

Youth Group



All school-aged children and their parents are invited to attend a get-together for the Youth Group. Fun activities for both children and their parents.

You are most welcome to bring a friend.

6pm in the Church Hall on the following Friday nights in 2023:

Fri 20 Oct

Fri 17 Nov Christmas Party

Appeals

Catholic Foundation Bishop's Christmas Appeal - featuring our Catholic Care Chaplaincy and all the good works they do in hospitals and prisons. 25th and 26th November 2023

History

History—In the year 2024, our Parish will celebrate 120 years! If you have any items from the past, that you are willing to donate to our Parish or share a copy, please bring them to the office. If anyone is interested in helping to organise this event, please contact the parish office.

Collection Plates

The First Church Collections plus donations from Marriages, Baptisms and Funerals goes directly towards supporting the various ministries of the Diocese of Parramatta, including the priest salary funds.

The Second Church Collection goes directly into our Parish Account. This account is used for administrative expenses, repairs & maintenance, insurance, church supplies, wages, sacrament supplies, SRE resources, telephone and electricity.

Thank you for supporting our parish & the Catholic Church

Church Roster October 2023

Date	Welcomers	Mass Coordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 14 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family			A Jaszczyszyn Volunteer	M Sultana	L Canlas	Paul Sultana	C Messa S Corben
Sun 15 th 7am	A Lomano	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		E Sultana C Wickman	P Perera	None	Power point	M Virgee JB
Sun 15 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Asimus		S Corben B Simon	C Samuel	S Yapa	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 15 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	J Padernia		S Suri W Suri	C Mascarenhas	L Fox	Jenchris & Co	
Sat 21 st 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Padernia		A Jaszczyszyn S Nieves	M Sultana	P Mansweto	Paul Sultana	Volunteer
Sun 22 nd 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni		C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 22 nd 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	R Xuereb	Rondalla & Co	
Sun 22 nd 10:30am	M Satorre	H Greedy			N D'Souza R D'Souza	Volunteer	Angie	Raymond & Co	

Parish Funds

Your support, as always, is much appreciated. For those wanting to make payments directly to our bank account, these are the details:

Account Name: St John's Catholic Church Riverstone

BSB: 067950

Account No: 00000172

Message: First & Surname of Parishioner)

Please write your full name & the word donation in the message section when using internet banking)

OR

Weekly Envelopes OR Tap & Go OR

Credit Card Donations OR Collection Plates at Mass

QR Code for payments directly to the Riverstone Parish - please enter your name & payment description.



Piety Store

Piety Store - Opening Hours

Sundays

10am - 12pm

Tuesdays

10am - 11am

Unfortunately, piety items are not available for purchase from the parish office.

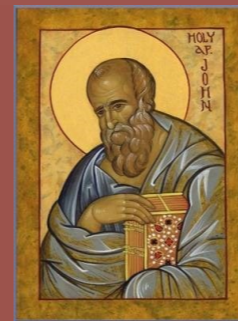
Friday Prayer Group

Christ Catholic Community (CCC) Prayer Group

Prayer meeting held every Friday 10am in the classroom building. For further information, please contact:

Mary Camilleri Ph 0403116987

Counters- J Shipley & A Hoare



St John The Evangelist Catholic Church Riverstone

A spiritual home for the community offering hope and help for all in need



Parish Priest: Fr Zakaria Gayed
Deacon: Rev. Dr. Michael Tan
Parish Secretary: Melissa Spence
Parish Manager: Tony Brooker
Parish Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-2pm
Phone: 9627-1176
Email: stjohs10@bigpond.com
Website: www.stjohnsriverstone.org.au
Address: 164 Garfield Rd East,
 Riverstone NSW 2765

St Johns Primary School: 9854-3200

Principal: Mrs Jane Misek

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday Morning 7am, 9am & 10:30am

Weekday & Morning Mass Times

Tuesday-Saturday 8:30am

First Friday 8:30am & 7:30pm

Anointing Mass

First Saturday of each month at 8:30am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for Vocations

Tuesday after 8:30am Mass

Novena to Mother of Perpetual Help

Wednesday after 8:30am Mass

Mass, Benediction & Rosary

Friday 8:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession

Saturday 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Prayer Group

Friday 10am

Marriage

Please give 6 months notice

Baptism -

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month at 12pm

Baptism Information Night

First Tuesday of each month at 7pm

Marriage & Baptism

By arrangement during office hours

15 October 2023

Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading Isaiah 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22. R. v.6

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. *I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.
I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.
I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Second Reading Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.
I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Ephesians 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.
Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

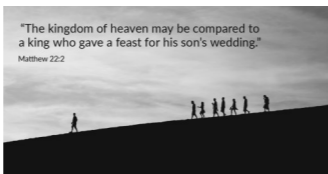
Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ



✠ **November Mass Offerings** - All masses during the month of November will be offered for those listed on the November envelopes. The List can be found during the month of November on the lectern at the front of the Church. **Envelopes are now available in the porch.** There will be no intentions announced during any masses in November. A private Mass Memorial may be booked for a Mass intention. Envelopes can be found in the porch. CLEARLY write the names on the envelope, enclose your donation and then place the envelope in either of the collection plates during any Mass. Thank you for your understanding.

