

Youth Group



2024 St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group

The final gathering for 2024 was held on Friday night. The children had a great time. We would like to thank the following groups for their continued support of Youth Group during the Christmas party and throughout the year:

Youth Group Coordinators Jazen & Emmark Eroles, Youth For Christ and the parent helpers. God Bless. Dates for 2025 will be advertised early next year

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. Thank you.

Jubilee 2025

Jubilee 2025—Pope Francis The Holy Father has decided that 2025 will be a year of *Jubilee*, something which happens every 25 years. The theme is *"Pilgrims of Hope"*. Please view the following website for more information: <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

Church Roster November 2024

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 16 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Missio		A Jaszczyszyn Volunteer	M Sultana	L Canlas	Paul Sultana	Team Wed
Sun 17 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		E Sultana C Wickman	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 17 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		S Corben B Simon	S Yappa	V Sultana S Brown	Jenchriss & Co	
Sun 17 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	D Catig		W Suri I Spram	L Bird	None	Jenchriss & Co	
Sat 23 rd 6pm	M Satorre	Sultana family	J Missio		A Jaszczyszyn S Nieves	M Sultana	R Edwards	Paul Sultana	Team Wed
Sun 24 th 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni		C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 24 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	L Fox A Delara	Rondalla Choir	
Sun 24 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	D Catig		N D'Souza R D'Souza	D Gorkic	S Corben J Bugeja	Raymond & 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

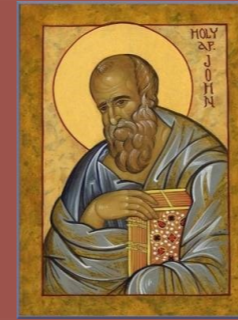
Sundays 10am - 12pm Tuesdays 10am - 11am

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: A Hoare, J Shipley & 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
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

17 November 2024

Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

First Reading Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the prophet Daniel

When that time comes your own people will be spared.

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 15:5. 8-11. R.v.1

Keep me safe, O God: you are my hope.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

Keep me safe, O God: you are my hope.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead
nor let your beloved know decay.

Keep me safe, O God: you are my hope.

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness forever.

Keep me safe, O God: you are my hope.

Second Reading Hebrews 10:11-14, 18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified.

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful, and pray constantly,
that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.
Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel Mark 13:24-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He shall gather his elect from the four winds.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

St John's Parish, Riverstone 120 Year Anniversary Sunday, 17th November 2024

Today we welcome the Most Rev Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM, the Bishop of the Diocese of Parramatta, who will be our principal celebrant at our 10:30am Mass, which will be followed by a sausage sizzle and activities at our Parish Centre.

120 Year Anniversary Sausage Sizzle You are invited to attend the lunch today at the celebration. We ask you to donate \$5 per person (adult and child are the same price) **Cash Sales Only on the day please.** You will receive a sausage on a roll with a bottle of water and additional flavourings of onion and sauces. We thank you in advance for your donation towards our fundraising.

120 YEAR CELEBRATION PLAQUES There is still some space for more plaques. If you would like to order a plaque, please fill out the form. The new orders will then be added to the cross after the celebration.

Fr Zakaria and the Riverstone Parish would like to thank our special guests for attending our wonderful celebration:

Most Rev Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM -Bishop of the Diocese of Parramatta, Michelle Rowland- Labor Minister for Communications, Warren Kirby-State Minister for the seat of Riverstone, Fr Andrew Robinson, Fr Arthur Cook, Deacon Michael Tan, Poor Clare Sisters-Sister Joanne, Jane Misk-Principal St John's Primary Riverstone, Rosemary Phillis-Secretary of the Riverstone & District Historical Society, Ron Mason-Member of the Historical Society, Alphonsus Fok- Photographer and Isabell Petrinic- Journalist.

Thank you to all of our helpers for our 120 Year Celebration :

*Paul & Kathleen Gatt for making the cross

*Preparations from the 120 Year Celebration Committee

*All volunteers - gardeners, church & grounds cleaners, office helpers, money contributors, food suppliers, all those behind the scenes and all those on the Volunteer Roster.

*All Volunteer helpers on this day

Thank you and may God Bless you all.

Masses & Feasts

Thurs 21 Nov The Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary

Tues 22 Nov St Cecilia

No Frist Friday Mass December (due to Carols)

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

St John Christmas Raffle Tickets - are now on sale. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Great Prizes. All proceeds will go directly to the Riverstone Parish.

Guessing Competition The winner of the guessing competition will be announced in the bulletin next week.

Volunteer Help Needed:

* Acolytes

* Gardeners for the Parish Centre

The Light Advent & Christmas Daily Booklets 2024 - 1x copy are available to purchase from the office for \$8 per copy.



The **Youth Group Christmas Party** was held on Friday night. Thank you to the Eroles Family for coordinating the gathering.

Thank you to the YFC and the parent helpers who helped make the night successful.

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 Mass. Don't forget to visit our new fountain garden on the Verandah of the Parish Centre.

St John's Parish Christmas Party: All parishioners and volunteers at our Riverstone Parish are invited on: Wednesday 11th December 2024 at 6pm
Location: Parish Centre.
Please bring a plate of food/drinks to share with all on the night. Could we also have some volunteers to help organise, set up and pack up on this night. Please RSVP your attendance to the parish office by Tues 3 December.

 *Please respect that there are **NO PHOTOS OR VIDEOS TO BE TAKEN DURING MASS*** 
(permission must be granted by the priest)

Parish Centre


The Parish would like to give our Parish Centre a name. One befitting our Parish History and also a tribute to the nuns who taught and resided here for many years. Suggestions you may have would be greatly appreciated. **ALSO** The Parish proposes to install a new gate leading from the car park to the Parish Centre. All parishioners are invited to submit their suggestions, with a diagram, of what would be a fitting welcome to the Centre. Responses to both these invites may be left in the **Suggestion Box** in the foyer of the church or left in the Parish Office. We would love to hear your thoughts with respect to both of these proposals.

Appeals

Next Appeal - **Bishop's Christmas Appeal**
30 November and 1 December 2024
Envelopes will be provided

Your kind Christmas gift will help Catholic Care continue to provide services and opportunities to support mothers and children to be safe, comforted, and protected.

Prayers for our Community

 **November Mass Offerings** - All masses during the month of November will be offered for those listed on the November envelopes. The List can be found during the month of November on the lectern at the front of the Church. **Envelopes are still available in the porch.** *The November List will be updated once a week during the month of November.*

Please, CLEARLY write the names on the envelope, enclose your donation and then place the envelope in either of the collection plates during any Mass.

Please be advised that there will be no intentions announced during any masses in November and no names will appear on the tv screen. A private Memorial Mass may be booked for a Mass intention during the month of November.

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, Joe Sant and those in our parish community.

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.

St John's Parish & School Combined Christmas Carols Friday 6th December at 6:30pm. All parishioners are invited to attend this event. Please place a reminder on your calendar.

Please arrive at 6pm for a 6:30pm start.

This is a special event as the parishioners and the school come together, as one, to celebrate Christmas.

Lewis has spent time at our Parish re-lacquering the church pews. The pews look lovely and he has done an amazing job. Our Parish would like to thank Lewis and may God Bless him.

Sacraments

The Sacrament of Confirmation -

Lesson 4 & Church Practice: Tuesday 19th November at 7pm in the Galilee Room.

Celebration Sacrament Of Confirmation :
Friday 22nd November 7pm

Baptism Classes

The next Baptism Class:
Tuesday 3rd December at 7pm in the Church Hall.