



# ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH

## *“Sharing the love & welcome of Jesus*”



roseville.unitingchurch.org.au



@530worship



@rosevilleuniting

### Why Worry ?

A few weeks ago, Chris's sermon took a look at Matthew 6.24 -34 and how we are directed by Jesus to stop worrying as we cannot serve both God and mammon (trust in other things like material wealth) for our security and happiness. If we are worried about something it can be very difficult to just stop worrying. Chris made the point that in practical terms some things we worry about are good for us if it results in productive steps taken to address them. In these circumstances worry matters. He also made the point that what we focus on is what we serve. In that context if we are always worrying then it is what we worry about that we serve, leaving not much room for the love of God. Serving what worries us creates excessive mental chatter.

In the passage Jesus tells us that we should focus our attention instead on the kingdom of God and then we have no need to worry. Now to understand this better we need to look at some other passages in the bible. These other passages speak to me of having our focus on a loving relationship with God. This loving relationship then forms the basis of our life, our happiness and security. The passages I am referring to are:

1. Matthew 18: 3-4 where Jesus says that unless we can become like little children, we cannot enter the kingdom of heaven. For me this analogy is saying that little children, by definition, do not have the life experience of adults whose minds are caught up with the past and future. Children have little need to worry, especially if they are cared for in a loving family. They know in their hearts that they are loved and their needs are met. In the same way we need to know through our faith that we are always loved by God and God is always with us through our journey in life-whatever happens- and so we should not be too concerned with past or future worries.

2. Luke 17: 20-21 Jesus says the kingdom of God is found within you. Here I think Jesus is referring to our love of God which is to be found in our hearts as a knowing presence that he is always with us.

3. Matthew 11.28-30 Jesus speaks of mankind's heavy burdens and instructs us "Come all ye who are fully laden and I will give you rest for my yoke is easy" is speaking directly to our hearts. In a loving relationship with God, we have faith to surrender to him our excessive worries and be comforted by his presence in our hearts. This requires a change of focus away from our troubles to the love of God.

4. Matthew 22 :37-38. Jesus here defines the greatest of the commandments as that of loving God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. This focus of our attention leads to a felt remembrance in our hearts that God always loves us and is always with us through all our trials and tribulations.

Taking these verses together suggests to me that we can make a choice not to focus our attention on what excessively worries us and instead rest our attention in God's love and just be. To just be in the present moment - like little children -and enjoy the gift of life we have been given without the incessant chatter of our minds. In this state we are then conscious of God's love in our daily lives, and open to his grace and the blessings he bestows on us, from moment to moment. Our focus of attention does matter.

Michael

### Sunday February 22nd

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

9.30am **Worship Service with Chris Goringe**  
**Organist: Sean Weatherley**

*In person and online...*

10.45am **Service of Healing & Wholeness**

#### Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7

Psalms 32

Romans 5: 12-19

Matthew 4: 1-11

5.30pm **Worship Service with Chris Goringe**  
**and Jan Reeve**

*In person and online...*

### What's on this week...

Tue Kids Playtime 10.00-11.30am  
Lenten Ecumenical Service Killara UC  
7.30pm  
Wed Social Games 1.00-3.00pm  
Fri Christian Meditation 2.30pm

### Sunday March 1st

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

9.30am **Worship Service with Holy Communion**  
**with Chris Goringe**

**Organist: Robert Bevan**

*In person and online...*

5.30pm **Worship Service**

#### Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Genesis 12: 1-4a

Psalms 121

Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

John 3: 1-17 or Matthew 17: 1-9

### Links

[Service live \(or replay\) streaming](#)

[Zoom \(for meetings\)](#)

[Church website](#)

[Chris' sermons](#)

## Church Family News

Congratulations to Harry and Joy, who have welcomed their 15th great grandchild.



### From The Resource Centre at Lent

Ann Gerondelis, author and illustrator of *Open Our Hearts*. Daily prayers for Lent and Holy Week has produced a series of sketches and prayers for this time. "The sketches and prayers are the result of a practice of drawing and writing in dialogue with scripture readings. This process opens up the texts, surfaces new perspectives and brings God's word to life." There is text on one side and sketch on the facing side of each double page. "This is a book to sit with and meditate."

Lent and Easter. Wisdom from Thomas Merton, is one of the 'wisdom' resources at the Resource Centre. The daily reflections here are supported by Scripture, prayers and suggestions for keeping a private journal during Lent and Easter.



The Street Library is installed—thanks Rob! If anyone is interested in helping to maintain it please talk to Maz or Pauline.

Do you have unused phones, iPad or laptops? The Asylum Seeker may be able to use them.

Follow this link for more information. <https://asylumseekerscentre.org.au/how-you-can-help/donate-a-device/>

Your generous gift can help someone study, search for a job, stay in touch with their loved ones, as well as navigate the complex government systems and services they rely on.

**ROSEVILLE**  
Asylum Seeker and Refugee  
Support Group

## Join us in Prayer ...

We pray for our governments that they may receive guidance in creating cohesion in our society.

We pray for each individual community that they may have a determination to live peacefully with each other.

We pray that cohesion in our own Roseville community may be evident and a light to others.

Lord help us make wise choices about the purpose of our own lives. May you be clear in your plans for us. May you use our talents to show your love and wisdom to all those with whom we connect.

Lord please bless the success of our Lent Event. May we keep the welfare of those affected by climate change foremost in our minds.

Thank you Lord for the beauty of each and every day. May we be aware and thankful for each sunrise and sunset and the birds that sing in our gardens. May we not forget the everyday joys of your world.

Lynn



QR Code for Lent Event

You can also use this link

<https://bit.ly/ruc26> to donate via the team, or to join the team.

## Lenten Ecumenical Services

7:30pm Tuesday 24th February - Killara Uniting Church

7:30pm Tuesday 10th March - Roseville Uniting Church

7:30pm Tuesday 24th March - Holy Family Catholic Church



## Roseville Ministry Contacts

### Office Address

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### Church Office

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**Office Hours** Typically Tue, Wed and Fri

**Website** [roseville.unitingchurch.org.au](http://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au)

### Ministry Team

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Rev. Aeryun Lee  
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### Congregational Chairperson

Sue Drury

### Direct Giving

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### Asylum Seeker & Refugee Support

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### Church Council Chair

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### Safe Church Officer

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