

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 May 2024

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 11 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana Family			A Jaszczyszyn S Nierves	M Sultana	J Enroles	Paul Sultana	
Sun 12 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		C Wickman E Sultana	P Perera	None	Power Point	
Sun 12 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	D Catig		K Amanda N Tsui	S Yapa	L Fox A Thomas	Nonoy & Tina Co	
Sun 12 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy			J Sultana M Syme		L Fox V Sultana	Raymond & Co	Team Wed
Sat 18 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Missio		A Jaszczyszyn Volunteer	M Sultana	L Canlas	Paul Sultana	C Sultana
Sun 19 th 7am	A Lomano	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		E Sultana C Wickman	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 19 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	D Catig		S Corben B Simon	C Samuel	S Yappa S Brown	Jepoy & Co	
Sun 19 th 11am		H Greedy						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

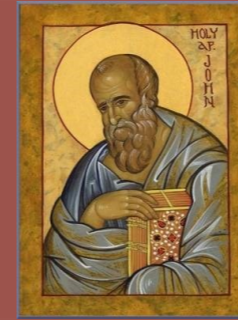
<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>
10am - 12pm	10am - 11am

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 5:00pm - 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

12 May 2024

Ascension of the Lord Year B

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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, Sundari Pokish, Kevin O'Boyle, Valerie Hayes, Victor & Margerita Muscat, Anthony Xuereb, Paolo De Fresco & family, Mary, Steve & Rick Polgar, Joe, Charles & Theresa Camilleri, Robert Stanley, Vincent Monteiro, Charlie & Victoria Bugeja, Charlie & Jane Refala, Mary Bigeni,, Coronato Sultana,, Vincent Monteiro and Jasmin Fernando.

For those who are sick:

Especialy Adrian Bugeja, Carlos T Quinteros, Francis Saliba, John Padernia, Maria Pisto, Tony & Freda Attard, Margaret Galea, Belinda Grgic, Jeff Meilak, Lily Said, Candice Basopoulous, Patrick Gauci, Anna Hoare, Rosie Vella, Shyla Cavallaro, Harriot Perera, John Sultana, Pauline Vincenza D'Anastasi and those in our parish community.

Information - Pentecost Celebration

Practice: Flag Procession

Arrive 9.45 Saturday 18th May. For 10am start .

**Pentecost Sunday 2024, 19th May
Time: 11am Mass.**

All parishioners are invited to attend our Pentecost Sunday Celebration.

Please take the yellow information sheet home with you. You will find it inside the bulletin. Please read the information so that you are aware of the mornings proceedings. We are looking forward to a wonderful celebration.

Please note that there will be No Access to the playground or Parish Centre on Pentecost Sunday. There will be No Tea and Coffee served after Mass on this day.

If you have any questions on the day, please ask one of the Pentecost Celebration Team members. Thank you.

Sacraments

Baptism Classes The next Baptism Class: Tuesday 4 June 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

Parish Notices

Saturday Reconciliation Time Change: Please be aware that the time for Reconciliation has changed to **5:00pm—5:30pm for the remainder of the month of May until 22 June.**

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. **Thank you to our wonderful parishioners who have already kindly donated.**

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.

SRE Meeting—Could all SRE's please attend a meeting on Tuesday 14th May at 9:30am in the church hall.

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 activities on the grounds. Please place your name on the list in the porch.

Thank you to the generous family who donated the **vacuum cleaner.** May God Bless you.

St John's Parish & School Combined Christmas Carols


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

St John's Primary School, Riverstone are now taking enrolments for *Kindergarten 2025*. Please contact the school office to secure your child's place Ph 98543200

Volunteers - if you are new to our church, and would like to volunteer in our Parish, please contact the Parish office to discuss.

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

Appeals

 Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation, and our Holy Spirit Seminarians thank you for your generous support in the formation of our future priests. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.

Good Friday Holy Land Appeal—Total Donated by the Riverstone Parish was \$2,069.85. Thank you!

These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



Thank you to our lovely catholic community priests and deacons who have helped our Parish during the past week. Thank you and God Bless Fr Gayan, Fr Andrew and Deacon Michael.

Fr Zakaria has contacted the Parish Office and thanks God that he had a good trip and has arrived home safely. Fr Zakaria would like to pass on his regards to his good parishioners for their prayers. He would like to pass on his regards to all mothers on Mother's Day and said - "may God bless them all and I will keep praying for them, that God will give them all Good Health and peace of mind and without them we wouldn't be here."

Fr Zakaria will return to service on the 25th June.



Fr Zakaria and Fr Andrew and the Parish Team wish all Mothers in our Parish and our Parish Community a very Happy Mother's Day.

May all Mother's be supported and encouraged in their special vocation of love for others.

Masses & Feasts

Tues 14 May St Matthias

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.

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.



Responsorial Psalm Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. v.6

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth.

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne.

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading Ephesians 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel Mark 16:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned.