

Youth Group



The final Youth Group for 2023 took place on Friday Night. The children had a great night which included their Christmas Party. Thank you to all those that donated and prepared food for this celebration.

Thankyou to the YFC and Parent Helpers for all of their hard work during the year supporting our Youth Group.

We look forward to Youth Group in 2024!

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney invites high schoolers and young adults to the inaugural archdiocesan youth conference – Purpose Conference. Our parish would like to encourage all High schoolers from Year 9 to Year 12 to attend this event on 7th and 8th December 2023, from 10:00-3:00pm at Rosebank College, Five Dock. Travel arrangements and Child supervision will be arranged by the parish. For additional details or to confirm attendance, please contact Neesha D'souza at neesha.dsouza@gmail.com or 04 66031758.

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

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.

Church Roster November 2023

Date	Welcomers	Mass Coordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 18 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family			A Jaszczyszyn Volunteer	M Sultana	L Canlas	Paul Sultana	C Sultana
Sun 19 th 7am	A Lomano	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		E Sultana C Wickman	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 19 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Asimus		S Corben B Simon	C Samuel	S Yapa	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 19 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	J Padernia		S Suri W Suri	C Mascarenhas	H Greedy	Jenchris & Co	
Sat 25 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Padernia		A Jaszczyszyn S Nieves	M Sultana	P Mansweto	Paul Sultana	C Messa S Corben
Sun 26 th 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni		C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	M Virgee JB
Sun 26 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	V Sultana	Rondalla & Co	Annie MO
Sun 26 th 10:30am	M Satorre	H Greedy	J Padernia		N D'Souza R D'Souza	D Gorkic	A Delara	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.

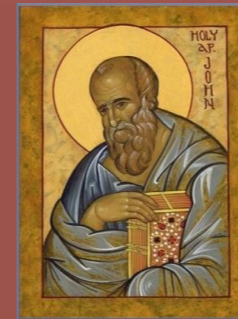
Friday Prayer Group

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

Counter: A Hoare & J Shipley



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: stjohns10@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

19 November 2023

Thirty - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife – who can find her?

She is far beyond the price of pearls.

Her husband's heart has confidence in her,

from her he will derive no little profit.

Advantage and not hurt she brings him

all the days of her life.

She is always busy with wool and with flax,

she does her work with eager hands.

She sets her hands to the distaff,

her fingers grasp the spindle.

She holds out her hand to the poor,

she opens her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;

the woman who is wise is the one to praise.

Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,

and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat.

You will be happy and prosper.

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life.

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

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

*The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the
night.*

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you,
brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very
well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in
the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and
peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly
as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will
be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that
Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of
light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to
darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else
does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 15:4. 5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel Matthew 25:14-15. 19-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into
the joy of the Lord.*

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of
heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his
servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he
gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in pro-
portion to his ability. Then he set out. Now a long time af-
ter, the master of those servants came back and went
through his accounts with them. The man who had received
the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he
said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more
that I have made." His master said to him,

"Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you
can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater;
come and join in your master's happiness."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

St John's Parish, Riverstone Christmas Party

All Volunteers and Parishioners are invited to our
Parish Christmas Party!!



Wednesday 6th December 6pm in the Parish Centre

Invitations are also extended to all of volunteers - all
those on our Roster, the Parish Council, the Finance
Council, Futures Committee, choirs, musicians, readers, acolytes,
Sacramental Team, SRE's, children's liturgy helpers, altar chil-
dren, craft ladies, those who clean the church and look after the
gardens, Youth Group helpers, Soccer Gala Day helpers, Lap top
operators, counters, parish event organisers and all those
involved in a committee or group. Please bring a plate of food/
drinks to share. Please RSVP to the Parish Office as soon as
possible.

Appeals

Bishop's Christmas Appeal – 25 and 26 November 2023

This Christmas appeal will support our Catholic Care chaplaincy
services, offering hope and comfort to those in hospitals, prisons,
and difficult circumstances.
Envelopes will be provided. Donations from this Appeal will go
towards the St John's Parish Quota for the Diocese of Parramatta.
The quota for our Parish is approx. \$3000. Please give generously
to this appeal.

Masses & Feasts

Tues 21 Nov	The Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary
Wed 22 Nov	St Cecilia
Fri 24 Nov	Sts Andrew Dung-Lac
Fri 1 Dec	First Friday Mass 8:30am
Fri 1 Dec	7:30pm Mass cancelled due to carols
Sat 2 Dec	8:30am Anointing Mass

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

Please Remember -

The Importance of Getting to Mass On Time Please be
early to Mass so that you can take part in the 5 most
important parts of the Mass – the Kyria, the Gloria, Litur-
gy of the Word, the Creed and the Eucharist. To enjoy
God's grace more fully, we need to be present for all parts
of the Mass.

Christmas Liturgy Meeting Date: Sat 25/11 Time: 11am

We request all those involved in the Christmas Mass Liturgy,
including the choirs, to please attend.

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

St John's Parish Christmas Craft Items - made by 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.

Internet Banking or Cash accepted.

For Sale "The Sign" - Advent & Christmas Daily Reflection
Book 2023 From The Catholic Diocese of Wollongong. **\$8 each.**

(Be quick! We only have 1 copy left for sale)

Please purchase from the Parish Office.

Piety Store - For Sale

God Word 2024 Book \$22 each

Columban Calendar 2024 \$10 each

(Calendar includes list of Saints & Feast Days)

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.
We will be forming a committee in January 2024 for this event.

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.

Lost Property - can be found on the table in the hall.

The Book Launch of '**Eugene Stockton: Blue Mountains Hermit**'
on 2pm Sunday 3 December at Mid Mountains Community
Centre, 9 New St Lawson. Please direct any enquiries to
contact@bmert.com.au. We hope to see you at the launch.
More information is on the Parish Noticeboard.

Diocese of Parramatta

Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill-Schofields celebrates a
Perpetual Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help on
Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the Church. All are welcome to
join. For more information, please contact the parish office on
(02) 9626 3326 or parishoffice@marvimmac.org.au.

Prayers for our Community



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. The List will be updated each
Friday during November.

Envelopes are available in the porch.

Please, CLEARLY write the names on the envelope,
enclose your donation and then place the envelope on
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.

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



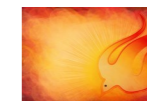
The carols will be held in the school grounds
For your comfort, please bring a chair/blanket/rug
BYO Picnic Food
Drinks, Glow Sticks & Snacks will be available
To purchase on the night.
There will also be a coffee van onsite.

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 again
this weekend. All proceeds will be shared by both the
Parish and St John's Primary School.

\$2 per ticket or 3 for \$5.

Sacraments



Sacrament of Confirmation

Celebration:	Tuesday 21st November
Sacrament of Confirmation	7pm

Sacrament of Baptism

The next Baptism Class:

Tuesday 6th December at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

There will be no class in January 2024.