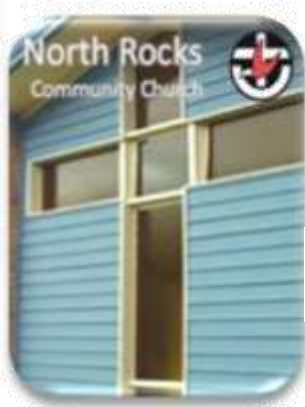




NEWSLETTER

28 September – 4 October 2026



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.



Every five years the National Church Life Survey is held in churches in over 20 denominations. The last survey was held during COVID and only a very small number of our members took part. We are hoping to have the majority of the congregation take part this year to give us an overview of our church and to help us plan for the future.

Church council would like as many people as possible to complete the survey and has decided to spend time after the service on October 18. We will have the forms available on the day and they can be completed before or during morning tea. If you won't be at church that day please let Cathy know so alternative arrangements can be made for you to complete it.

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

October	
10	Community Garden
18	National Christian Life Survey
24	Community Garden
November	
21	Women's Morning Tea
December	
5	Fair Trade Market

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

Read Matthew 6:25-34.

At the root of all anxiety is the fear that we'll lose something valuable. But no matter how many material possessions we collect or how much money we have in the bank, these things can never bring us peace or contentment. However, when we know that God gave us everything and that it's all for His glory anyway, we will be at peace. *You* will be at peace. Why? Because just as God gave it to you, He will multiply it to you. He will multiply it to you so that you can keep on doing the work of God. God is looking for conduits—people through whom His gifts and blessings can flow to others.

You see, fear and faith do not mix. If we're paying attention to all that the Lord is doing in the world, it's hard to live in a state of anxiety. The opposite is true as well: It's impossible to fully trust God's character, intentions, and promises if we're living in a constant state of fear.

Jesus showed that worry reveals where we are reluctant to trust God (see v. 26). But God is infinitely trustworthy—the very definition of faithful. Because God is who He is—perfectly loving, just, and sovereign—worry is pointless.

To find peace and contentment we must lose ourselves in obedience to the Lord. Worry comes from focusing on how dangerous this world is. Contentment comes by focusing on proclaiming the goodness of God in the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost. Worry thinks about what we don't have or what we might lose. Contentment thinks of what we have already and is yet to come—the very presence of God in glory.

God is good. There is peace in His presence, and He wants us to have it. Serenity fills the courts of heaven, and He wants us to have this same peace in our lives. His peace cannot be fabricated, duplicated, or falsified. His peace is above and beyond explanation. Even in the midst of life's worst storms, He freely offers His peace to all who would receive it.

Prayer: Jesus, I know worry doesn't add anything good to my life, so help me turn from fear and instead exercise faith. Fill me with Your peace. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?" (Matthew 6:27).

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 prepare for their final exams.
- 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 Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Peru

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: Samson Leung
Mike Hammond, Jenny Keyte, Quentin Napier, Sue Vasilevska