

Youth Group



St John’s Parish, Riverstone Youth Group
We look forward to Youth Group in 2024!
Dates to be advised early 2024.

Indoor Soccer

St John’s Eagles Round Robin Soccer Gala Day
Unfortunately, there will be no Gala Day in January.
The next Soccer Gala Day will be on
Wed 17th April 2024 9:30am—2:30pm.
All school-aged children are invited.

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. Our Parish cannot bank these coins. Please check your coins before placing them in the collection plates. Thank you.

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

<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>
10am - 12pm	10am - 11am

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

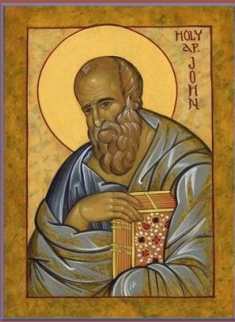
Friday Prayer Group

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.
Prayer Group will resume next week, on Friday 12/1/2024.

Counters- J Shipley & A Hoare

Church Roster January 2024

Date	Welcomers	Mass Coordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children’s Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 6 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana	A Jaszczyszyn	M Sultana	None	Jenchris & Co	C Messa S Corben
Sun 7 th 7am	A Lomano	R Bigeni	R Bigeni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	C Wickman E Sultana	P Perera	None	Power point	M Virgee JB
Sun 7 th 9am	Sullivan Family	R Brown		J Sullivan P Sullivan	V Sultana L Fernandez	G Fernandez	None		Annie MO
Sun 7 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy		H Greedy	F Deruz A Deruz	C Mascarenhas	None	Jenchris & Co	
Sat 13 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana Family			A Jaszczyszyn S Nierves	M Sultana	None	Paul Sultana	Volunteer
Sun 14 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		C Wickman E Sultana	P Perera	None	Power Point	
Sun 14 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown			K Amanda N Tsui	S Yapa	None	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 14 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	J Padernia		J Sultana M Syme	S Robleza	None	Raymond & Co	



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

7 January 2024
The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The glory of the Lord shines upon you.
Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.
Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.
Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.
At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11
Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king’s son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth’s bounds.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

Second Reading Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!
We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.
Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. ‘Where is the infant king of the Jews?’ they asked. ‘We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.’ When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ‘At Bethlehem in Judaea,’ they told him, ‘for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.’

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. ‘Go and find out all about the child,’ he said ‘and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.’ Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



All Parishioners are invited to our following Masses:

Mon 8 Jan 8:30am The Baptism of the Lord
Fri 26 Jan 8:30am Australia Day

Masses & Feasts

Mon 8 Jan The Baptism of the Lord 8:30am
Fri 26 Jan Australia Day Mass 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

Please Remember - The Importance of Getting to Mass On Time -

Arriving on time is not just a question of obligation but of love and respect for Our Lord who has gathered us together to share his gifts, and who has some grace to communicate to us in each part of the Mass.
It is also a sign of respect for the community with whom we worship and who deserves our presence and the contribution of our prayers in each moment.

WWCC—volunteers, please check your date of expiry for your WWCC clearance. There are quite a few parishioners who will need to reapply for their WWCC, as they may expire in early 2024.
Please contact the Parish office if you require any assistance. Thank you.

The **Friday Prayer Group** will resume next week, Friday 12th January at 10am in the classroom building.
For further information, please see the information on the last page of the Bulletin.

Piety Store - For Sale

God Word 2024 Book \$22 each
(Calendar includes list of Saints & Feast Days)

Unfortunately, the **St John’s Eagles Round Robin Soccer Gala Day** has been cancelled for January 2024.
The next Soccer Gala Day will be on Wed 17th April 2024 9:30am—2:30pm.
All school-aged children are invited to attend.

We are in need of parent helpers for the gala days for 2024. If you are able to help on these days, please contact the parish office and place your name on the list. More helpers will make the day run smoothly. Thank you.

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.

Diocese of Parramatta

The new parracatholic.org website is now here with exciting new features and functionality including a comprehensive ‘Find a Mass’ function which includes Daily and Weekend Masses, Reconciliation and Adoration times; a centralised event calendar; Daily Mass readings and different ways you can contribute to the Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Check it out today!

Prayers for our Community



Deceased Mass Offerings -

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 & Sultana family, Maria & Nicholas Gatt, Joseph Jack Sultana, Harriot Perera, Fred Baskerville, Mary Calleja, Mary Polgar, Francis Stivala, Julian Dalley, Silvano Santilli & Antoinia Mercia.

For those who are sick:

Especially Adrian Bugeja, Carlos T Quinteros, Francis Saliba, John Padernia, Maria Pisto, Tony & Freda Attard, Margaret Galea, Belinda Grgic, Jeff Meilak and those in our parish community.

St John’s Parish Christmas Raffle

Congratulations to the winners of our Parish raffle:
1st Prize S Ravilla Claimed

2nd Prize P Azzopardi Claimed

3rd Prize J Shipley Claimed

Thank you to all parishioners who supported our Parish.



Volunteers Needed!

- Acolytes
- Sacramental Program
- Baptism Classes
- Church Cleaners
- Special Ministers
- Indoor Soccer Parent Helpers

Our Parish is in need of more volunteers in various areas within our Parish. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Parish Office for more information and to place your name on the Volunteer List.

Please note that you will need to provide your Volunteer WWCC if you volunteer in an area that you may interact with children. Instructions on how to obtain this WWCC clearance can be obtained from the parish office.

Sacraments



Sacrament of Baptism

The next Baptism Class:

Tues day 6 February 2024

7pm in the Church Hall.