

## 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:**

- 17 May                      16 August
- 21 June                     20 September
- 19 July                     18 October
- 15 November (Christmas Party)

## 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 April 2024

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana Family			A Jaszczyszyn S Nierves	M Sultana	J Enroles	Jenchriss & Co	Team Sat
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		C Wickman E Sultana	P Perera	None	Power Point	
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	D Catig		K Amanda N Tsui	S Yapa	L Fox	Nonoy & Tina Co	
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	J Padernia		J Sultana M Syme		L Fox N D'Souza	Raymond & Co	
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Missio		A Jaszczyszyn Volunteer	M Sultana	L Canlas	Paul Sultana	C Sultana
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> 7am	A Lomano	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		E Sultana C Wickman	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	D Catig		S Corben B Simon	C Samuel	L Fox	Jepoy & Co	
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	J Padernia		W Suri I Spram	L Bird	S Nobleza 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**

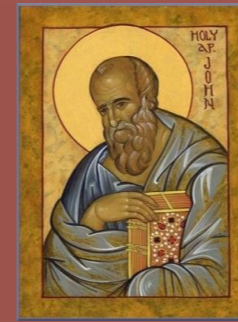
Sundays                      Tuesdays  
10am - 12pm                      10am - 11am

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 & 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

**14 April 2024**

**Third Sunday of Easter Year B**

*First Reading Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15. 17-19*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*You have killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.*

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Responsorial Psalm Ps 4:2. 4. 7. 9. R. v.7*

*Lord, let your face shine on us.*

When I call, answer me, O God of justice; from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

*Lord, let your face shine on us.*



It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves; the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

*Lord, let your face shine on us.*

‘What can bring us happiness?’ many say.  
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

*Lord, let your face shine on us.*

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once,  
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

*Lord, let your face shine on us.*

### **Second Reading 1 John 2:1-5**

A reading from the first letter of St John

*Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and those of the whole world.*

I am writing this, my children,  
to stop you sinning;  
but if anyone should sin,  
we have our advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ, who is just;  
he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away,  
and not only ours,  
but the whole world’s.  
We can be sure that we know God  
only by keeping his commandments.  
Anyone who says, ‘I know him’,  
and does not keep his commandments,  
is a liar,  
refusing to admit the truth.  
But when anyone does obey what he has said,  
God’s love comes to perfection in him.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

### **Gospel Acclamation Luke 24:32**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:  
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.  
Alleluia!

*The Lord be with you.*

*And with your Spirit.*

### **Gospel Luke 24:35-48**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*It was written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.*

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

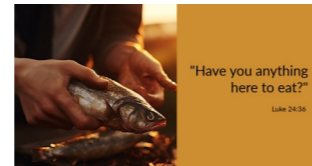
They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you!’ In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost.

. But he said, ‘Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.’ And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, ‘This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.’ He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.’

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*



### **PLEASE BE SAFE -**

our church building will undergo roof maintenance for approximately 1 week, beginning on Monday 15th April.  
Please do not park near the church building and be aware of your safety as you walk around the church grounds.  
Thank you— Fr Zakaria and the Parish Team.

## **Masses & Feasts**

Thurs 25 April 8:30am Anzac Day 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** - Arriving early provides opportunities for fellowship. Followers of Christ need one another. Some of the most motivating conversations you may ever have could take place in the fifteen or twenty minutes before the church meeting begins.

### **DIVINE MERCY GROUP**

"Would you like to share in Jesus’ urgent message of Divine Mercy with our troubled world? Then, come and join a new Divine Mercy group which is being established in our parish. If you are interested or would like to know more, please contact Shelly Ph: 0421610826

### **St John’s Parish, Riverstone 120 Year Celebration**

Save the Date Sunday 17 November after the 10:30am Mass. This will be a lunch at the Parish Centre and possibly activities on the grounds. We would like to form a committee for this event. Please contact the parish office as soon as possible so that we can start planning this event.

### **St John’s Parish & School Combined Christmas Carols**

Fri 6 Dec 6:30pm. Please put a reminder on your calendar. All parishioners are invited.

**11 May 2024—Riverstone Festival.** All parishioners are invited to march at 11am in the street parade with the Combined Churches.

**Mother’s Day Raffle** - our Parish will be selling Raffle tickets from next weekend. \$2 each or 3 for \$5. There will be 5 fabulous prizes! to be won! Please support our Parish. All profits will go directly to the Riverstone Parish.

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

**Tea & Coffee After Mass** - Everyone is welcome, after 9am and 10:30am Masses on Sunday mornings, at the Parish Centre side of the verandah.

## **Appeals**

Next Weekend \*Catholic Foundation -  
The Bishop’s Good Shepherd Appeal 20th & 21st April.

**Help our future priests cast their nets wide to nurture faith and hope, near and far.**

Envelopes will be provided.

Please give generously to this appeal as our Parish will have a quota of approx. \$3,500 to meet. Thank you.

Thank you to the wonderful parishioners who donated towards the Holy Land Commissariat Good Friday Appeal. Our parish donated \$1,789.85 towards the Holy Land. Thank you!

## **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, James D’souza, Fortunata Baida, Guieseppe Gnagnarella Family, Silvana Maiolo, Nunziato Orlando & Family, Domenico & Maria Procopia & Family, Natale & Assunta Orlando & Family, Antonino & Agata Magaza, Dorothy Hart, Tomas Ferino Sr, Romeo, Masangkay & Guillermo Ramirez, Sundari Pokish, Hank Van Zuilekom, Fortunata Baida, Doris Cloughessy, Brian Smith, Vincenza and Kevin O’Boyle

### **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, Enrique Torroba, Anna Hoare and those in our parish community.

**Pentecost 2024** 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.

**This is the final call for volunteers for this event.**

**We really need more volunteers for this event to go ahead.**

**Parishioners, please place your name on the Volunteer List in the porch if you would like to be involved.**

**The Next Pentecost Meeting:**

**Saturday 20th April at 10:30am in the church hall.**

**We ask all volunteers to attend this meeting.**

## **Sacraments**



**Sacrament of Baptism—Baptism Classes**  
7pm in the Church Hall.

The next meeting: Tuesday 7 May



**Sacrament of Penance-Reconciliation 2024**

Parent Information Meeting Tuesday 14th May 7pm

Enrolment Mass Sunday 19th May 9am