

## Youth Group



### 2024 St John's Parish Riverstone 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 these Friday nights:**

- |                 |                                      |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>19 April</b> | <b>16 August</b>                     |
| <b>17 May</b>   | <b>20 September</b>                  |
| <b>21 June</b>  | <b>18 October</b>                    |
| <b>19 July</b>  | <b>15 November (Christmas Party)</b> |

## Indoor Soccer

St John's Eagles Round Robin Soccer Gala Day

The next Soccer Gala Day will be on:

**Wed 17th April 2024 9:30am - 2:30pm.**

*We need Parent Helpers on the day. We also need one person to cook the bbq on the day. This can be done at your home and brought to the centre in time for lunch. PLEASE consider giving up a little of your time to help.*

## 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.

## Church Roster March /April 2024

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> 7pm			J Misso		I Sprem			Rondalla Choir	
Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> 7am			R Bigeni		C Wickman	P Perera		Jenchriss & Peter & Co	
Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> 9am			J Teuma D Catig		A Kujundzija	A Kujandeja	L Fox	Noy & Tina Co	
Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> 10:30am	D Kujndejaa	H Greedy			Youth Group Youth Group	Childrens Group	L Fox	Raymond & Co	
<b>April Sat 6<sup>th</sup> 6pm</b>	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana	A Jaszczyszyn	M Sultana	M Galati	Jenchriss & Co	Team Wed
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> 7am	A Lomano	R Bigeni	R Bi- geni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	C Wickman E Sultana	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> 9am	Sullivan Family	R Brown	D Catig	J Sullivan P Sullivan	V Sultana L Fernandez	G Fernandez	R Brown S Brown	San Pedro Calungod	
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy		H Greedy	F Dcruz A Dcruz	C Mascarenhas	S Corben V Sultana	Musician Needed	

## 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**

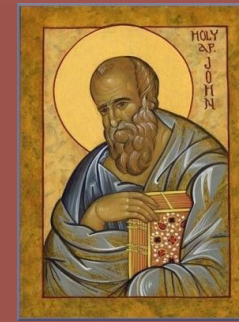
<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>
10am - 12pm	10am - 11am

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.

The April Roster is now available in the porch.  
Counters- J Shipley & A Hoare & V Sultana



## 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

**31 March 2024**

**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection Year B**

*First Reading Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.*

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24*

*This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.*



Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.'

*This is the day the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad.*

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds.

*This is the day the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad.*

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.

*This is the day the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad.*

**Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians  
*Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.*  
Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ,  
you must look for the things that are in heaven, where  
Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be  
on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth,  
because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden  
with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is  
your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with  
him.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation 1 Corinthians 5:7-8**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;  
let us feast with joy in the Lord.  
Alleluia!

*The Lord be with you.*

*And with your Spirit.*

**Gospel John 20:1-9**

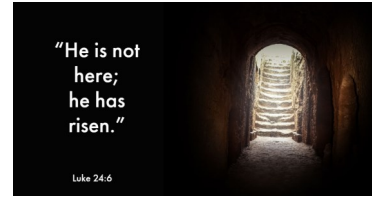
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the  
dead.*

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark,  
when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the  
stone had been moved away from the tomb and came run-  
ning to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus  
loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said  
'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set  
out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran to-  
gether, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter,  
reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen  
cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter  
who was following now came up, went right into the tomb,  
saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that  
had been over his head: this was not with the linen cloths  
but rolled up in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also  
went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had  
failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must  
rise from the dead.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*



**Daylight Saving** - please turn your clocks  
backward 1 hour on Sunday 7 April 2024 at 2am  
AEST.



*Fr Zakaria would like to wish all  
parishioners a joyous Easter.  
God Bless!*

*Fr Zakaria and the Parish Team would like to  
thank all volunteers who have given their time to  
help at our Masses during Holy Week and Easter.*

## Masses & Feasts

Mon 1 April No Mass Easter Monday

Mon 8 April 8:30am The Annunciation of the Lord 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

Bishop Vincent's Easter message for 2024 can be viewed  
online at <https://youtu.be/3ghTzBEYqQA>

**Tea & Coffee After Mass** - There will be **no** tea and  
coffee after Mass on Easter Sunday.

**St John's Parish Easter Raffle** - tickets are on sale from  
this weekend, before and after Mass. \$2 each or 3 for \$5.  
FABULOUS prizes! Please support our Parish by buying  
some tickets!

