

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 4 th Jul Vigil 6pm Week 1	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana	L Canlas P Canlas	M Sultana	A Delara		Team Wed
Sun 5 th 7am	Volunteer			V Bonnici F Bonnici	A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	
Sun 5 th 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 th 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy	D Catig	S Nobleza	I Sprem D Gorkic	S Suri	S Corben J Bugeja	Raymond & Co	
Sat 11 th 6pm Week 2	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana Family			S Nierves P Canlas	M Sultana	L Canlas	P Sultana	
Sun 12 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	Team Wed
Sun 12 th 9am	S Brown	R Brown	J Teuma		R Cannalire N Tsui	D Thomas	V Sultana S Suri	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 12 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy (Neesha)	D Catig		S Turaka A D'Souza	S Nobleza	S Corben J Bugeja		

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

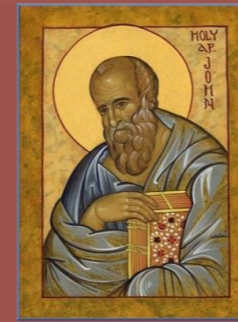
Unfortunately, piety items are not available for purchase from the parish office.

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

5 July 2026

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading Zechariah 9:9-10

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

See how humbly your king comes to you!

The Lord says this:

'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
See now, your king comes to you;
he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim
and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.
He will proclaim peace for the nations.
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14 R. v.1

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

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.

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God.

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

The Lord is faithful in all his words and loving in all his deeds. The Lord supports all who fall and raises all who are bowed down.

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Second Reading *Romans 8:9.11-13*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

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 11:25-30*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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Today, the 5th July, is the celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday.

As we gather in faith, we do so as a people shaped by story — by the Gospel, by culture, and by the journeys that have brought us to this moment. We gather in the presence of God, who walks with us always, and who calls us into unity as one people.

This year invites us into reflection. We mark 40 years since St Pope John Paul II spoke to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Alice Springs, and we celebrate 50 years of NAIDOC Week. These milestones are more than anniversaries — they are reminders of enduring faith, resilience, and our shared call to walk together. At times, it is important to look back. Not to dwell in the past, but to recognise the path that has been travelled — to see the strength, the challenges, and the grace that have carried us forward. In this, we trust in God's providence, present in every step of our journey.

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 11 July St Benedict

Project Compassion April 2026

If you requested a receipt for your Caritas Appeal donation, there are envelopes with your name on them in the church foyer. Please collect your receipt at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your generous support.

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 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.

Pancake Fundraiser—thank you to all parishioners who supported our fundraiser and to those who made donations last weekend. 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.

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.

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.

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.

Appeals

Peter's Pence Collection—for the Holy Father was held last weekend. Thank you for your generous donations.

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, Harriot Perera, Zane Belista, Charles Vella & family, Natale Zappia, Giovanna, Gregorio & Katerina Zappia, Mary Muinde Tithe, 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 (for child-related ministries) <i>Including SRE, Children's Liturgy, Youth Group, Acolytes, Indoor Soccer, Sacrament Teams, RCIA 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 (for non-child related ministries) <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

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