102).
If you have pastoral care needs or would like to share a prayer request in the newsletter please contact Cathy (0411 055 403) or another member of the Pastoral Care Team.

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