

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 4 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana	A Jaszczyszyn	M Sultana	M Galati	Jenchriss & 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	
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

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

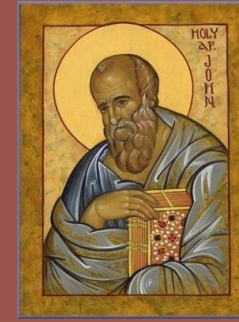
<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>
10am - 12pm	10am - 11am

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

5 May 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter Year B

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said, 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation.

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel.

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy.

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Second Reading *1 John 4:7-10*

A reading from the first letter of St John

God is love.

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *John 14:23*

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel *John 15:9-17*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you, I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



Our Parish Priest, Fr Zakaria will be taking some annual leave as of next week and will return to work on the 23rd June. May God bless Fr Zakaria with every heavenly blessing and give him a safe journey. The Parish community prays that Fr Zakaria enjoys his travels and has a relaxing time.

We will have a number of priests that will help during this time. We would like to thank Fr Andrew and Fr John for celebrating Masses with us during this time.

We would also like to welcome and thank all priests who will help our Parish during this time. We are truly blessed to have a supporting catholic community.

Deacon Dr Michael Tan will be officiating Baptisms in May and we would like to thank him.

REMINDER:

St John's Parish & School Combined Christmas Carols

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

Masses & Feasts

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.



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. **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.

11th 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.

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.

Our Parish is in need of an extra good quality **vacuum cleaner** so that our Volunteer Church Cleaners can clean our church. If you are able to help, please contact the Parish office.

Thank you to the lovely group of ladies who cleaned the classrooms. We appreciate your hard work and are blessed to have you in our community. These ladies are also part of the group who clean the Church regularly. May God bless them all.

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.

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

Thank You for Supporting our Holy Spirit Seminarians. 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. If you were unable to donate for the last two weekends, you may still 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, Sundari Pokish, Kevin O'Boyle, Valerie Hayes, Victor & Margerita Muscat, Anthony Xuereb, Paolo De Fresco & family, Mary, Steve & Rick Polgar, Joe, Charles & Theresa Camilleri, Mario Ferino & Dulce Masangkay, Robert Stanley, Vincent Monteiro, Charlie & Victoria Bugeja, Charlie & Jane Refalo.

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, Patrick Gauci, Anna Hoare 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 from the priest 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, 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. 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.

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