

## Youth Group



### St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group

May Gathering is cancelled

In replacement will be **Family Day Retreat** on the **25th May!** After the 10:30am Mass.  
Please see flyers for more information

## 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/May 2025

Date	Welcom-ers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> 6pm Week 4	M Satorre	Sultana family	J Missio		S Nieves	M Sultana	R Edwards	Paul Sultana	Team Wed
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	J Sullivan S Brown	Rondalla Choir	
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	D Catig		N D'Souza M Macatangay	D Gorkic	J Bugeja V Sultana	Raymond & Co	
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> 6pm Week 1	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana		M Sultana	M Galati	Jenchris & Co	Team Wed
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	C Wickman A Perera	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	D Catig	J Sullivan P Sullivan	V Sultana L Fernandez	G Fernandez	S Yapa S Brown	San Pedro Calungsod	
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> 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.

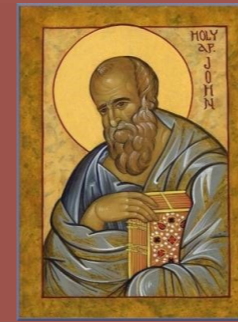
## Friday Prayer Group

**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:** [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

### 27th April 2025

### Second Sunday of Easter Year C

### Divine Mercy Sunday

*First Reading Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.*

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:2-4. 22-27. R. v.1*

*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:

'His love has no end.'

*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*

O Lord, grant us salvation;  
O Lord grant success.  
Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord; the true God is our light.

*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*

**Second Reading Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19**

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

*I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.*

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

**The word of the Lord.**

*Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation John 20:29**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!  
Alleluia!

**Gospel John 20:19-31**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John *After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.* In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'  
After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.  
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**  
*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

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**Reminder: Divine Mercy** - Our Parish will be celebrating Divine Mercy today.

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.

## Masses and Feasts

Mon	28 Apr	St Peter Chanel
Tues	29 Apr	St Catherine of Siena
Fri	02 May	St Athanasius 7:30pm Communion Service
Sat	03 May	Sts Philip and James 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 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.

Please **take home a copy of the bulletin.** Otherwise, please fold correctly and leave in the foyer for re-use. Thank you.

There are still a few **Weekly Envelope** boxes to be collected from the foyer. If you are interested in giving to our Parish, using the envelope system, please contact the Parish Office.

**Hawkesbury Deanery Meetings**—Require one person/couple to attend meetings to represent the Riverstone Parish. Next meeting Wed 11 June 2025 at 10:30am at the Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill. Please speak to Fr Zakaria or contact the parish office to attend. This is a commitment of approx. 4 meetings per year.

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**Pentecost Sunday— 8th June 2025**

**Next Meeting: Saturday 17th May 2pm**

**Pentecost Procession Of Flags** - Philippines & Fiji flag donations have now also been received. We are now seeking donations to purchase the remaining flags. Are you willing to donate some of this money? Even as little as \$5 would help. Please give your money in an envelope to Lucia Fox or the Parish Office.

**Teenagers Flag Bearers**—We would love for high school & university students to participate!  
Practice session: Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 10am.

## Appeals

**St John's Parish, Riverstone—Easter Offering Envelopes**  
Donations go directly to our Riverstone Parish. Thank you for your generosity.

**The Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal** - Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support for people in hospital and prison who might otherwise feel abandoned. Our Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal in the Riverstone Parish has raised \$ 3475.35 which will provide pastoral, spiritual, and sacramental support to people in times of darkness. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit [parracatholic.org/appeal](http://parracatholic.org/appeal) Thank you.

**Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2025**  
Please return money boxes and envelopes before the 30 April. We thank you for your generosity.

**Holy Land Good Friday Collection 2025** The collection took place on Good Friday. Thank you for your generosity.

## Prayers for our Community

**Deceased Mass Offerings** -  
All Souls, All Souls in Purgatory, Forgotten Souls in Purgatory, All Abandoned Souls. Pope Francis, 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, Zeno Sartori, Joseph, Michael, Carmelo & Carmen Vella, Nunziato Orlando & Family, Domenico Procopio & Family, James D'souza, Harriot Perera, Tomas Sr, Flora & Mario Ferino, George Micallef George Teuma, Paul & Sunta Saliba, Guillermo Ramirez, Romeo & Dulce Masingkay, Tess Rehac and Benjamin Comilang.

**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, Daisy Pangilinan, Maximina Raymundo, Paul Gulla, Dominic & Angela Schembri, Maureen Meryment, Lauren and those in our parish community

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Fr Zakaria will be on annual leave next week.  
*May God be with you Fr Zak on your journey, and bless your travels. May you have a peaceful and restful holiday.*

We would like to welcome and thank Fr Andrew, Fr John Rizzo, Fr Evar, Fr Raning and Deacon Michael who will be celebrating Mass and helping our Parish during this time.

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**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.

## Sacraments

**Sacramental Program - Penance**

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

Parent Information & Class Tues 13th May 7pm in the Galilee Room

**Baptism Classes**

The next Baptism Class: Tuesday 6th May 2025 at 7pm in the Church Hall.