

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:

|              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 16 August    | 18 October                    |
| 20 September | 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 July 2024

| Date                         | Welcomers       | Mass Co-ordinators | Acolytes | Special Ministers        | Readers                    | Prayer of the Faithful | Children’s Liturgy    | Choir/Power Point   | Cleaners |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> 6pm      | Volunteer       | Sultana family     | J Missio | M Sultana                | A Jaszczyszyn              | M Sultana              | M Galati              | Jenchriss & Co      | Team Sat |
| Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> 7am      | A Lomano        | R Bigeni           | R Bigeni | V Bonnici<br>F Bonnici   | C Wickman<br>E Sultana     | P Perera               | None                  | Power point         |          |
| Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> 9am      | Sullivan Family | R Brown            | D Catig  | J Sullivan<br>P Sullivan | V Sultana<br>L Fernandez   | G Fernandez            | J Sullivan<br>S Brown | San Pedro Calungsod |          |
| Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am  | Volunteer       | H Greedy           |          | H Greedy                 | I Spram<br>J Savio         |                        | S Corben<br>J Bugeja  | Power point         |          |
| Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> 6pm     | Volunteer       | Sultana Family     |          |                          | A Jaszczyszyn<br>S Nierves | M Sultana              | J Eroles              | Paul Sultana        |          |
| Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> 7am     | Volunteer       | R Bigeni           | R Bigeni |                          | C Wickman<br>E Sultana     | P Perera               | None                  | Power Point         |          |
| Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> 9am     | Volunteer       | R Brown            | J Teuma  |                          | K Amanda<br>N Tsui         | S Yapa                 | S Yappa<br>S Brown    | Nonoy & Tina Co     |          |
| Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am | Volunteer       | H Greedy           | D Catig  |                          | J Sultana<br>M Syme        |                        | L Fox                 | 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.

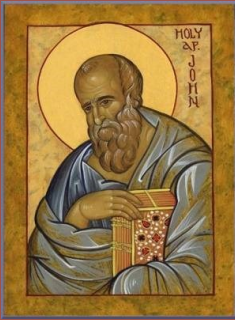
Piety Store

Piety Store - Opening Hours  
Sundays 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



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: stjohns10@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

4 August 2024  
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B  
First Reading Exodus 16:2-4. 12-15  
A reading from the book of Exodus  
I will rain bread from heaven upon you.  
The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, ‘Why did we not die at the Lord’s hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!’

Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day’s portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.’

‘I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, “Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.”’ And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, ‘What is that?’ not knowing what it was. ‘That’ said Moses to them ‘is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.’

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 77:3-4. 23-25. 54. R. v.24

The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

The things we have heard and understood, the things our fathers have told us, we will tell to the next generation: the glories of the Lord and his might.

*The Lord gave them bread from heaven.*

He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven.

*The Lord gave them bread from heaven.*

Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won.

*The Lord gave them bread from heaven.*

*Second Reading Ephesians 4:17, 20-24*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.*  
I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:4*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

*The Lord be with you.*

*And with your Spirit.*

*Gospel John 6:24-35*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.*  
When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat. Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

**IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE**  
At all times, there is **NO Right hand turn when you exit through the gate onto Garfield Road.** There is also **NO Right hand turn from Garfield Road coming into the church grounds.**

Thank you for your cooperation to keep our Parish Community safe.

**The August Volunteer Roster** is now available in the porch

Thank you and God Bless **The Sisters of St Elisabeth Convent** for holding a stall at our Parish on Friday.

## Masses & Feasts

|       |        |                                           |                 |
|-------|--------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Tues  | 6 Aug  | The Transfiguration of the Lord           | 8:30am          |
| Thurs | 8 Aug  | St Mary of the Cross                      | 8:30am          |
| Sat   | 10 Aug | St Lawrence                               |                 |
| Thurs | 15 Aug | The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary | 8:30am & 7:30pm |

## 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 -** *Worshipping Jesus together at church is powerful.* Please arrive to Mass on time.

Thank you to **Woolworths Schofields** for their donation of a \$100 gift card to help with the costs of running the St John's Eagles Indoor Soccer Gala Day. We appreciate and thank you for your support of our community.

**Volunteer Help Needed:**  
**\*Children's Liturgy presenters.** Sundays 10:30am 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the month and Saturdays 6pm 4<sup>th</sup> week of the month. Contact Lucia Fox Ph 0400347653. For the safety of the children, you must have WWCC number and complete a short Diocese of Parramatta Safeguarding Training.  
**\*Acolyte Needed :** Sunday 10:30am masses for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month.  
**\*Western Deanery Meetings** 1 or 2 parishioners to attend 4/5 meetings per year to represent our Parish. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Could the family who borrowed the pyx (small round container to carry the host) last week, please return it to the Parish Office or to Fr Zakaria. Thank 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.

**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

**Catholic Mission Appeal - next weekend 10th & 11th August 2024**—Envelopes will be provided

*We invite you to partner with the Church in Mongolia as they look to be the hands and feet of Jesus by providing a range of support services to people impacted by domestic abuse and homelessness.*

## 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, 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, Frank Baiada, Harriot Perera, Aurea Reyes, Patricia Gallen-Kelly, Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning, Louis & Joseph Sant, Andrew Tee Swe Tay, Nelly Koh, Flora and Mario Ferino, Erma Santiago

**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, Chadia and those in our parish community.

**St John's Parish, Riverstone 120 Year Celebration -** 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.

All parishioners are invited attend the following Solemnity Masses:

St Mary of the Cross  
Thursday 8th August at 8:30am  
The Assumption pf the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Thursday 15th August 8:30am and 7:30pm

## Diocese of Parramatta

**Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning,** the second Bishop of Parramatta, will be interred on Monday 5 August in Coolah, NSW. We continue to pray for the repose of his soul and give thanks to God for his earthly life. To register your attendance, please visit [parracatholic.org/bishopmanning](http://parracatholic.org/bishopmanning).

The Diocese of Parramatta is excited to announce that the launch and release of the **Diocesan Pastoral Plan** for a **Synodal Church** on Saturday 10 August. The pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synod journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese over the past 15 months. For more information, visit [parracatholic.org/synodality](http://parracatholic.org/synodality).

## Sacraments

**The Sacrament of First Eucharist -**  
Lesson 2 Parent & Child Tuesday 6th Aug 7pm

**Baptism Classes**  
The next Baptism Class:  
Tuesday 6th Aug 7pm in the Church Hall.