

## Youth Group



### 2024 St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group

The Youth Group took place on Friday night. The children had a fun night. Thank you to the St Johns' coordinators, the YFC and all of the parent helpers on the night.

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

20 September

18 October

15 November (Christmas Party)

## 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 August 2024

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	M Satorre	Sultana family	J Missio		A Jaszczyszyn S Nieves	M Sultana	None	Jenchriss & Co	
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana			C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	None	Rondalla Choir	
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> 11am	Volunteer	H Greedy	D Catig		N D'Souza R D'Souza	D Gorkic	None	Raymond & Co	Team Sat
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	M Satorre	Sultana family	J Missio		A Jaszczyszyn S Nieves	M Sultana	None	Jenchriss & Co	
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana			C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	None	Rondalla Choir	
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> 11am	Volunteer	H Greedy	D Catig		N D'Souza R D'Souza	D Gorkic	None	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**

Sundays

10am - 12pm

Tuesdays

10am - 11am

Unfortunately, piety items are not available for purchase from the parish office.

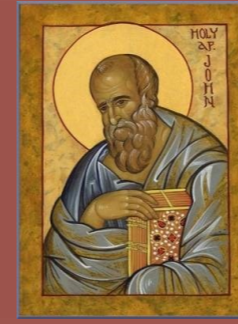
## Friday Prayer Group

**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



## 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

**25 August 2024**

*21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

*First Reading Joshua 24:1-2. 15-18*

A reading from the book of Joshua

*We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Responsorial Psalm Ps 33:2-3. 16-23. R. v.9*

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
 his praise always on my lips;  
 in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
 The humble shall hear and be glad.

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*



The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal.

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him. He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken.

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

*Second Reading Ephesians 5:21-32*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.*

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Gospel Acclamation See John 6:63. 68*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:  
you have the words of everlasting life.  
Alleluia!

*Gospel John 6:60-69*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.*

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, ‘This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?’ Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, ‘Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?’

‘It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer.

The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

‘But there are some of you who do not believe.’ For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, ‘This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.’ After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, ‘What about you, do you want to go away too?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.’

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

**St John’s Parish, Riverstone 120 Year Celebration -**  
Sunday 17 November after the 10:30am Mass.

To celebrate this milestone a large Cross will be ordered, covered with gold plaques engraved with your name or family name. The cross will remain on the altar during the year and used on Good Friday. We ask for a donation of between \$300 and \$500 per plaque. Please fill out a form that can be found in the porch and place it in an envelope with your donation. The order of plaques positioned on the cross will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. Please give your envelope to Fr Zak or the Parish office.

## Masses & Feasts

Tues	27 Aug	St Monica
Wed	28 Aug	St Augustine
Thurs	29 Aug	The Passion of St John the Baptist
Fri	6 Sept	7:30pm First Friday Mass
Sat	7 Sept	8:30am Anointing 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** - If we can be on time for jobs and other commitments, why can't we be on time for Mass? It is important to arrive on time for Mass to experience and share the whole Mass.

**Mass Time Change** - Due to the Sacrament of First Eucharist the 10:30am Mass will now begin at: **11am on Sunday 25th August.**

**Please respect the Blessed 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. Please place your arms across your chest to receive a blessing.

Could all volunteer **Mass Coordinators** please attend a meeting on Wednesday 28 August at 5pm. Please RSVP to the Parish Office by Monday 26 August. Thank you.

**Volunteer Help Needed:**

\* **Children’s Liturgy presenters.**

\* **Acolytes**

\* **1-2 Representatives for Western Deanery Meetings**

\* **RCIA helper**

Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

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

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

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

There will be **Tea and Coffee** after the 9am & 10:30am Sunday Masses in the Church Hall.

## Parish Centre

[Your continued support of our Parish Centre is appreciated.](#) Parish renovations continue and we thank our wonderful parishioners who have already kindly donated.

**We have received over \$27,000. We are blessed to have such generous parishioners in our Parish.**

*We would also like to thank the late John Cannata for his generous contribution towards our parish centre/ renovations.*

For Your Safety - Please do not enter the Parish Centre due to works. Thank you.

## Appeals

**Bishop’s Father’s Day Appeal** -

**Saturday 31 August and Sunday 1 September 2024**

Envelopes will be provided. Please give generously, as our Parish will need to meet a quota.

**Catholic Mission Appeal** - was held on 10th & 11th August 2024 .Thank you for your kind donations.

## Prayers for our Community

**✠ Deceased Mass Offerings -**

All Souls, All Souls in Purgatory (2), 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, Joseph Sultana, Chris, John, Maryann Sultana & Sultana family, John, Michael, Angelo Clementina & Leanne Sultana & Sultana family, Maria & Nicholas Gatt, Joseph Jack Sultana, Michael Agius, Xerri Family and Azzopardi Family, Carmelo, Carmen & Michael Vella, Harriot Perera, Aurea Reyes, Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning, Louis & Joseph Sant, Andrew Tee Swe Tay, Nelly Koh, Flora and Mario Ferino, Erma Santiago, Joseph Magro, Stefano Music, Leoncia Baeares Llosa, Milo Meliton, Maria Procopio, Vincent Monteiro, Armie Osual, Joe Galea, Mary Calleja, Nunziato Orland & Domenico Procopio, Jane Farrugia, Patrick Vella

**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, Anna Hoare, Myrna Manalili, Chadia, Lucia Musico and those in our parish community.

**Social Justice Sunday 25 August** - The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has formally launched its 2024-2025 **Social Justice Statement**, ‘Truth & Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World’. In the statement, Australia’s Bishops scrutinise the signs of our own troubled times, observe the violence around us, and ask why it is so. Download your copy of the Statement and a range of resources by visiting <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>

All parishioners are invited to the next **Parish Council Meeting** on Wednesday 4th September 2024 at 7:30pm in the Church Hall.

## Sacraments

**The Sacrament of First Eucharist** - we would like to thank Fr Zakaria and Fr Andrew for celebrating Mass.

Thank you to the Sacramental Team for preparing the children for this sacrament.

Thank you to the parents of the candidates for attending classes and supporting their children on their journey towards First Eucharist.

Thank you to the helpers in church and the choirs for each Mass celebration.

**Celebration: Sacrament of Eucharist- First Holy Communion**

Saturday 24th August at 6:00pm

Sunday 25th August at 9:00am and 11:00am

**Baptism Classes**

The next Baptism Class:

Tuesday 3rd September 7pm in the Church Hall.