

Youth Group

Youth

St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group



All school-aged children are invited to attend Youth Group at our Parish!

Please bring your child along for a great night!
They are most welcome to bring a friend!

Friday - 21st August 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.

Sacred Liturgy Practices

Our parish provides Holy Communion under both species - Body and Blood of Christ - during all Masses on the first Sunday of each month. The Sacred Host, should be received either on the tongue or on the hands. When receiving it in your hands, the Sacred Host needs to be consumed immediately in front of the priest or the Eucharistic minister. Then, should you wish to receive the Blood of Christ, this can be done by drinking from the chalice.

Under no circumstances are parishioners allowed to dip the Sacred Host into the chalice containing the Blood of Christ. The Catholic Church teaches that only the clergy - priests and bishops, are allowed to dip the Sacred Host into the Chalice. We thank you for your reverence and cooperation in helping to preserve the dignity of the Sacred Liturgy.

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 1st Vigil 6pm Week 1	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana	L Canlas P Canlas	M Sultana	A Delara	Jenchris & Co	Team Wed
Sun 2 nd 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	
Sun 2 nd 9am	A Hoare	R Brown	R Cannali-re	P Tsui N Tsui	V Sultana L Fernandez	G Fernandez	S Yapa S Brown	San Pedro Calungsod	
Sun 2 nd 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy	D Catig	S Nobleza	I Sprem D Gorkic	S Suri	S Corben J Bugeja	Raymond & Co	
Sat 8 th 6pm Week 2	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana Family	J Missio		S Nierves P Canlas	M Sultana	L Canlas	P Sultana	
Sun 9 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	Team Wed
Sun 9 th 9am	S Brown	R Brown	J Teuma		K Amanda N Tsui	D Thomas	V Sultana S Suri	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 9 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy or N D'Souza	D Catig		S Turaka A D'Souza	S Nobleza	S Corben J Bugeja	Jenchris & 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

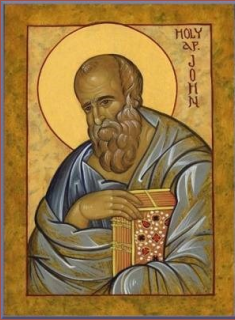
Christ Catholic Community (CCC) Prayer Group

Fridays 10am

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

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St John The Evangelist Catholic Church Riverstone

A spiritual home for the community offering hope and help for all in need



Parish Priest:

Deacon:

Parish Secretary:

Parish Office:

Hours:

Phone:

Email:

Website:

Address:

Fr Zakaria Gayed

Rev. Dr. Michael Tan

Melissa Spence

Mon –Fri

9am - 12pm and 12:30pm - 2:30pm

9627-1176

stjohns10@bigpond.com

www.stjohnsriverstone.org.au

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

2 August 2026

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading Isaiah 55:1-3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Hasten and eat.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come!

Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy?

Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy.

Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16

The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.

The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

The eyes of all creatures look to you and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live.

The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts.

The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

Second Reading *Romans 8:35. 37-39*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Matthew 4:4*

Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel *Matthew 14:13-21*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist’s death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, ‘This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.’ Jesus replied, ‘There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.’ But they answered, ‘All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.’ ‘Bring them here to me,’ he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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Mass Intentions - A kind reminder.....

Mass Intentions cannot be mentioned on a Monday at 8:30am as this is a Communion Service only. Also, no Mass Intentions can be requested for a Sunday, as this is a day of worship. If you would like a Mass Mention on the weekend, please choose the Saturday morning at 8:30am or Saturday Evening Vigil Mass at 6pm. If you would like a Mass Intention during the weekday please do this at any Mass at 8:30am, Tuesday to Friday. You may also make an Intention for the First Friday of the Month Mass at 7:30pm.

Please remember that your Mass Intention Envelope will need to be received by the Parish Office by Tuesday morning to be included in the bulletin and power point for the coming weekend. Thank you and God Bless.

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	01 Aug	8:30am	Anointing Mass
Thurs	06 Aug	8:30am	The Transfiguration of the Lord
Fri	07 Aug	7:30pm	First Friday Mass
Sat	08 Aug	8:30am	St Mary of the Cross
Sat	15 Aug	8:30am	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sat	22 Aug	Vigil 6pm and	Sun 23 Aug 7am,9am & <i>11am</i>

Reminder: The First Holy Communion Celebration will be during the 6pm Vigil, 9am & 11am Masses on 22nd and 23rd August

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.

A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful **Pancake Fundraiser** team for their hard work and delicious cooking last Sunday. Your time, enthusiasm, and dedication helped make the morning such a success. We also extend our sincere thanks to everyone who purchased breakfast or generously made a donation. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps strengthen our parish community. We look forward to seeing you all at our next Pancake Fundraiser!

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 5th August at 7.00 pm** in the **Church Hall**. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend. We especially encourage anyone who is new to the parish to join us. It's a great opportunity to hear about what's happening in our parish, learn about upcoming events and initiatives, and become more involved in our parish community. We look forward to welcoming you.

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.

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Volunteers

A sincere thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers. Over the past few weeks, so many events and projects have been made possible through your generosity, dedication, and willingness to serve. Whether you help in the church, Parish Centre, gardens and grounds, the parish office, or quietly work behind the scenes, your time and commitment make a real difference. Our parish is a more welcoming and vibrant place because of you. Thank you for everything you do. Your support is truly appreciated and is a blessing to our parish community.

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, 8 August at 10am** in the church hall. The topic for this session is Mary and the Saints. 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.

Parish Centre

Final works have been completed to the Bellevue fence. Work for the interior furnishings for the Parish Centre has also begun.

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, 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, Charles Spiteri, Mary Jane & Charles Sultana, Emmanuel Bill Baker, Raymond Baker, Joan Patricia Glover, Charles Spiteri, Stephen Donovan, Terry Ethington, Jozo Nujic, Frank Baiada.

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.

St John’s Parish, Riverstone
Picnic Day - Let’s Meet the Families
Sunday, 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. Lower carpark over the hill. Let’s enjoy each other’s company and discuss ideas for what our parish community could provide for your family in the future. *Please bring your own picnic lunch and lots of water.*

Share a space on the grass with friends, find new friends and let the children play.
Please RSVP by 8th August - Lucia Ph: 0400347653.

Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network - Pray with the Pope:
August: For evangelization in the city
Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Sacraments

Sacramental Program -

Sacrament of First Holy Communion: Lesson 3 Parent & Child Tues 4 August at 7pm.
The Celebration Mass will be on Saturday 22 August 6pm and Sunday 23 August at 9am and **11am**.

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.