NEWSLETTER

2 - 8 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.



New Email for Church Council Secretary

If anyone in the congregation has correspondence, requests etc for the Secretary of Church Council(Jenny Keyte), please use the following email address: secretary@northrocks.org.au

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.

Update from the Inaugural Meeting of Central Presbytery

We are pleased to share the key approvals and outcomes from our meeting, including the following appointments and decisions:

1. **Central Presbytery Chairperson**

Following the election, we are pleased to acknowledge *Mark McIntosh* as the Central Presbytery Chairperson.

We congratulate *Mark* on this important responsibility and pray for wisdom, discernment and strength as they lead and support the Presbytery in the season ahead.

2. **Presbytery Lead Minister**

We are also pleased to confirm *Jason Kioa* as Central Presbytery Lead Minister.

We are grateful for your willingness to serve, and we pray for God's continued guidance as you take on this ministry—nurturing our multicultural community and our shared vision, and strengthening the life and mission of our Presbytery.

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	
8	Commissioning of Church Council members
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

Community News and Notices



Hosted and led by Gawura Cultural Immersions, learn more about local Aboriginal country, cultures and communities, including site visits, stories, and bush tucker at this Walking on Country event at Parramatta.

Date: Saturday, 14 November 2026 Time: 10am - 1:30pm
Location: Beginning at Centre for Ministry, 16 Masons Drive, North Parramatta
Cost: Adults: $80, Children/Candidates/Students $50
Lunch included with registration
For more information visit: www.culturalimmersions.com.au
REGISTRATIONS CLOSES ON NOVEMBER 9
https://nswactuca.eventsair.com/.../registr.../Site/Register

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

The Source of True Spirituality

The only source of true spirituality is the Holy Spirit. The Bible tells us the Holy Spirit is a person (see John 14:26; 16:13-15). He is the third member of the Trinity. He is not an impersonal force; He is more aptly referred to as the Holy Spirit of Almighty God.

The Hebrew word for "spirit" is *ruach*, which means "breath" or "wind." One of the foremost word pictures of the Holy Spirit found in Scripture is the title Breath of God (see Job 33:4). In fact, the first word picture associated with the Spirit is that of breath—of something that makes the air move, even to the point of vigorous or violent motion (see Genesis 1:2). It is a picture of energy released, an outward moving force of power.

As we seek to gain understanding of God's Spirit, it is important to know that the Holy Spirit desires God's best for us. He works in us individually. He convicts us of sin, glorifies Christ, leads and guides us, teaches and commands us, intercedes for us, and provides divine help and care. The Holy Spirit prays through us that God's perfect will might be done in our lives.

In John 14-16, Jesus made it clear that after His resurrection, the Holy Spirit would be His personal representative on earth, indwelling Jesus' disciples.

The Holy Spirit is the full expression of God the Father and God the Son. Jesus said the Spirit would enable us to become more like Him (see John 14:12, 15-17, 26; 15:4-17; 16:8, 13-15). The Spirit is the fullness of God's character, love, presence, plan, and purpose.

As the Spirit does His work, He transforms us into the image of Christ Jesus. The process of spiritual transformation brings tremendous healing to the person who previously had been ripped apart by sin. Only the Holy Spirit can renew our minds and bring us to the wholeness of spiritual transformation.

Will you stop for a moment and thank God for the gift of His Holy Spirit? Then depend on the indwelling Spirit to work in you and through you as you go about your day's activities.

Prayer: Lord, help me to depend on Your Spirit to work in my life today. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.
". . . God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us" (Romans 5:5).

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 Canada, United States of America

***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