**The EASTER RAFFLE will be drawn after the 10:30am  
Mass on Easter Sunday.**

**Easter Offering Envelopes** - are now available in the  
porch. These are the pink and blue envelopes and these  
donations go directly to the Riverstone Parish.  
Please place them in any of the collection plates.  
Thank you for supporting our Riverstone Parish!

The **April Parish Volunteer Roster** is available in the  
porch.

The next **Parish Council Meeting**: Wed 3rd April at  
7:30pm in the hall. All parishioners are welcome to  
attend.

**Pentecost 2024 The Next meeting: Saturday 6th April  
at 10:30am.** We are planning to celebrate *Pentecost 2024 on  
the 19th May* with a display of national flags in front of the  
altar, together with an international food festival. All  
parishioners who would like to be involved on this day are  
invited to this meeting. Parishioners, please place your name  
on the Volunteer List in the porch.

**Gluten free hosts** are available for those who wish to  
receive Holy Communion. To arrange, please contact the  
parish office the week before.

**Please Remember - The Importance of Getting to Mass  
On Time** - *Please show your respect to the Lord and  
arrive at Mass on time.*

Although the Catholic Church has no real dress code  
for proper attire when attending Mass, there is an  
unwritten dress code that demands we are properly  
dressed out of Respect, Honor, and Reverence for the  
Real Presence of Our Lord. Our Parish would like to  
keep the **values and respect** of the Catholic Church.  
Please wear smart/casual clothes to Mass, especially if  
you are a Reader, Children's Liturgy or part of the  
Offertory.

## Appeals

\*Project Compassion– please return boxes & envelopes  
by Easter weekend.

\*Catholic Foundation - The Bishop's Good Shepherd  
Appeal 20th & 21st April. Envelopes will be provided.

## Prayers for our Community



### Deceased Mass Offerings -

All Souls, All Souls in Purgatory, Forgotten 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 &  
Leanne Sultana & Sultana family, Maria & Nicholas Gatt,  
Joseph Jack Sultana, Michael Agius, Joseph Sultana,  
Harriot Perera, Carmela Dúrso, Joesph, Maria & Sam  
Mercieca and Sultana Family, George Micallef, Doris  
Cloughessy, Jola Bezzina, Brian Smith, Vincenza,  
Emanuel Busuttill, Cresencia Cardoza, Reginald Wilfred  
Santos, James D'souza, Fortunata Baida, Johnny Faumui  
Ah Young, Patricia Talavou, Mary Calleja, Guieseppe  
Gnagnarella Family, Silvana Maiolo, Nunziato Orlando &  
Family, Domenico & Maria Procopia & Family, Natale &  
Assunta Orlando & Family, Antonino & Agata Magaza

### 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, Lily Said, Candice Basopoulous and those  
in our parish community.

**Weekly Giving Envelopes from April 2024 for our  
Riverstone Parish** are now in the porch for collection.  
Please find your number/name and take the new  
envelopes home. If you would like to have your own set of  
Giving Envelopes, please contact the Parish office.

**Easter | Autumn 2024 Catholic Outlook Magazine out  
now!** Please read it online via [catholicoutlook.org/magazine](http://catholicoutlook.org/magazine)

**Children's liturgy** is seeking empty Rectangle  
chocolate containers by Ferrero that can be reused to store  
saint cards for the children. Please drop off at the Parish  
Office. Thank you and God Bless.

### PROJECT COMPASSION

Thank you for supporting Project Compassion.

*Please return you Project Compassion boxes.*

You can donate through Project Compassion donation  
boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting  
[caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.



## Sacraments



### Sacrament of Baptism

The next Baptism Class: Tuesday 2 April 2024  
7pm in the Church Hall.

### Sacrament of Penance-Reconciliation 2024

Please register by 12th April. Please attend a mass and approach  
the priest to received your registration form.