

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him.

O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 15:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, ‘Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.’ But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. ‘Give her what she wants,’ they said ‘because she is shouting after us.’ He said in reply, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.’ But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. ‘Lord,’ she said ‘help me.’ He replied, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the house-dogs.’ She retorted, ‘Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master’s table.’ Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.’ And from that moment her daughter was well again.

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. Please select any of the following Masses for your Mass Intention:
Saturday Mass 8:30am or Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm.

Masses 8:30am - Tuesday to Friday.
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

Mass Times for next weekend:
Sat 22 Aug Vigil 6pm and Sun 23 Aug 7am,9am & 11am.

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

Please Note: There will be NO Children’s Liturgy during these three Masses, due to the celebration of the First Eucharist.

Thurs 20 Aug St Bernard
Fri 21 Aug St Pius X
Sat 22 Aug The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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 Father’s Day Raffle - tickets are now on sale during the weekend Masses. Great Prizes! Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. All proceeds will go directly to our Riverstone Parish.



Pancake Fundraiser for St John’s, Riverstone - **The next Pancake Fundraiser will be on Sunday 23rd August after the 7am, 9am and 11am Masses.**

Pancakes with ice cream and maple syrup will be \$5. The EFTPOS machine will be available for your purchases.

Our Picnic Day was held last Sunday. Thank you to our families with young children who attended the picnic. Even though it was only a small group of people, it was a great day. Thanks to our volunteers for organising the picnic day.

Liturgy and Volunteer Meeting for Feast Day Saturday 19th September at 10am in the hall. Could all liturgical, including choirs attend this meeting to discuss the 10:30am Mass for our Feast Day on the 29th November. We would also like to invite any parishioners, who are willing to help on the day. *****Helpers are required for food, setting/packing up chairs and tables, BBQ, decorations etc. Please place your name on the clipboard in the church foyer*****

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.

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, 22 August at 10am** in the church hall. The topic for this session is *How to Grow in our Christian Life*. 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 13th September 2026 If you bring any glass bottles, please pack separately in a cardboard box - 6 per box.

Appeals

The **Bishop’s Father’s Day Appeal** for the Clergy Support Foundation will run across four weekends, from 29–30 August to 19–20 September 2026. **Our Parish will have a Third Collection on the 29th and 30th August.** Envelopes will be available on all weekends. Please support our Clergy.

The Vinnies Winter Appeal held on the 18th & 19th July 2026 raised a total amount of \$ 1,650.65. for the Riverstone St. Vincent de Paul Conference. Thank you to our kind parishioners for this wonderful donation.

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, Stephen Donovan, Jozo Nujic, Cresendcia Cardoza, Bellarmine Helen Batih, Joseph Magro, Cathrine & Rex Kodippiy, Fr Eugene Stockton, Nunziato Orlando & family, Silvana & Domenico Procopio, Maria Procopio & Circosta family, Ralf Sullivan, Harriot Perera, Verafin C Ilao and Gregorio.

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, 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.

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

The Catholic Medical Association is hosting a GP Mini-Expo on 12th September at the Bede Heather Centre at Blacktown. During the Expo, there will be a panel discussion and Deacon Michael will be on the panel. This Expo would suit parishioners interested in learning how to identify a good Catholic GP. Also, any of our Youth or Senior High School students interested in the Healthcare Professions as a career are also welcome to attend.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding training is available face-to-face and online through the Diocesan Safeguarding Learning website: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>

Parish Centre

Work for the interior furnishings for the Parish Centre continues.

Sacraments

Sacramental Program -

Sacrament of First Holy Communion:
Church Rehearsal- Tuesday 19 August at 7pm.
The Celebration Mass will be on Saturday 22 August Vigil 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 1st September 2026 at 7pm in the Church Hall.