

Youth



St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group

All school-aged children are invited to join us for an exciting and faith-filled time with friends, for fun activities that bring us closer to Jesus! Bring a friend and an open heart—we can't wait to see you there! The first Youth Group gathering for 2026 will be on:

Friday 20th February at 6:30pm

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.

Special Religious Educators (SREs)

If you feel called to share your faith and would like to volunteer as an SRE in our local schools, please contact the parish office. We are in need of more SREs and would be grateful for your support.

Ministry Roster February 2026

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 7 th 6pm Week 2	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana Family	J Missio		S Nieves P Canlas	M Sultana	L Canlas	Jenchriss & Co	Team Sat
Sun 8 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	Team Wed
Sun 8 th 9am	S Brown	R Brown	J Teuma		K Amanda N Tsui	D Thomas	V Sultana S Suri	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 8 th 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy (Neesha)	D Catig		J Sultana M Syme	S Nobleza	S Corben J Bugeja	Jenchriss & Co	
Sat 14 th 6pm Week 3	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana family	J Missio		L Canlas P Canlas	M Sultana	J Eroles	Paul Sultana	Team Sat
Sun 15 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power point	Team Wed
Sun 15 th 9am	A Hoare	R Brown	D Catig		S Corben B Simon	S Yapa	A Delara L Fox	Gel, Dennis & Co	
Sun 15 th 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy	D Catig		I Sprem W Suri	L Bird	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 & 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.

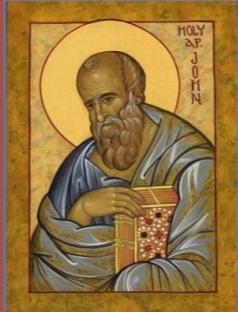
Friday Prayer Group

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 - 12pm and 12:30pm - 2:30pm

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

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

8 February 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year A

First Reading *Isaiah 58:7-10*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Your light will shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4*

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour.

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory.

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

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

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.'

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



Please respect the Blessed Eucharist

It is the true Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ present in the Sacred Host. So please receive the Eucharist on the tongue. If you still wish to take the Eucharist 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.

120 Year Celebration - We are now accepting new orders for plaques for our cross. Forms can be found in the foyer of the church. Please complete the form and return to the parish office. We will place another order soon!

Our Parish will be participating in the **Riverstone Festival on Saturday 9th May**. We are forming a list of **volunteers** just for this event only. Jobs on the festival day include manning our Information table for 1 hour, set up and pack up our display and marching under the combined churches flag in the parade. We will also need volunteers to prepare our information items, prior to the day. We need your help - please place your name on the list in the church foyer. This is a wonderful community event which has been running for many years.

Events at our Parish.... .

Fridays during Lent *Stations of the Cross* 7.00pm

followed by *Mass*.

Wednesdays during Lent *Stations of the Cross* after the 8:30am Mass

Divine Mercy - Sunday 12th April

Masses & Feasts

Tues 10 Feb St Scholastica

Sat 14 Sts Cyril and Methodius

Wed 18 Feb Ash Wednesday Masses
7am, 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

SRE Meeting: Could all SRE's please attend a meeting on: Thursday 12th February at 10am in the church hall.

St John's Easter Raffle - Tickets \$2 or 3 for \$5. On sale after Mass from Saturday 14th February.

The **Lenten Program** will start on Monday 16th February 7pm in the church hall. Books for the Lenten Program can be purchased for \$10 each.

For Sale at the Piety Store: **Gods Word 2026** \$24 each. **Columban Calendar 2026** \$10 each on Sundays.

Lost Property - a box containing lost property can be found in the church foyer. The box will be emptied once it reaches capacity. If you have lost an item, please check the inside the box.

New Parishioners— welcome to our New Parishioners. Please fill out a New Parishioner Form, which can be found in the church foyer. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Parish Office to register.

Hawkesbury Deanery Meetings - **Attendees Required** 1-2 parishioners to represent the Riverstone Parish at the bi-monthly meetings held at St Matthew's Windsor. Please speak to Fr Zak or contact the Parish Office for more information.

My Life in Christ -Adult Faith Formation Program

Come and join our parish's adult faith formation program! It's free and will be held fortnightly. The program continues on **Saturday, 21st February, at 10am** in the Galilee Room.

At these sessions, we will:

- explore our Catholic faith;
- learn and discover practical ways to live our faith; and
- grow in our relationship with Christ.

Topics will include Knowing God Better, Scripture, Prayer, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and many others. Please register your interest by putting your name down on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church or ring the parish office. Come and see... everyone welcome.'

Return & Earn

St John's Parish Return & Earn - every 2nd Sunday of the month. Please drop off your bag under the carport in the Parish Centre. Our Parish Council members will then Return and Earn with all monies going directly to the Riverstone Parish.

Collection Day - Today - Sunday 8 February 2026

If you bring any glass bottles, please pack separately in a cardboard box - 6 per box. Thank you.

January 2026 Total Earned = \$ 124.90 Thank you!

Appeals



This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's **Project Compassion**. Envelopes and money boxes will be available from Ash Wednesday.

The Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal 2026

Good Friday Holy Land Collection will take place on 3rd April 2026. Envelopes will be provided.

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, Matthew Faumui, Maureen Muccillo, Joseph Sant, Zeno Sartori, Peter Shipley, Joseph Sultana, Chris, John, Maryann Sultana & Sultana family, John, Michael, Angelo Clementina & Leanne Sultana & Sultana family, Maria & Nicholas Gatt, John (Jim) Galea, Joseph Jack Sultana, Stephen & Julia S Thomas, Catherine & Rex Kodippily, Harriot Perera, Joseph Buttigieg, Francis Stivala, George Pulickal, Censina, John & Chris, Carmena & Spedito Baldacchino, Saviour & Censina Muscat, Menina & Paul Tedesco, Zane Belista, Grace Vella, Teresa Haber, Chardia, Benjamin Comilang, Joe & Rose Grima.

For those who are sick:

Especially Adrian Bugeja, Carlos & Frances Saliba, Maria Pisto, Tony & Freda Attard, Margaret Galea, Belinda Grgic, Dominic & Angela Schembri, John & Janice Padernia, Helen Batih, Kerry Duffy, Theresa Bye, Antonietta Arbolino, Michael Burke, Vanessa Thomas, Rita & Domink & family and those in our parish community.

The Diocese's Catholic Healthcare ministry, in collaboration with the Hawkesbury Deanery, is organising a monthly formation and support Mass for those in the healthcare ministry of the Church on Sunday 22 February at Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Rouse Hill, at 5:30pm. There will be an afternoon tea before the Mass from 4pm for those who wish to attend for networking and support purposes. For further information, please contact Deacon Michael Tan on Michael.Tan@parracatholic.org.

Parish Centre & Church Restoration

Thank you to all that have made donations to projects for our Parish Centre. Your ongoing generosity and support is greatly appreciated and will greatly assist in our efforts to complete these important projects. Our Parish will keep you informed as work progresses

Safeguarding

Training opportunities will be available throughout 2026 in our Parish (dates will be advertised) or surrounding Parishes. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

RCLA

Three Catechumens and one Candidate for Easter Saturday Vigil Celebration at 7pm at St John's Parish in 2026. Please keep them in your prayers.

Sacraments

Sacramental Program

Dates for the 2026 Sacramental Program will be available soon.

Sacramental Coordinator Rosanna Ph: 0428766727 or email: sacraments10@outlook.com.au

Baptism Classes

The next Baptism Class: Tuesday 3 March 2026 at 7pm in the Church Hall.