

## Youth

### St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group

The last Youth Group was a success. We would like to thank our Youth Group Coordinators—The Eroles family, the YFC and the parent helpers. All school aged children are invited to attend the next gathering on:

**\*Friday - 24 July 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.

## Safeguarding Sunday Prayer

*Let your grace and love fall gently now upon our children and adults at risk, giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience to seek out assistance when required. We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen*

## Parish Centre and Church Maintenance

Work to complete the boundary fence on Bellevue Road continues.

## Volunteer Ministry Roster June /July 2026

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> 6pm <b>Week 4</b>	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana family	J Missio		S Nieves L Canlas	M Sultana	R Edwards	P Sultana	Team Wed
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer				M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> 9am	S Brown	R Brown	J Teuma		E Abendan J Boemi	A Samuel	P Manswe-to S Brown	Rondalla Choir	
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy	D Catig		S Nebleza N D'Souza	D Gorkic	S Corben J Bugeja	Raymond & Co	
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> Jul Vigil 6pm <b>Week 1</b>	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana	L Canlas P Canlas	M Sultana	A Delara	Jenchris & Co	Team Wed
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer			V Bonnici F Bonnici	A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> 9am	A Hoare	R Brown	J Teuma	P Tsui N Tsui	V Sultana L Fernandez	G Fernandez	S Yapa S Brown	San Pedro Calungsod	
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy	D Catig	S Nobleza	I Sprem D Gorkic	S Suri	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

### Acknowledgement and Recognition of Survivors of Abuse

The Diocese of Parramatta offers its unreserved and deepest apologies to survivors of abuse and their families.

In all our works, ministries and activities, we respond to the call of the Gospel to protect those who are vulnerable.

We are committed to ensuring all children and adults are safe, respected, protected and supported whilst in our care.

## 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

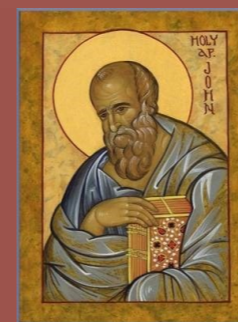
Unfortunately, piety items are not available for purchase from the parish office.

## Friday Prayer Group

### Christ Catholic Community (CCC) Prayer Group

Fridays 10am

Please contact Mary Camilleri Ph 0403116987 if you would like any further information.



## 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 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

**28 June 2026**

**Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**

**First Reading 2 Kings 4:8-11. 14-16**

A reading from the second book of the Kings

*That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.*

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

**The word of the Lord.**

*Thanks be to God*

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 88:2-3. 16-19. R. v.2**

*(R) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

*Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss.

*Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength; it is by your favour that our might is exalted: for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord; our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel.

*Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

### **Second Reading** *Romans 6:3-4. 8-11*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.*

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

**The word of the Lord.**

*Thanks be to God.*

### **Gospel Acclamation** *1 Peter 2:9*

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.

Alleluia!

### **Gospel** *Matthew 10:37-42*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me.*

Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

*Praise to you Lord Jesus*

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

Fr Zakaria will return to the Parish on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. We are blessed to have Fr Andrew and Fr Raning officiate our Masses during this time. Deacon Michael will lead our Communion Services on each Monday and Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June, whilst Fr Zakaria is on holidays.

### **Fr Andrew - 39th Ordination Anniversary 3rd July**

Your faithful service through the years reflects Christ's love in action. Celebrating your 39th ordination anniversary with joy! As you mark another year of priesthood, may God's blessings overflow in your life and ministry.

**Blessings from Fr Zakaria and the St John's Riverstone Parishioners and community.**

## 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.

## Masses & Feasts

Sat 27 June 8:30am Communion Service

Mon 29 June Sts Peter & Paul  
8:30am Communion Service

Tues 30 June 8:30am Communion Service

Fri 3 July 7:30pm First Friday Mass

Sat 4 July 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

**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  
**Wednesday 8 July 2025 9.30am -2.30pm**  
Open to boys and girls aged 5-16  
**Cost of \$15 per person** includes a sausage sizzle and a ticket for LUCKY DOOR PRIZES There will be extra food and drinks available to purchase on the day.  
\*Tell your friends and bring them along\*  
Please take a flyer from the church foyer which contains more information.

The **Catholic Outlook** magazine is available in the church foyer. You may also read the magazine online at [catholicoutlook.org/e-edition](http://catholicoutlook.org/e-edition)

The **Catholic Medical Association** is hosting a mini-expo on 12<sup>th</sup> September on what it is to be a Catholic GP in today's world, that will also respond to the question, 'how can I find a Catholic GP?' Time and Location to be confirmed soon.


**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.

**Music Workshop on The Importance of Copyright: 21 July**—This workshop will be led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. Be sure to bring along any questions you might have. To register: [parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=office-for-worship](http://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=office-for-worship) Bishop Bede Heather Centre B'town 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

## 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, 11 July, at 10am** in the church hall. The topic for this session is The Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. 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 12th July 2026**  
If you bring any glass bottles, please pack separately in a cardboard box - 6 per box. **June Total - \$104.30**

## Appeals

Please donate generously via a third collection during mass for the **Peter's Pence Collection** for the Holy Father. Every offering – large or small – will support the Holy Father in his ministry and in his charitable activities in response to emergencies and needs around the world.

**Bishop's Good Works Appeal** - Thank you very much as we have donated another \$877.70 taking our total to \$5655.60 towards this appeal.

**Vinnies Winter Appeal - 18th and 19th July 2026**  
Please support Vinnies by placing your monetary donations in the buckets held by our Vinnies Representatives, before and after each Mass. Envelopes will be available or you may also place your donations in the poor box.

## Prayers for our Community

### **Deceased Mass Offerings** -

All Souls, All Souls in Purgatory (2), 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, Mary Muinde Tithe, Harriot Perera, Crescencia Cardoza, Anthony Dsouza, Flora Dsouza, Zane Belista, Felix Ochieze, Charles Vella & family, Natale Zappia, Giovanna, Gregorio & Katerina Zappia, Larsen Gajitos, Antonio Mattioli, Helen Bonnici, Aurea Reyes, Annamma Varkey, Joseph (Peppi) Sultana, John Joseph, Charlie & Grace Vella, Stephen John Holmes, Nazzareno Abela

### **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, Natalie Love, Maureena Drury, Elisabeth Juliawah Santoso, Matthew Hope, Clare, Zachery Kaz, Margaret Attard, Carol Petro, 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, RCLA Team, Parish Manager, Parish Staff, Eucharistic Ministers,</i>	Volunteers (working in child-related ministries) please read and complete the 'WWCC notification form'. <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. <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 from the Church foyer.

For more information: [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

## Save the Date.....

### **St John the Evangelist Feast Day Celebration**

Sunday 29th November 2026  
10:30am Mass followed by the feast day celebration at the Parish Centre. The Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD from the Diocese of Parramatta will be the main celebrant at this Mass.

## Sacraments

### **Sacramental Program** -

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will begin in July. Please register by 3rd July.

Sacramental Coordinator Rosanna Ph: 0428766727 or email: [sacraments10@outlook.com.au](mailto:sacraments10@outlook.com.au)

### **Baptism Classes** -

The next Baptism Class:

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