

Youth Group

Youth



St John's Parish, Riverstone Youth Group

We look forward to Youth Group in 2024!

Dates to be advised early 2024.

NEW YOUTH EVENT

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 Nov/Dec 2023

Date	Welcomers	Mass Coordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
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	J Bugeja S Yapa	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 V Sultana	Raymond & Co	
Sat 2 nd 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family		M Sultana	A Jaszczyszyn	M Sultana	M Galati	Paul Sultana	C Messa S Corben
Sun 3 rd 7am	A Lomano	R Bigeni	R Bigeni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	C Wickman E Sultana	P Perera	None	Power point	M Virgee JB
Sun 3 rd 9am	Sullivan Family	R Brown		J Sullivan P Sullivan	V Sultana L Fernandez	G Fernandez	J Sullivan S Brown	San Pedro Calungsod	Annie MO
Sun 3 rd 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy		H Greedy	F Deruz A Cruz	C Mascarenhas	S Corben	Jenchris & 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.

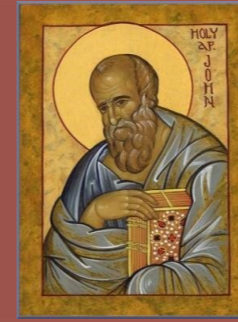
Friday Prayer Group

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

26 November 2023

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Year A

First Reading Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22:1-3, 5-6, R. see v.1

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
 there is nothing I shall want.
 Fresh and green are the pastures
 where he gives me repose.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

Near restful waters he leads me,
 to revive my drooping spirit.
 He guides me along the right path;
 he is true to his name.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

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.

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

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

He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Mark 11:9-10

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!
Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.
Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply,

"Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

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 children, 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.

Masses & Feasts

Thurs	30 Nov	St Andrew
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 and Do you ever notice parishioners leaving Mass early? Receiving Holy Communion then walking straight out of the Church? The Mass and specifically receiving Holy Communion is the centre of Catholic life. The supreme act of adoration and the attendance at Mass and full participation in the Mass is a grave obligation. Please do not deliberately miss any part 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.

Riverstone Combined Churches Christmas Carols
Saturday 2nd December Cnr Park & Pitt Sts, Riverstone.
6pm - 7:30pm Food Trucks & Pre-Entertainment.
7:30pm - 9:pm Christmas Carols

Altar Server Training - for all primary or high-school-aged children interested in becoming altar servers at our Masses. Fr Zakaria will run the training session.
Date: Tuesday 5/12/2023 from 4pm - 5pm.
Please meet outside the church. Please RSVP to the parish office by Monday 4/12/2023.

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)

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.

Diocese of Parramatta/Appeal

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.

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. 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

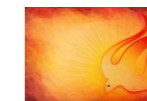
The carols will be held in the school grounds
For your comfort, please bring a chair/blanket/rug
BYO Picnic Food
Drinks, Glow Sticks & Snacks will be available to purchase on the night.
There will also be a coffee van onsite.

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.

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.

Sacraments



Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to the children and their families who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation last Tuesday. We would like to thank the celebrant, the Very Rev Peter G. Williams AM VG and our Parish Priest, Fr Zakaria who officiated the Confirmation. We would like to thank our Sacramental Team for all of their hard work preparing the children and to the helpers on the night.

Sacrament of Baptism

The next Baptism Class:

Tuesday 5th December at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

There will be no class in January 2024.