NEWSLETTER

9 - 15 November 2026

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

Sunday Worship 9am

Prayer for Our Church

Dear God,
Thank you for the many blessings you have given us, and for the opportunity to gather in fellowship, supporting and encouraging one another.
Surround with your love and comfort all those who are experiencing hardship, loneliness or illness. Help us to reach out to them with compassion, kindness and practical support.
We pray for wisdom and guidance for those serving on the JNC as they work together to discern the minister you have planned for our church. May they be guided by your Spirit and trust in your leading.
Amen.



Christmas Services

We are looking for people who would like to help organise the special Christmas services for 24 Dec (6.30-7.30pm, possibly 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 News from Jacky & Mike

To read the latest newsletter from Jacky & Mike 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

November	
14	Community Garden
21	Women's Morning Tea
28	Community Garden
29	First Sunday of Advent
December	
1	Church Council Meeting
5	Fair Trade Market
12	Community Garden

Community News and Notices



For more information about Mainly Music please click here

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

Shame is a powerful and damaging emotion. Have you ever felt shame or disgrace? Have you ever been ashamed of someone else? People can be ashamed of their appearance, their social status, or their family heritage—anything that they feel is unacceptable or unattractive. Shame is what we feel when we think that something about ourselves does not measure up to the expectations of others.

Where does shame come from? It is the child of fear and the cousin of timidity. In 2 Timothy 1, Paul warns Timothy about shame. Fear and shame are closely related. When we fear what others think of us, we feel ashamed and attempt to hide our "faults" from them. Unfortunately, many Christians have allowed the world to shame them into hiding the Gospel. They feel ashamed of Biblical morality and of following God's standards. Paul encourages Timothy, "So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God" (2 Timothy 1:8).

No matter what we face, God's power is with us. Even in the face of death, we shouldn't let fear trap us. When Jesus died on the cross, He not only abolished death for His followers, He also abolished the fear of death. Paul outlines this Truth compellingly and indicates how it should impact our lives:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" . . . thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. (1 Corinthians 15:54-55, 57-58, emphasis added)

While we will all experience physical death, those of us who have accepted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior have the joy of anticipating eternal life with Jesus. We should feel honored to endure hardships for Christ—even death: "[I]f you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name" (1 Peter 4:16).

Prayer: Father, may I never be ashamed of the Gospel. May I remember that I am Yours even in death. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile" (Romans 1:16).

Prayer Points for This Month

For Our Church

- Pray for our congregation as we discern God's plan for our church.
- 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 HSC students as they celebrate the conclusion of their exams and contemplate their future beyond school.
- Pray for healing and restoration for those in need.

For the Wider Church

- Pray for the churches and other organisations and missions of Parramatta Nepean, Murray Darling and Sydney presbyteries as they transition into the new Central Presbytery.
- 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 Nepal following the flash floods.
- 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 Oceania: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia (Maohi Nui), Kanaky, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

---

***E* - give** (Anonymous Direct Electronic Giving)
Account Name: North Rocks CC - Giving
(BSB): 634634 **Account Number:** 100025906

Ministry Leaders

Transitional Supply Minister: Rev Dr Rod Benson / 0412421678 / rod@northrocks.org.au

Church Council

Chairperson: Cathy Nelson Secretary: Jenny Keyte Treasurer: Mike Hammond
Samson Leung Quentin Napier, Sue Vasilevska