



NEWSLETTER

6 - 12 July 2026

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Dear God,

Loving and Gracious God, we lift up the members of the JNC. Grant them the wisdom to discern Your will and the patience to wait upon Your timing. Unite their hearts and minds as they seek a faithful leader to guide this congregation. Bless their discussions, give them clarity of vision, and fill them with peace in every decision they make. In Your holy name, Amen.



Trivia Night

Trivia night is just over a month away. Please invite your friends to come along for a fun evening. The event is on Facebook to share or you can pick up some flyers at the back of the church.

We are looking for donations of the following items:

- Large gift bags for prizes
- wine or soft drink bottles for games
- items for the silent auction

We are also looking for table hosts. Please see Sue if you have any questions. Donations can be given to Sue, Bill or Cathy after church.

All money raised will be donated to Parramatta Mission

Term 3 Roster

The roster for August to October is currently being prepared. If you know you will be away at any time please email enquiry@northrocks.org.au. If you wish to change your commitment to the roster in any way please email or talk to Cathy.

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

July	
11 & 25	Community Garden
25	Trivia Night
August	
2	Families' Service
September	
5	Lamington Drive
13	Congregational AGM
October	
18	National Christian Life Survey
December	
5	Fair Trade Market

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/>

Reflection of the Week

He Is Our Rock

There's a third inevitable fact of life beside death and taxes. No matter who you are, you will

experience hardship of one sort or another. In fact, Jesus promised nothing less, saying, "In this world you will have trouble" (John 16:33). But where should we go when our troubles threaten to overwhelm us?

Read Psalm 28. Though David became the most celebrated king of ancient Israel, he had his share of trouble. As a young man, he found favour with King Saul, defeating Goliath and succeeding in his every mission. But with each achievement, he also earned the resentment of jealous King Saul, and eventually he found himself on the run, hiding in caves.

When David finally became king, he still endured an intense war over the throne of Israel. And as king, he succumbed to terrible temptations. He endured the loss of children and harrowing strife within his family. His own son even plotted a coup d'état, and, once again, David found himself on the run. Yet, through it all, David faced his suffering and the wickedness of his own sin by turning to his merciful God.

Psalm 28 is a beautiful example of how David dealt with his distress. In this prayer song, he pours out his heart to God, declaring, "To you, LORD, I call; you are my Rock, . . ." (v. 1). Do you know why the Bible refers to God as "the Rock"? It's because a rock is a symbol of changelessness, permanence, invincibility, and immovability. God is the Rock because He is the same yesterday, today, and forever and His promises never fail (see Hebrews 13:8, Luke 1:37, 2 Corinthians 1:20, et al.). And that is why David comes to Him with his problems and sin.

When times get tough, we tend to focus on our circumstances. But our circumstances are constantly changing. God, however, never changes, and He is faithful even when we are not. When the world seems to be falling apart and we can't bear the weight of our brokenness, He is the one to run toward. He is the one to cling to. He promises, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5; cf. Deuteronomy 31:6).

Prayer: Lord, You are my rock and my salvation. Help me to build my life on You, experiencing Your faithfulness and love in my life. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold" (Psalm 18:2)

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church

- Pray for perseverance in our faith strengthening us to keep our eyes on Jesus.
- Pray for the JNC, for wisdom in discernment, unity, patience and guidance, to bring clarity to the process of calling a minister to our church.
- Pray for Rod, for wisdom in his leadership and discernment in his decisions.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

For the Wider Church

- Pray for greater unity among believers around the world and help us to love one another as you love us.
- Pray for community services organisations connected to local UCA congregations: [Gateway Family Services](#), [Junction 142](#), [Parramatta Mission](#) and [Castlereagh Conference Centre](#).
- We pray for protection, strength, and comfort to be with those around the world who suffer for their faith.
- 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 those who are struggling with the cost of living.
- Pray for reconciliation between all who call Australia home.
- Pray for wisdom for leaders to make decisions for the good of all Australians.

For the World

- [Pray](#) for the people of Venezuela as they continue to deal with the aftermath of the devastating earthquake.
 - Pray for peace for those living in areas of increased conflict. May they know the hope that can only be found in God.
 - Pray for guidance for world leaders that they might find ways to work together for the good of all.
 - [Pray](#) for Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda.
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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 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