

## Youth Group



### St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group

All school –aged children are welcome to attend.

**Friday 16th May 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

Jubilee of Youth 19 July—5 August 2025  
Adult Jubilee 7—25 September 2025

Posters and Flyers can be found in the church foyer and on our noticeboard. Use the QR code for more information.

Visit: [parracatholic.org/jubileepilgrimage2025](http://parracatholic.org/jubileepilgrimage2025)

## Volunteer Roster April 2025

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana Family			S Nierves	M Sultana	L Canlas	Paul Sultana	Team Wed
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> 7am Palm Sun	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		C Wickman A Perera Amah	P Perera	None	Power Point	
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		K Amanda N Tsui	D Thomas	L Fox A Bramphen	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> 11am	Volunteer	H Greedy/ N Dsouza	D Catig		J Sultana M Syme	S Nobleza	J Bugeja V Sultana	Jenchriss & Co	
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> Vigil 7pm		H Greedy	J Missio		A Dsouza N Dsouza			Rondalla Choir	Team Wed
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> 7am		R Bigeni			Amah			Jenchriss	
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> 9am		C Downey			S Corben B Simon	S Yappa		Jepoy Choir	
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am		R Brown			I Sprem J Sultana	L Bird		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.

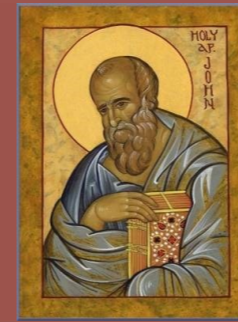
## Friday Prayer Group

**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:** [stjohns10@bigpond.com](mailto:stjohns10@bigpond.com)

**Website:** [www.stjohnsriverstone.org.au](http://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

**13th April 2025**

**Palm Sunday Year C**

*First Reading Isaiah 50:4-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.*

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue.

So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech.

Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple.

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;

I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults.

So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2*

*My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?*

All who see me deride me.

They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.'

*My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?*

Many dogs have surrounded me,  
a band of the wicked beset me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.  
I can count every one of my bones.

*My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?*

They divide my clothing among them.  
They cast lots for my robe.  
O Lord, do not leave me alone,  
my strength, make haste to help me!

*My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?*

I will tell of your name to my brethren  
and praise you where they are assembled.  
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;  
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.  
Revere him, Israel's sons.'

*My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?*

**Second Reading** *Philippians 2:6-11*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.*

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**The word of the Lord.**

*Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation** *Philippians 2:8-9*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!  
Christ became obedient for us even to death  
dying on the cross.  
Therefore God raised him on high  
and gave him a name above all other names.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

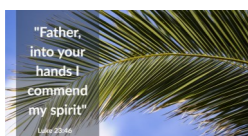
**Gospel** *Luke 22:14 – 23:56*

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*(Please refer to the Gospel 4 page reading provided.)*

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*



You are invited to our:  
**Parish Family Day Retreat on 25<sup>th</sup> May**  
after the 10:30am Mass.  
Please see flyer on the noticeboard and around the church buildings. Scan the QR Code on the flyer for more information.

**Reminder: Divine Mercy** - Our Parish will be celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday on 27th April 2025.

*1.30pm Rosary*

*2.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Reflection time*

*3.00pm 3 o'clock prayer followed immediately by the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass*

*Afternoon tea will be available at the conclusion of Mass.*

*Confessions will be available from 2pm to 3pm.*

Sign-in sheet is located in the church foyer.

**Novena to the Divine Mercy will commence on Good Friday** immediately after the 3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion. Booklets will be available on the day.

## Holy Week & Confessions

**Holy Thursday 17 April**

*Mass of the Lord's Supper* 7:00pm

**Good Friday 18 April**

*The Stations of the Cross* 10:00am  
*Celebration of the Lord's Passion* 3:00pm

**Holy Saturday 19 April**

*Celebration of the Paschal Vigil* 7:00pm

**Easter Sunday 20 April** 7:00am 9:00am 10:30am

### Confession

Tuesday 15 April 9:30am – 10:30am and 5pm – 6pm

Wednesday 16 April 9:30am – 10:30am

Thursday 17 April 9:30am – 10:30am

**NO MORNING MASS** 8:30am on THUR, FRI and SAT during HOLY WEEK

**Easter Monday 21 April**

*Communion Service* 8:30am

• *Kindly respect & be silent during Mass & Adoration on Holy Thursday and Good Friday Services.*

• *Parishioners must be vigilant during Communion. Actions during Communion must be reported immediately to either Father, Acolyte or Special Minister*

• *Fr Zakaria has appointed John Missio to be in charge of all volunteers assisting for Holy Week.*

## 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

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 the envelope system, 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**

**Reminder: Next meeting - Saturday 12th April at 10am**

**Pentecost Procession Of Flags** Our Parish owns a small number of flags, including: **India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Netherlands, England, Malaysia, Singapore, Poland, Germany.** We are now seeking donations. We have another 20 flags to purchase each at **\$25**. Are you willing to donate a flag of your country? Please give your money in an envelope to Lucia Fox or the Parish Office.

**Teenagers Flag Bearers** Are you a student in High school or university and would like to be a flag bearer? Practice session: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 10am. We would love for you to participate! Please fill out the form on the clipboard in the church foyer.

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

**Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2025**

*Could you please return money boxes and envelopes before the 30 April. We thank you for your generosity.*

## Appeals

**The Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal** - Thank you to those parishioners who donated. You can still make a donation using the envelopes or the QR Code. Please place your envelopes in any of the collection plates during Mass. Let us be *Pilgrims of Hope* to those who may break in the face of suffering. QR Code for this Appeal:



**St John's Parish, Riverstone—Easter Offering Envelopes** are available for your donations, which go directly to the Riverstone Parish. Thank you for your generosity.

**Holy Land Good Friday Collection 2025** Reminder: A collection is taken up in every Catholic Church to support the people and places of the Holy Land. The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility of caring for the Holy Places as well as caring for the Christians living in the Holy Land.

## 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, Joseph, Michael, Carmelo & Carmen Vella, All Abandoned Souls, Nunziato Orlando & Family, Domenico Procopio & Family, James D'souza, Harriot Perera, Thomas KS, Tomas Sr, Flora & Mario Ferino and George Micallef.

**For those who are sick:**

Especially 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

**Youth Group** was held on Friday night .

**Thank you** - We would like to thank the Coordinators, YFC and parent helpers for all they do to help make this gathering a successful night. Our next Youth Group will be held on Friday night 16th May at 6pm. All school-aged children are most welcome! We hope to see you there!

## Soccer

⚽ **ST JOHN'S EAGLES INDOOR SOCCER ROUND ROBIN - INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE**, Corner Hamilton St and Garfield Rd, Riverstone

**Wednesday 16 April 2025 9.30am -2.30pm**

Open to boys and girls aged 5-16

**Cost of \$15 per person** includes a sausage sizzle and a ticket for LUCKY DOOR PRIZES

There will be extra food and drinks available to purchase on the day. \*Tell your friends and bring them along\*  
**YOU CAN JUST TURN UP ON THE DAY**

*The Easter Catholic Outlook is now available in the church foyer*

**Last Chance—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 today Palm Sunday 13th April after 11am Mass.

## 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 6th May 2025 at 7pm in the Church Hall.