Fr Zakaria Gayed will be attending the Diocesan Synod this weekend, as the member for the Riverstone Parish, at St Patricks Cathedral and Commbank Stadium, Parramatta. Our Parish is blessed to have Fr Andrew officiating our masses during this time.

Early Christmas Shopping... beautiful craft items for sale!

St John's Parish Christmas Craft Items - made from our Craft Ladies are now available, next to the Piety Store table, to purchase, before/after the 9am and 10:30am Sunday Masses.

All proceeds will go to the Riverstone Parish

Masses & Feasts

Tues 17 Oct St Ignatius of Antioch

Wed 18 Oct St Luke

NOVEMBER MASSES

All Saints Mass Wednesday 1st Nov 8:30am & 7:30pm

All Souls Mass Thursday 2nd Nov 8:30am & 7:30pm

Prayer to St John the Evangelist

Oh God, who through the blessed Apostle John have unlocked for us the secrets of your Word, grant, we pray, that we may grasp with proper understanding what he has so marvellously brought to our ears. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



Parish Notices

SRE Meeting - Tues 24 Oct at 9:30am in the Parish Hall.

All SRE's are invited to attend.

The **next Youth Group meeting: Fri 20 October at 6pm** in the church hall. All school-aged children are welcome to attend. You are welcome to bring a friend.

Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday 8th November
7:30pm in the Parish Hall

Eucharist—On the First Sunday of each month, the Eucharist will be offered as Body and Blood. You may continue to receive only the Host or proceed to the special ministers to also partake of the precious Blood.

Tea & Coffee After Mass - Everyone is welcome, after 9am and 10:30am Masses on Sunday mornings, at the Parish Centre side of the verandah.

Gluten free hosts are available for those who wish to receive Holy Communion. To arrange, please contact the parish office the week before.

Foreign Coins - Please respect the request of no foreign coins to be placed on the collection plates.

Lost Property can be found in the Parish Hall.

The first **National Conference for the Catholic Medical Association** will take place at St. Joseph's Conference and Retreat Centre, Baulkham Hills from 10th to 12th November, 2023. Please view the advertisement on the noticeboard for more information or speak to Deacon Michael Tan.

Pentecost 2024 We are planning to celebrate **Pentecost 2024** with a display of national flags in front of the altar, together with an international food festival. Please enter your details on the form in the porch, if you would like to be involved.

Diocese of Parramatta

Synod 2023 -

Let's pray our Synod Prayer together!

O God, who always walks with us on the journey of life,
we call upon you to lead us forth united.

Bless and guide our Diocesan Synod.

Keep us anchored in your love.

Open our hearts as we listen and discern.

Reveal to us the way we are called to go out into the deep.

Give us the courage to pursue the mission with bold humility.

May we experience renewal in our local Church today,

and for generations to come.

We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ,

who in the power of the Holy Spirit continues to guide your Church, to the fullness of your Kingdom now, and forever. Amen

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.

Prayers for our Community

✠ **For those who have died:**

All Souls, All Souls in Purgatory, John & Rosy Attard, Philip Azzopardi, Br Joe Byrne, Anthony Buttigieg, Sam Bugeja, Alex Calleja, John Cannata, John Grima, Alan Hoare, Maureen Muccillo, Peter Shipley, Chris, John, Maryann Sultana & Sultana family, John, Michael, Angelo & Clementina Sultana and Sultana family, Maria & Nicholas Gatt, Joseph Jack Sultana, Maryjane Sultana, Nunziato, Natale & Filice Orlando, Domenico Procopia, Orlando & Procopia families, Barry Sturgess, Harriot Perera, Peter Paul Sultana and Aurea Reyes.

For those who are sick:

Especially Adrian Bugeja, Carlos T Quinteros, Francis Saliba, John Padernia, Joe Sultana, Elisabeth Juliawati Santoso, Maria Pisto, Tony & Freda Attard, Margaret Galea, Belinda Grgic, Helen Grima, Candice Basopoulos and those in our parish community.

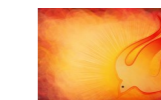
The next **meeting** for the **St John's Community Christmas Carols** will be on Monday, 6th November at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Donations towards the costs involved of performing the **St John's Community Christmas Carols** would be very much appreciated. All donations will be acknowledged on the night. Please place your donation in an envelope stating Carols and your name on the front. Plain envelopes can be found in the porch. Please give the envelope to Fr Zakaria or the Parish Office.

Raffle tickets for a fabulous hamper will be on sale soon. All proceeds will be shared by both the Parish and St John's Primary School.



Sacraments



Sacrament of Confirmation

Parent Information Meeting- Parent Only	Tuesday 24th October at 7:00pm - Galilee Room
Enrolment Mass - Parent & child	Sunday 29th October at 9:00am or 10:30am

Registrations are now closed.

Sacrament of Baptism

The next Baptism Class: Tuesday 7th November at 7pm in the Parish Hall.