

## Youth

### 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!  
\*Friday - 15 May 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.

## Events at our Parish.....

**Pentecost Sunday - 24th May—**  
**11AM Mass & Celebration**  
*Please note that there will be no children's liturgy at the 11am Mass on this day.*

**Pentecost Liturgy Meeting.** All volunteers involved in the 11am Mass please attend the meeting Saturday 16th May at 10am in the Hall.

**Pentecost Committee Meetings** Sat 10am 16/5 and 23/5

**Flag Procession Practice** Saturday 16th May at 11:45am

More information will be provided next week.

## Ministry Roster May 2026

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> 6pm Week 2	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana Family			S Nierves P Canlas	M Sultana	L Canlas	P Sultana	
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	Team Wed
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> 9am	S Brown	R Brown	J Teuma		R Cannilere P Tsui	D Thomas	V Sultana S Suri	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy (Neesha)	D Catig		S Turaka Volunteer	S Nobleza	L Fox J Bugeja	Gel, Dennis & Co	
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> 6pm Week 3	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana family	J Missio		L Canlas P Canlas	M Sultana	J Eroles	P Sultana	
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power point	Team Wed
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> 9am	A Hoare	R Brown	D Catig		S Corben B Simon	S Yapa	L Fox A Delara	Gel, Dennis & Co	
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy	D Catig		I Spem W Suri	S Turaka	S Corben J Bugeja	Raymond & Co	

Thank you to all of our parishioners who have committed to their Ministry.

## 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](mailto: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.

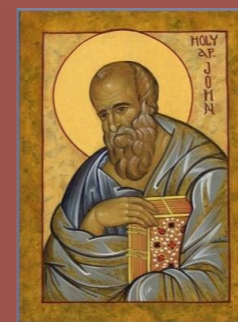
## Friday Prayer Group

**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

**10 May 2026**

**6th Sunday of Easter Year A**

*First Reading Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8. 14-17*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**The word of the Lord.**

*Thanks be to God*

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. see v.1**

*(Response) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.*

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,

O sing to the glory of his name.

O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!

*Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.*

'Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men.

*Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.*

He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might.

*Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.*

Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me.

*Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.*

**Second Reading 1 Peter 3:15-18**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.*

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**The word of the Lord.**

*Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation John 14:23**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel John 14:15-21**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*



May Our Blessed Mother Mary watch over all mothers with love and grace. Wishing all of our Parishioners, a joyful and blessed Mother's Day!  
God Bless. Sincerely, Fr Zakaria, Fr Andrew, Deacon Michael and the Parish Team.

## 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.

**Pentecost Celebration - 24th May 11am Mass and Celebration.** If you would like to be a flag bearer on this day, please place your name on the list in the church foyer. Can you please attend the

**Flag Procession Practice** - Saturday 16th May at 11:45am

**Pentecost Liturgy Meeting.** Saturday 16th May at 10am in the Hall.

**Pentecost Committee Meetings** Sat 10am 16/5 and 23/5

## Masses and Feasts

24 May Pentecost Sunday Mass and Celebration from 11am.

Our celebrant for this Mass will be the Very Rev Peter G. Williams AM

## 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

**Altar Server Training - Wednesday 27th May 2026 at 3:30pm**  
School Aged children who have received their Sacraments are invited to another training session which will be run by Fr Zakaria to become an Altar Server in our Parish. Please meet under the pergola.

**The National Count of Attendance for 2026** will take place during each weekend Mass during the month of May 2026. Mass Coordinators—please organise your Mass Counters for each Mass. Counter's Record forms can be found in the sacristy. Please make sure that all celebrants, adults, children & babies are included in the count.

**Mother's Day Raffle**- Great Prizes! \$2 each or 3 for \$5. On sale now. All proceeds will go directly to our Riverstone Parish.

**120 Year Celebration** - The front of the cross has enough space for 28 more plaques. We encourage parishioners to fill out a form as our Parish will place another order later in the year.

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

Various **Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses** will take place in Sept, Oct and Nov 2026. Forms are available in the church foyer. Please complete and return by 4th August.

*A Third collection for the Bishop's Good Works Appeal for Parramatta Catholic Foundation will take place next weekend 16th/17th May* Envelopes will be provided.

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals - both religious and lay - who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community.

*Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised?* Nominations close at midnight on 30 June 2026. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit [parracatholic.org](http://parracatholic.org)

## 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, 16th May, at 10am** in the church hall. The topic for this session is The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass Explained Part II. 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 14 June 2026**

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

## Appeals

**Diocese of Parramatta**— 9-10 May until 13-14 June: *Bishop's Good Works Appeal for Parramatta Catholic Foundation.* Envelopes will be provided. There will only be three appeals in 2026. Therefore, each Appeal will run for a longer period of time to allow you to bring in your donations. We will still have to meet our quota of approx. \$10,000.00 over the three appeals.

**Caritas Australia's Project Compassion and Good Friday Holy Land Collection** thank you for your generous donations for these appeals.

## 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, Harriot Perera, Dulce Masangray, Mario Ferino, Benjamin Comilang, Catherine & Rex Kodippily, Mary Muikali, Muinde Tithe, Leonardus Tommy Hendra, Joseph Tabone, Mary Bigeni, Crescencia Cardoza, Bellarmine Derosé

### 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, Rita & Domink & family, Jenny Gannon, Natalie Love, Maureena Drury, Elisabeth Juliawah Santoso, Matthew Hope and those in our parish community.

## Safeguarding

Documents	What is next?
WWCC notification form (including) code of conduct <b>(for child-related ministries)</b> <i>Including SRE, Children's Liturgy, Youth Group, Acolytes, Indoor Soccer, Sacrament Teams, RCLIA Team, Parish Manager, Parish Staff, Eucharistic Ministers,</i>	Volunteers (working in child-related ministries) please read and complete the 'WWCC notification form'.  Email or deliver completed form to your coordinator or the Parish Office  <i>Please see forms in the folder with the Pink Heading</i>
Acknowledgement of Code of Conduct <b>(for non-child related ministries)</b> <i>Including Readers, Prayer of Faithful, Choirs, Cleaners, Gardeners, Laptop Preparation, Laptop Operators, Parish Council Members, Parish Finance Council Members</i>	Volunteers (working in non-child related ministries) to read and complete the 'acknowledgment code of conduct' form. Email or deliver completed form to your coordinator or the Parish Office.  <i>Please see forms in the folder with the Green Heading.</i>

Reminder: All volunteers at our Parish will need to complete only one of the above forms. Please return the form as soon as possible. **St John the Evangelist Parish, Riverstone would like to introduce our Safeguarding Team:**

Parish Priest - Fr Zakaria Gayed  
Parish Secretary - Melissa Spence

If you have any questions in regards to Safeguarding, please ask your Safeguarding Team. Please note that there are various posters and information on the Noticeboard and in the Church foyer.

Face to Face Training in our Parish will take place later in the year.

## Sacraments

**Sacramental Program** -  
**Registrations for the Sacrament of Reconciliation** are now closed.

Lesson 1 - Parent & Child - Tuesday 19th May at 7pm in the Galilee Room.

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

### Baptism Classes

The next Baptism Class:  
Tuesday 2 June 2026 at 7pm in the Church Hall.