

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.

NEXT GATHERING: 6pm Friday 17th May

6pm in the Church Hall on the following Friday nights:

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

Indoor Soccer

The next Indoor Soccer Gala Day—Date to be advised.

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 27 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Padernia		A Jaszczyszyn S Nieves	M Sultana	S Suri	Paul Sultana	
Sun 28 th 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni		C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 28 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma D Catig		E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	J Bugeja S Yapa	Rondalla Choir	
Sun 28 th 10:30am	M Satorre	H Greedy	J Padernia		N D'Souza R D'Souza	D Gorkic	A Delara V Sultana	Raymond & Co	
Sat 4 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana	A Jaszczyszyn	M Sultana	M Galati	Jenchris & Co	Team Sat
Sun 5 th 7am	A Lomano	R Bigeni	R Bigeni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	C Wickman E Sultana	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 5 th 9am	Sullivan Family	R Brown	D Catig	J Sullivan P Sullivan	V Sultana L Fernandez	G Fernandez	J Sullivan S Brown	San Pedro Calungsod	
Sun 5 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy		H Greedy	I Spram		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

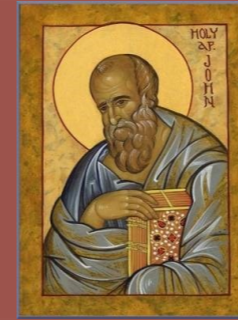
<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>
10am - 12pm	10am - 11am

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.

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

28 April 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter Year B

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever!

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him. They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.'

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Second Reading 1 John 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive,

because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

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 John 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit. Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more.

You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Congratulations

All parishioners are invited to celebrate Fr Zakaria's 36 Years of Ordination Thanksgiving Mass on Monday 29th April at 8:30am

Reminder: Pentecost Sunday 19th May. The time of the 10:30am Mass has changed. The 10:30am Mass will commence at 11am. This is for this date & Mass time only.

Masses & Feasts

Mon 29 April 8:30am Mass Fr Zakaria Celebration
36 Years of Ordination

St Catherine of Siena

Thurs 2 May St Athanasius

Fri 3 May Sts Philip and James

Fri 3 May First Friday Mass 7:30pm

Sat 4 May Anointing 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 Support our Parish.

As we are starting the Parish renovations, we would appreciate your financial support. Please place your donation in an envelope "Parish Donation" and give the envelope to the priest or place in any of the collection plates. We really appreciate your generosity.

All parishioners are invited to attend the **First Friday Mass** on Friday 3rd May at 7:30pm and the **Anointing Mass** on Saturday 4th May at 8:30am.

Please mark your calendar!

Pentecost 2024 on the 19th May with a display of national flags around the altar, during the **11am Mass**. There will be a food celebration afterwards at the Parish Centre. Parishioners, please place your name on the Volunteer List in the porch if you would like to be involved or would like to bring food.

Mother's Day Raffle - our Parish is selling Raffle tickets for Mother's Day. Tickets are \$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.

11 May 2024—Riverstone Festival. This is an annual community event for our town. All parishioners are invited to march at 11am in the street parade with the Combined Churches. We encourage families with their children to march.

St John's Parish, Riverstone 120 Year Celebration Save the Date Sunday 17 November after the 10:30am Mass. There 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. Please place your name on the list in the porch.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP 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

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

The Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal

Your compassionate generosity and prayers will help our future priests cast their nets wide to nurture faith and meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of our community. Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code. Thank you for your generosity. If you were unable to donate last weekend, please place your envelope in any of the collection plates. Our Parish will have to meet a quota of approx. \$3,500. 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, Kevin O'Boyle, Valerie Hayes, Victor & Margerita Muscat and Anthony Xuereb, Paolo De Fresco & family, Mary, Steve & Rick Polgar, Joe, Charles & Theresa Camilleri, Eucharist & Carmela Bajada, Mario Ferino & Dulce Masangkay

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, Patrick Gauci and those in our parish community.

IMPORTANT: Please respect the EUCHARIST

Please receive the Eucharist on the tongue. If you still wish to take it in your hand, stay and consume it in front of the priest or Eucharistic Minister. If you are a non-Catholic or a young child, you may receive a blessing instead. Place your arms across your chest. Parents or carers, please instruct or demonstrate to the younger children.

Also, when you are leaving Mass, please have a look around the area you have been seated at and take any rubbish to the bins located in the carpark. You may also need to wipe the pews or floors if there are any food or drink spills. Thank you for keeping our church clean and tidy.

St John's Parish & School Combined Christmas Carols

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

Sacraments

Baptism Classes

The next Baptism Class: Tuesday 7th May 7pm in the Church Hall.



Sacrament of Penance-Reconciliation 2024

Parent Information Meeting
Tuesday 14th May 7pm

Enrolment Mass: Saturday 18 May 6pm Vigil Mass and Sunday 19 May 9am Mass