

## Youth

### 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 July 2026

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> 6pm <b>Week 2</b>	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana Family			S Nierves P Canlas	M Sultana	L Canlas	P Sultana	
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	Team Wed
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> 9am	S Brown	R Brown	J Teuma		K Amanda N Tsui	D Thomas	V Sultana S Suri	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy (Neesha)	D Catig		S Turaka A D'Souza	S Nobleza	S Corben J Bugeja		
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> 6pm <b>Week 3</b>	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana family	J Missio		L Canlas P Canlas	M Sultana	J Eroles	P Sultana	
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power point	Team Wed
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> 9am	A Hoare	R Brown	J Teuma		S Corben B Simon	S Yapa	P Mansweto A Delara	Gel, Dennis & Co	
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy	R Cannali- re		I Sprem 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.



## 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.

## 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

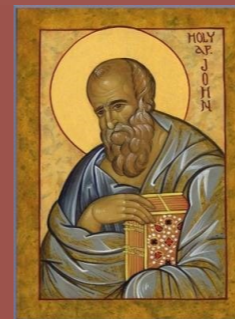
Unfortunately, piety items are not available for purchase from the parish office.

## 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

**12 July 2026**

**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**

*First Reading Isaiah 55:10-11*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*The rain makes the earth fruitful.*

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God*

*Responsorial Psalm Psalm 64:10-14 R. Lk 8:8*

*The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.*

You care for the earth, give it water,  
you fill it with riches.  
Your river in heaven brims over  
to provide its grain.

*The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.*

And thus you provide for the earth;  
you drench its furrows,  
you level it, soften it with showers,  
you bless its growth.

*The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.*

You crown the year with your goodness.  
Abundance flows in your steps,  
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

*The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.*

The hills are girded with joy,  
the meadows covered with flocks,  
the valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

*The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.*

**Second Reading Romans 8:18-23**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.*

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God: but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

**The word of the Lord.**

*Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation** Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel Matthew 13:1-9**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*A sower went out to sow.*

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

**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

**Deacon Dr Michael Tan's** reflection on Pope Leo's encyclical on AI in relation to healthcare is now on Catholic Outlook. Please view at:

['A tool of care': How Catholic healthcare workers can use AI for good - Catholic Outlook](#)

**Please respect the Blessed Eucharist.** Please receive the Eucharist on the tongue. If you still wish to take it 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. Please arrange with the Priest before Mass.

**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**

Wed 15 July St Bonaventure

Sun 26 July The Sacrament of First Holy Communion Enrolment Mass at 9am and 10:30am.

**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**

**The ST JOHN'S EAGLES INDOOR SOCCER ROUND ROBIN Gala Day was held** last Wednesday, The children had a great day. Our Parish would like to thank the Filipovic family for their great job in organising and volunteering to run this gala day. We would also like to thank the parent helpers who helped on the day. May God Bless you all.

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**Pancake Fundraiser**—The next Pancake Fundraiser will be on Sunday 26th July after the 7am, 9am and 10:30am Masses. **Pancakes with ice cream and maple syrup will be \$5.** The EFTPOS machine will be available for your purchases.

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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 by Deacon Michael.


**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.

The **Catholic Outlook** magazine is now available in the church foyer. You can also view the magazine online.

**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, 25 July 10am** in the church hall. The topic for this session is The Sacrament of the Holy Orders and Matrimony. 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 12th July 2026** If you bring any glass bottles, please pack separately in a cardboard box - 6 per box.

**Appeals**

**Peter's Pence Collection**—Thank you for your generous donations. Our Parish Raised \$ 1412.10.

**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 also be available or you may also place your donations in the poor box, located next to the Holy Water font on the left hand side as you enter the church.

**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 Ti The, Harriot Perera, Zane Belista, Charles Vella & family, Natale Zappia, Giovanna, Gregorio & Katerina Zappia, John Joseph, Charlie & Grace Vella, Nazzareno Abela, Catherine & Rex Kodippily, Joseph (Peppi) Sultana, Nelly Koh, Andrew Tee Swe Tay & Ferino family.

**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, Margaret Attard, Carol Petro, and those in our parish community.

[Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network's "Pray with the Pope"](#) the Pope invites the faithful and people of goodwill to join him each month in praying for the intentions he carries in his heart. In July - Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

**Safeguarding**

Documents	What is next?
WWCC notification form (including) code of conduct <b>(for child-related ministries)</b> Including SRE, Children's Liturgy, Youth Group, Acolytes, Indoor Soccer, Sacrament Teams, RCIA Team, Parish Manager, Parish Staff, Eucharistic Ministers,	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> Including Readers, Prayer of Faithful, Choirs, Cleaners, Gardeners, Laptop Preparation, Laptop Operators, Parish Council Members, Parish Finance Council Members	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)

**Sacraments**

**Sacramental Program** -  
The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will begin in with Lesson 1 Parent & Child Tues 21 July at 7pm. The Enrolment Mass will be on Sunday 26 July at 9am and 10:30am. Sacramental Coordinator Rosanna Ph: 0428766727 or email: sacraments10@outlook.com.au

**Baptism Classes** -  
The next Baptism Class: Tuesday 4th August 2026 at 7pm in the Church Hall.