

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 - 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.

Documents	What is next?
WWCC notification form (including) code of conduct (for child-related ministries) Including SRE, Children's Liturgy, Youth Group, Acolytes, Indoor Soccer, Sacrament Teams, RCLA 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 (for non-child related ministries) 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

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 18 th 6pm	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana family	J Missio		L Canlas P Canlas	M Sultana	J Eroles	P Sultana	
Sun 19 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power point	Team Wed
Sun 19 th 9am	A Hoare	R Brown	J Teuma		S Corben B Simon	S Yapa	P Mansweto A Delara	Gel, Dennis & Co	
Sun 19 th 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy	R Cannali-re		I Sprem W Suri	S Turaka	S Corben J Bugeja	Raymond & Co	
Sat 25 th 6pm Week 4	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana family	J Missio		S Nieves L Canlas	M Sultana	R Edwards	P Sultana	Team Wed
Sun 26 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 26 th 9am	S Brown	R Brown	R Cannali-re		E Abendan J Boemi	A Samuel	J Sullivan S Brown	Rondalla Choir	
Sun 26 th 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy	D Catig		S Nebleza N D'Souza	D Gorkic	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

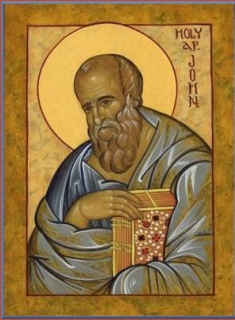
Unfortunately, piety items are not available for purchase from the parish office.

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

19 July 2026

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading Wisdom 12:13.16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.

Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(Response) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice.

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God.

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me.

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Second Reading Romans 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 13:24-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner’s servants went to him and said, “Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?” “Some enemy has done this” he answered. And the servants said, “Do you want us to go and weed it out?” But he said, “No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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



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.

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	22 July	St Mary Magdalene
Sat	25 July	St James
Sun	26 Jul	9am & 10:30am Sacrament of First Eucharist
Sat	01 Aug	8:30am Anointing Mass
Fri	07 Aug	7:30pm First Friday 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

ST JOHN'S EAGLES INDOOR SOCCER ROUND ROBIN - INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE. Update: Unfortunately, the Riverstone Indoor Centre has cancelled our booking for the September School Holidays as they have replaced our day booking with one that has requested to hire the centre for the whole week. We apologise to the children who would have liked to attend. We hope that we can have another Gala Day in the Christmas holidays. Date to be advised.

St John's Picnic Day 9th August 11am—2pm

Request for young families with children from our Parish to meet for a picnic at Rouse Hill Regional Park, Worcester Road, Rouse Hill. Let's enjoy each other's company and discuss ideas for what our parish community could provide for your family in the future.

The **Catholic Medical Association** is hosting a mini-expo on 12th 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 25 more plaques. We encourage parishioners to fill out a form as our Parish will place another order later in the year.

The next **Parish Council Meeting** will be on Wednesday 5th August at 7pm in the Parish Hall. We invite all interested parishioners to attend.

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 Sacraments of 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.
Next Collection Day - Sunday 9th August 2026
If you bring any glass bottles, please pack separately in a cardboard box - 6 per box.

Appeals

Vinnies Winter Appeal - This weekend, the 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. The Poor Box is located next to the Holy Water font on the left hand side as you enter the church.

Peter's Pence Collection— Thank you for your kind donations. Our Parish donated \$1412.10 towards this appeal.

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, Charlie & Grace Vella, Charles Vella & family, Natale Zappia, Giovanna, Gregorio & Katerina Zappia, John Joseph, Nazzareno Abela, Catherine & Rex Kodippily, Joseph (Peppi) Sultana, Nelly Koh, Andrew Tee Swe Tay & Ferino family, Charles Spiteri, Joe & Rose Grima, Charlie & Jane Refalo.

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.

Parish Centre

Final works are being completed to the Bellevue fence. The gate is open to allow parishioners pedestrian access when parking on Bellevue Street.

Work for the interior furnishings for the Parish Centre has also begun.

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.

Please note that the next Sacrament—The Sacrament of Confirmation begins in October. The date and time of The Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation has been changed to Thursday 19th November at 6pm. Please make note of this change on your Sacramental Program Date sheet.

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.