

Youth Group



St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group

All school –aged children are welcome to attend.
Friday 11th April 2025 - 6pm in the Parish Hall
 Please bring your friends along for a fun night!

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 "Teach Us to Pray" Resource Now Available

The "Teach Us to Pray" pastoral resource is now available online, and can be downloaded on the website in digital format in several languages, free of charge. Please visit the official website to view all of the resources.

<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/verso-il-giubileo/2024-anno-della-preghiera.htm>

Volunteer Roster March/April 2025

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 29 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana Family	J Missio		I Sprem		R Edwards	Paul Sultana	Team Wed
Sun 30 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		C Wickman	P Perera	None	Powerpoint	
Sun 30 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		S Corben B Simon	K Amanda	L Fox	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 30 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	D Catig		D Gorkic S Suri		S Corben J Bugeja	Raymond & Co	
Sat 5 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana		M Sultana	L Canlas	Paul Sultana	Team Wed
Sun 6 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	C Wickman A Perera	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 6 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	D Catig	J Sullivan P Sullivan	V Sultana L Fernandez	G Fernandez	S Yabba S Brown	San Pedro Calungsod	
Sun 6 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy/ S Nobleza	D Catig	J Sultana S Nobleza	I Sprem L Macatangay	S Suri	J Bugeja V Sultana	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 & 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.

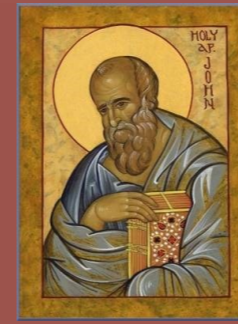
Friday Prayer Group

Christ Catholic Community (CCC) Prayer Group

Fridays 10am

Please contact Mary Camilleri Ph 0403116987 if you would like any further information.

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: Mon –Fri

Hours: 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

Monday *Communion Service* 8:30am

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

30th March 2025

Fourth Sunday of Lent Year C

First Reading Joshua 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 33:2-7. 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.

Glorify the Lord with me.
 Together let us praise his name.
 I sought the Lord and he answered me;
 from all my terrors he set me free.
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress.

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading *2 Corinthians 5:17-21*

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Luke 15:18*

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel *Luke 15:1-3, 11-32*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

"The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

You are invited to our:

Parish Family Day Retreat on 25th May
after the 10:30am Mass. More information will be available soon. Please see flyer in the noticeboard for more information.

Masses & Feasts

Palm Sunday Mass Times - Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 7am, 9am & 11am

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays after 8.30am Mass and
Fridays 7pm followed by Mass during Lent.

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 THE EVANGELIST , RIVERSTONE
PARISH LENTEN GROUP Mondays 7.30pm in Parish Hall.
Next group meeting 31st March.

Easter Liturgy Meeting – Saturday 5th April 2025 at 10:30am in the hall. All those involved in the Easter Liturgy, including choirs are invited to attend to finalise our Easter Liturgy Schedule.

The next **Parish Council Meeting** is on Wednesday 2nd April at 7:30pm. All parishioners are welcome.

Thank you to the generous parishioners who have supported our Parish for the past year, using the **Weekly Envelopes**. The new boxes of Envelopes are in the foyer of the Church, awaiting your collection. If you are interested in giving to our Parish, using envelopes, please contact the Parish Office.

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.

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

Pentecost Sunday— 8th June 2025

The next meeting is Saturday 12 April at 10am

Pentecost Procession Of Flags Our Parish owns a small number of flags, including: [India](#), [Lebanon](#), [Nigeria](#), [Netherlands](#), [England](#), [Malaysia](#), [Singapore](#).

Are you willing to donate a flag of your country that you own or will purchase for \$25, for the parish's perpetual use? If so, it must be this size (Length 150cm x Width 90cm) and in new condition and of polyester fabric.

Teenagers Flag Bearers Are you a student in High school or university? Would you like to be a flag bearer? You are required to attend one session where you will be given all the instructions. You will need to be available the weekend of Pentecost Saturday 7th June at 10am. Please note that this is a long weekend. We would love for you to participate! Please fill out the form on the clipboard in the church foyer.

Appeals

Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2025

Money boxes and envelopes are available in the Church Foyer. Please return anytime during Lent or before the 30 April.

The Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal - 29 & 30 March

Let us be *Pilgrims of Hope* to those who may break in the face of suffering. Envelopes will be provided. A third collection will take place during all Masses this weekend.

QR Code for this Appeal:



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, Joseph Sultana, Chris, John, Maryann Sultana & Sultana family, John, Michael, Angelo, Clementina & Leanne Sultana & Sultana family, Maria & Nicholas Gatt, Joseph Jack Sultana, Michael Agius, John Jim Galea, Joseph Sant, Angelo Attard & Victor Gatt, Nunziato Orlando & Family, Domenico Procopio & Family, Branko Mlinac, Benjamin Comilang, Vince Simmonetta & Family, Joseph & Rose Grima, James D'souza, Fortunata Baiada, Bernarda Sammut, Harriot Perera, Thomas KS, Tomas Sr, Flora & Mario Ferino and George Micallef.

For those who are sick:

Especialy Pope Francis, 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, Daisy Pangilinan, Maximina Raymundo, Paul Gulla and those in our parish community.

Divine Mercy - Our Parish will be celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday on 27th April 2025. Flyers with the program of activities for this celebration will be distributed after Mass this weekend.

Deanery Meetings—commitment of 1x meeting per quarter of the year. Usually Tuesdays nights. Require a person/couple to attend to represent the Rivestone Parish. Location of meetings TBA.

Reminder - Daylight Saving - next weekend .

Please turn your clocks backward 1 hour on Sunday 6 April 2024 at 2am AEST.

Sacraments

2025 Sacramental Program - Penance

Please register your child by 2nd May 2025. Please complete form and return, with donation, to the Parish Office.

Baptism Classes

The next Baptism Class:
Tuesday 1st April 2025 at 7pm in the Church Hall.

Easter Raffle

St John's Parish Easter raffle are on sale.

The tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

There are five prizes to be won.
All proceeds will go to the Riverstone Parish.
Prizes will be drawn on Palm Sunday 13th April after 10:30am Mass.