

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

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 7 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana Family			A Jaszczyszyn S Nierves	M Sultana	J Eroles	Paul Sultana	Volunteer
Sun 8 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		C Wickman E Sultana	P Perera	None	Power Point	
Sun 8 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Padernia		J Boemi R Xuereb	S Yapa	R Brown	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 8 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	J Padernia		J Sultana M Syme	D Gorkic	L Fox	Raymond & Co	
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	Jenchriss & 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

Tuesdays

10am - 12pm

10am - 11am

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

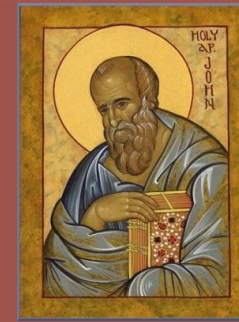
Friday Prayer Group

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

8 October 2023

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading Isaiah 5:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me.

What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes.

Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn.

I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations. It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field.

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

Second Reading Philippians 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 15:15

Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel Matthew 21:33-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.'

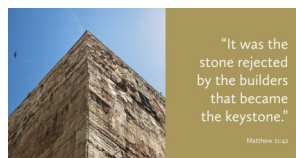
Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.
This was the Lord's doing
and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ



All Catholics around the world are invited to pray the **Holy Rosary** together on Friday, October 13 at 3:00pm (Sydney time). The date marks the 106th Anniversary of the last apparition of Our Lady of Fatima to three children. Please visit this website: worldrosaryhour.com

"On Saturday the 21st of October we will be offering an ongoing formation session for Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying. It will be held from 9:30am until 2pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre (1-5 Marion Street Blacktown.) Morning tea and lunch will be provided. We have limited spaces available so please RSVP to Mary by the 16th of October at Mary.gale@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795."

The Spring | Season of Creation 2023 edition of the *Catholic Outlook Magazine* – the news and views of the Diocese of Parramatta – is out now! Pick up your copy from our parish today or read it online via catholicoutlook.org/magazine

Masses & Feasts



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

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.

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.

St John's Community Christmas Carols - Please save the date- Friday 1st December 2023. The next meeting for the Christmas Carol Committee will be held on Wednesday 11th October 2023 at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

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.

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 organising this event, please contact the parish office.

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.

More information: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

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.

Fr Zakaria Gayed will be attending the Diocesan Synod next Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Parramatta and Homebush venues. Our Parish is blessed to have Fr Andrew officiating our masses during this time.

SAVE THE DATE:



Sacraments



Sacrament of Confirmation

Enrolment form to be completed and returned with donation to participate in this Sacrament.

Please Register by 9th October 2023

Parent Information Meeting Tues 24 October at 7pm in the Galilee Room

Sacrament of Baptism

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