

## 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**

### Fri 17 Nov Christmas Party

This will be the final gathering for this year.

## 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 Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup> 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Padernia		A Jaszczyszyn S Nieves	M Sultana	P Mansweto	Paul Sultana	Volunteer
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni		C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	V Sultana	Rondalla & Co	
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> 10:30am	M Satorre	H Greedy			N D'Souza R D'Souza	Volunteer	A Delara	Raymond & Co	
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Padernia		Volunteer Volunteer	Volunteer	J Eroles	Paul Sultana	C Messa S Corben
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni		E Sultana Volunteer	Volunteer	None	Power point	M Virgee JB
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		S Corben B Simon	L Fox	V Sultana	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy			David Julien	P Mansweto	A Delara	Raymond & Co	

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers.

## 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.

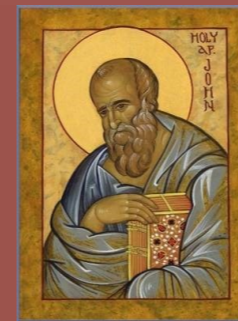
## Friday Prayer Group

**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

**22 October 2023**

**Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**

*First Reading Isaiah 45:1-4-6*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.*

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Responsorial Psalm Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v. 7*

*Give the Lord glory and honour.*

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. Tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples.

*Give the Lord glory and honour.*

The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods; the gods of the heathens are naught. It was the Lord who made the heavens.

*Give the Lord glory and honour.*

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
 give the Lord glory and power,  
 give the Lord the glory of his name.  
 Bring an offering and enter his courts.

*Give the Lord glory and honour.*

Worship the Lord in his temple.  
 O earth, tremble before him.  
 Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'  
 He will judge the peoples in fairness.

*Give the Lord glory and honour.*

*Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

*We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.*

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Gospel Acclamation Philippians 2:15. 16*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Shine on the world like bright stars;  
 you are offering it the word of life.  
 Alleluia!

*The Lord be with you.*

*And with your Spirit.*

*Gospel Matthew 22:15-21*

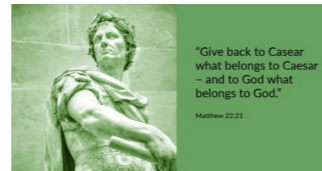
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.*

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

*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.**

Please, CLEARLY write the names on the envelope, enclose your donation and then place the envelope in either of the collection plates during any Mass.

Please be advised that there will be no intentions announced during any masses in November.

A private Mass Memorial may be booked for a Mass intention.

Thank you for your understanding.

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.

**Piety Store - For Sale**

- God Word 2024 Book                      \$22 each
- Columban Calendar 2024                \$10 each

**Masses & Feasts**

Sat 28 Oct    Sts Simon and Jude

**NOVEMBER MASSES**

- All Saints Mass    Wednesday    1st Nov 8:30am & 7:30pm
- All Souls Mass    Thursday      2nd Nov 8:30am & 7:30pm
- First Friday Mass    Friday          3rd Nov 7:30pm
- Anointing Mass    Saturday      4th Nov 8:30am

**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**

The **Youth Group meeting was held on Friday.** The children had a great time. Thank you to the YFC and Parent helpers for organising a wonderful night for the children.

**The Youth Group Christmas Party is on Friday 17th November at 6pm** in the church hall.

All school-aged children are welcome to attend and you are most welcome to bring a friend. This will be a fun night as the children will celebrate Christmas with a Christmas Party!

This will be the final Youth Group gathering for 2023.

The **Enrolment Mass for Confirmation** will be on Sunday 29th October at the 9am & 10:30am Masses.

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

Could Parish Council Members please RSVP to the office by Monday 6th November. Thank you.

**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. We have been getting many coins lately, please check your coins in your pockets and purses before placing in the collection plates. Thank you.

**Lost Property** can be found on the table 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 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> 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. Please place this event in your Diary!

**Diocese of Parramatta**

**Table Talk** event with people seeking asylum on **Wednesday 8 November** from 7pm to 9pm at the Cathedral Hall. We will hear from people with lived experience, reflect on our own values and see how we can be part of a positive change. To register, visit <https://events.humanitix.com/talk-talk-with-people-seeking-asylum>

You are invited to the **Parramatta Street Feast, Saturday 11 November** 2023 at the Cloister Hall, St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, 10:30AM to 1:30PM.

**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, Aurea Reyes, Antonio Mattioli, Giuseppe Dettore, Nicola Decambli, Frank Ardizzi, Lessel & Celine DÁbreo, Michael Machado, Hazel Rebello, Sinclair Mendonca, Michael Agius, Theresa & Victor Sultana.

**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.

**St John's Community Christmas Carols**

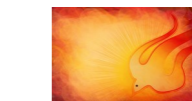
Friday 1st December at 6pm

The next **meeting** for the **St John's Community Christmas Carols** will be on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> 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
<b>Enrolment Mass - Parent &amp; child</b>	<b>Sunday 29th October at 9:00am or 10:30am</b>

**Sacrament of Baptism**

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