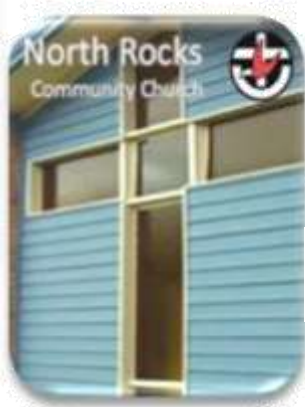




NEWSLETTER

12 - 18 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.



Guest Preachers

We have two guest preachers organised for the next two Sundays. This Sunday Adrian Nolan will be preaching, next Sunday, 25 October, Richard Parker will be preaching.



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

October	
18	National Christian Life Survey
24	Community Garden
November	
14	Community Garden
21	Women's Morning Tea
28	Community Garden
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



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 OCTOBER 23

<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

Read Luke 17:11-19.

When Jesus came to the lepers' village, they kept their distance and shouted to Jesus at the top of their voices, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" (Luke 17:13). When Jesus saw them, He instantly knew of their plight, misery, and isolation. Jesus also knew that the only way they could return to their homes and families, according to the law, was to be declared clean by the priests. "Go, show yourselves to the priests," Jesus told them, and the lepers went immediately (v. 14).

As the lepers traveled to the priests, they noticed that they were being healed! The wonder that came over them in the midst of their deliverance must have been tremendous. Perhaps they began to run even faster, anticipating their reinstatement into community, into family, into life! While the ten lepers celebrated, one was so overcome by the gift of his healing that he turned and rushed back to Jesus.

While returning to Jesus, the leper began praising God in a loud voice, without inhibition or restraint. When he finally reached Jesus, the leper fell down at His feet, continuing to offer praise and thanksgiving to Him.

When this Samaritan leper returned, Jesus was struck by the fact that none of the Jewish lepers did likewise. "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Jesus queried (vv. 17-18). Only one out of the ten lepers showed Jesus the gratitude He deserved.

How often do we, too, fail to give Jesus heartfelt praise for our blessings? Genuine gratitude is more than saying "thank You" when God answers our prayers. It is a posture of worship that recognizes every good gift comes from His gracious hand (see James 1:17). May we never become so focused on God's blessings that we neglect to adore the one who gives them.

Prayer: Father, I pray that I would be like the one grateful leper, remembering to praise and thank You for all Your blessings. Thank You for saving me. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits" (Psalm 103:2).

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 Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama

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