

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 April 2026

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 4 th Apr Vigil 7pm Week 1	Lauren Audrey Anna	Sultana family	J Missio Joseph Jeremiah	M Sultana	V Sultana, L Canlas, Atin, Neesha	No Prayers of the Faithful	A Delara	Rondalla Choir	
Sun 5 th Mar 7am Easter	A Hoare	R Bigeni	R Bigeni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	A Perera	Patrick	None	Jenchriss & Co	Team Wed
Sun 5 th 9am Easter	A Hoare	R Brown Emman	J Teuma	J Sullivan P Sullivan	V Sultana L Fernandez	Aurellia Ante	S Yappa	San Pedro Calungsod	
Sun 5 th 10:30am Easter	A Hoare	H Greedy	D Catig Rain John	Volunteer S Nobleza	I Sprem D Gorkic	S Suri	J Bugeja S Brown	Raymond & Co	
Sat 11 th 6pm Week 2	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana Family			S Nierves P Canlas	M Sultana	L Canlas	Jenchriss & Co	
Sun 12 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	Team Wed
Sun 12 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		K Amanda N Tsui	D Thomas	V Sultana S Suri	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 12 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy (Neesha)	D Catig		Volunteer Volunteer	S Nobleza	S Corben J Bugeja	Jenchriss & 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.

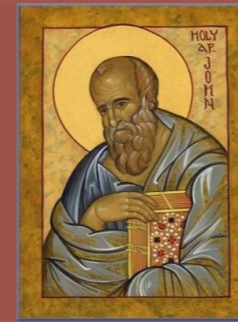
Friday Prayer Group

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

5 April 2026

Easter Sunday the Resurrection of the Lord Year A

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24

This is the day the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

This is the day the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is. Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel John 20:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb.

They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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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.



Fr Zakaria, Fr Andrew and Deacon Michael would like to wish all of our parishioners a joyous and safe Easter. God Bless!

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who have generously given their time and effort to support our Parish throughout Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday. Your dedication and service are deeply appreciated.

Masses & Feasts

April	
Mon 6 and Tue 7	8:30am Communion Service
Wed April 8	8:30am Mass
Thurs April 9	8:30am Communion Service
Fri April 10	8:30am Mass
Sat April 11	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

Gluten free hosts are available for those who wish to receive Holy Communion. Please arrange with the Priest before Mass.

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!

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

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.

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.

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 has enough space for 28 more plaques. We encourage parishioners to fill out a form as soon as possible. Our Parish will place another order later in the year.


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

 **PROJECT COMPASSION** 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 thank you for your generous donations for this appeal.

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 Alvarez 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, Lynette Barnes, Charlie & Grace Vella.

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.

Events at our Parish.....

Divine Mercy - Sunday 12th April.

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

Riverstone Festival on Saturday 9th May. NO march this year. Helpers needed for our information stand. Please place your name on the clipboard.

Pentecost Sunday - 24th May

Parish Centre & Church Restoration

Thank to our generous parishioners who donated towards our Church Restoration. A big thanks to the team who continue to work tirelessly for our new Parish Centre.

RCIA

Congratulations to the Elect on the completion of their RCIA journey. This is a truly meaningful and grace-filled milestone in your life of faith. Thank you to Fr Zakaria Gayed, Dr Deacon Michael Tan and Sacrament Coordinator Rosanna Brown, as well as the sponsors of each elect for your support during this journey. May God Bless you all.

Sacraments

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.