

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 next Youth Group gathering will be on:

Friday - 17th April 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.

Eucharist 2028—Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of your real presence in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

Grant us the grace to receive you reverently, worship you truly and serve you with hearts renewed.

By the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us, so that as you gave yourself to the Father and to us, we too may offer our lives to God and to others.

Inspire and help us to serve you in those who are in need, especially the defenceless and homeless, the lonely and lost.

Unite us with your sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may truly become what we have received, the Body of Christ.

Amen.

Ministry Roster March/April 2026

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 28 th 6pm Week 5	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana Family	J Misso		I Sprem		A Delara	Jenchriss & Co	
Sun 29 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		Volunteer Volunteer	P Perera	None	Power point	Team Wed
Sun 29 th 9am	A Hoare	R Brown	D Catig		C Wickman Paul	C Sherry	J Sullivan S Brown	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 29 th 11am	A Hoare	H Greedy	D Catig		D Gorkic S Suri	Volunteer	S Corben J Bugeja	Raymond & Co	
Sat 4 th Apr Vigil 7pm Week 1	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana	L Canlas P Canlas	M Sultana	A Delara	Rondalla Choir	
Sun 5 th Mar 7am Easter	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	A Perera	P Perera	None	Power point	Team Wed
Sun 5 th 9am Easter	A Hoare	R Brown	D Catig	J Sullivan P Sullivan	V Sultana L Fernandez	G Fernandez	S Yappa S Corben	San Pedro Calungsod	
Sun 5 th 10:30am Easter	A Hoare	H Greedy	D Catig	Volunteer S Nobleza	I Sprem D Gorkic	S Suri	J Bugeja S Brown	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.



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

Piety Store

For Sale at the Piety Store: God's Word 2026 \$24 each.

Columban Calendar 2026 \$10 each

Piety Store - Opening Hours

Sundays

10am - 12pm

Tuesdays

10am - 11am

Unfortunately, piety items are not available for purchase from the parish office.

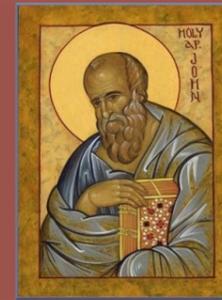
Friday Prayer Group

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: 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

29 March 2026

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year A

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 Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Please read Gospel from booklet supplied.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968. All rights reserved.

For Your Information: *The complete Holy Week and Easter Roster is now displayed on the noticeboard.*

Indoor Soccer

ST JOHN'S EAGLES INDOOR SOCCER ROUND ROBIN
INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE, Corner Hamilton St and Garfield Rd, Riverstone. Organised by St John's Catholic Church, Riverstone
Wednesday 8 April 2026 9.30am - 2.30pm Cost of \$15 per person
for soccer games, sausage sizzle and LUCKY DOOR PRIZE ticket.
Open to children 5-16 yrs old. You do not need to book ahead – just turn up on the day! Bring your friends. More important details on the flyer in the church foyer. Please take a copy home!

Easter Offering Envelopes - If you would like to make an Easter Offering directly to our Riverstone Parish - pink and blue coloured envelopes are available in the church foyer. Please place your envelope in any of the collection plates during Mass.

Please respect the Blessed Eucharist and 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.

Easter Mass and Reconciliation Times

Wednesday April 1 Mass of the Holy Chrism (St Patrick's, Parramatta) 7:30pm	First Rite (Individual Confession)
Holy Thursday April 2 Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm	Tuesday March 31 9:30am – 10:30am and 5pm – 6pm
Good Friday April 3 The Stations of the Cross 10:00am Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3:00pm	Wednesday April 1 9:30am – 10:30am
Holy Saturday April 4 Celebration of the Paschal Vigil 7:00pm	Thursday April 2 9:30am – 10:30am
Easter Sunday April 5 Easter Sunday Celebration 7:00am 9:00am 10:30am	
Easter Monday April 6 Communion Service 8:30am	
NO MORNING MASS at 8:30am during Holy Week on: Thursday 2 April Friday 3 April Saturday 4 April.	

Masses & Feasts

Sat 11 April 8:30am Anointing Mass

Sat 25 April 8:30am Anzac Day 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

Stations of the Cross—Good Friday 3 April 2026

If you would like to assist to carry the cross on Good Friday for our Stations of the Cross, please place your name on the volunteer list on the clipboard in the Church foyer. Please note that you must be an adult to carry the cross. Gloves will be provided on the day.

There will be a **Commissioning Mass at our Parish** for SRE's and Sacrament Coordinators on Sunday 19th April at the 10:30am Mass.

For Sale - St John's Easter Raffle

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

All proceeds will go directly to our Riverstone Parish.

Prizes will be drawn after the 10:30am Mass on Easter Sunday.

Thank you to the generous parishioners who have supported our Parish for the past year, using the **Weekly Giving Envelopes**. The new boxes of Envelopes for 2026/2027 are available to be collected from the church foyer of the Church, awaiting your collection, from Saturday 28th March. If you are interested in giving to our Parish, using envelopes, please contact the Parish Office.

120 Year Celebration - Thank you to all the parishioners who have placed an order for a **plaque for our cross**. The front of the cross is nearly full of plaques. We encourage any parishioners to fill out a form as soon as possible. Our Parish will place another order later in the year.

Laminated copies of the **Eucharist Prayer 2028** have been placed on the pews. Please use these during Mass to say the prayer and then please place them back on the pews so that they can be used each week. Thank you.

Reminder - Daylight Savings Sunday, 5th April at 3am, please move your clock back one hour to 2am.

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, 18th April, at 10am** in the church hall. The topic for this session is *Conscience, Virtues and Sin*. 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.
Next Collection Day - Sunday 12 April 2026
If you bring any glass bottles, please pack separately in a cardboard box - 6 per box.

Appeals

 This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's **Project Compassion**. Please return the boxes and donations by Mon 13 April.

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

Diocese of Parramatta—The First Appeal for 2026 will take place on 9th May. 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, Michael Agius, Stephen & Julia S Thomas, Catherine & Rex Kodippily, Nishantha & Nimbah, Harriot Perera, Joseph Buttigieg, George Pulickal, Zane Belista, Grace Vella, Teresa Haber, Stella George, Angelo Attard, Victor Gatt, Attard family, Spiteri family, Loreto Azzopardi, Raymond Baker, Francisco Alverez Eugenio, K.S Thomas, James D'Souza, Fortunata Baiada, Nunziato Orlando & Orlando family, Domenico & Maria Procopio and Procopio family, Silvana Maiolo, Tomas Ferino Sr, Guillerno Ramirez, Romeo Masangkay, Mariano Ferino.

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

Events at our Parish.....

community.

Divine Mercy - Please join us for Day 1 of the Novena to the Divine Mercy after the 3pm Passion of the Lord service on Good Friday.

Divine Mercy - Sunday 12th April.

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

Riverstone Festival on Saturday 9th May.

Parish Centre & Church Restoration

Pentecost Sunday - 24th May

Once again, we would like to thank our generous parishioners who donated towards our Church Restoration. A big thanks to the team who helped us to get the restoration done.

RCIA

May God Bless them all.

There are three Elect for Easter Saturday Vigil Celebration at 7pm at St John's Parish in 2026. Please keep them in

Sacraments

your prayers.

Sacramental Program -

The first Sacrament for 2026 is Reconciliation.
Please register by the 5th May 2026.

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

Baptism Classes -

The next Baptism Class:

Tuesday 7th April 2026 at 7pm in the Church Hall.