

Youth Group

St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group

Thank you to the YFC, Eroles family and parents helpers for Youth Group on Friday night. All children had a great night. Bring a friend and an open heart—to the next Youth Group gathering. We can't wait to see you there!

Friday - 16th October at 6:30pm

Please note change of date: November Gathering & Christmas Party has been changed to: Friday 27th November 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. coins either. Thank you.

RCIA - RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Our Parish is currently preparing candidates for the RCIA program. Thinking of becoming a Catholic? Are you or someone you know interested in exploring the Catholic faith? This RCIA is a warm, welcoming journey for:

- *Unbaptised individuals wanting to join the Catholic Church
- *Baptised Christians from other traditions wishing to enter into full communion
- *Baptised Catholics needing to complete their Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist

If you are interested, please contact the Parish office.

Volunteer Ministry Roster October 2026

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 3 rd 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 4 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	
Sun 4 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 4 th 10:30am	A Hoare	H Greedy	R Cannalire	S Nobleza	I Sprem D Gorkic	S Suri	J Bugeja	Raymond & Co	
Sat 10 th 6pm Week 2	L Canlas A Canlas	Sultana Family	J Missio		S Bonnici C Dony	M Sultana	L Canlas	P Sultana	
Sun 11 th 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		A Perera	P Perera	None	Power Point	Team Wed
Sun 11 th 9am	S Brown	R Brown	J Teuma		K Amanda N Tsui	D Thomas	V Sultana S Suri	Nonoy & Tina	
Sun 11 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy or N D'Souza	R Cannilire		Volunteer 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.

Pray with the Pope.....

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network - Pray with the Pope - **October: For mental health ministry**

Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Piety Store

***For Sale at the Piety Store: God's Word 2026** \$24 each.

Piety Store - Opening Hours

Sundays 10am - 12pm Tuesdays 10am - 11am

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

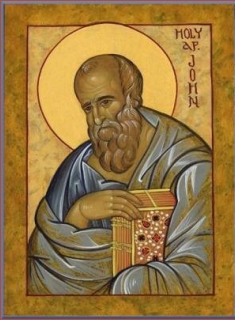
Friday Prayer Group

Christ Catholic Community (CCC) Prayer Group

Fridays 10am

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

Counters: A Hoare, J Shipley & V Sultana



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

4 October 2026
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
First Reading *Isaiah 5:1-7*
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.
Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too.
He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes.
Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God
Responsorial Psalm Ps 79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7
The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.
You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field.

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

Second Reading Philippians 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.
There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 15:15

Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 21:33-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

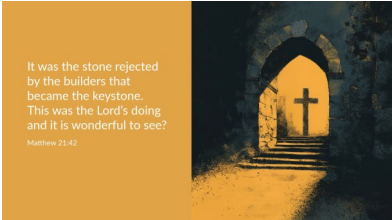
He leased his vineyard to other farmers.
Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a wine-press in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. “They will respect my son,” he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, “This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance.” So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They answered, ‘He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.
This was the Lord’s doing
and it is wonderful to see?

‘I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.’

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



Receiving the Blood of Christ

As this is the first Sunday of the month, you may receive the **Blood of Christ** after receiving the host, by **drinking a small sip from the Chalice** as you walk past, to return to your seat. Under no circumstances are parishioners allowed to dip the Sacred Host into the Chalice containing the blood of Christ.

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

Thank you to all parishioners who supported our **Pancake Fundraiser** last Sunday.

Thank you to those who purchased breakfast and to those who made donations.

Thank you to the breakfast pancake team who made another fabulous breakfast!

Masses & Feasts

Wed 7 Oct Our Lady of the Rosary

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 next **St John the Evangelist Parish Council Meeting** will be this Wednesday, 7th October at 7pm in the church hall. All parishioners are welcome.

St John the Evangelist Feast Day 29th November
10:30am Mass followed by the Celebration at the Parish Centre. *****Helpers are required! Please place your name on the clipboard in the church foyer***** Thank you to **those who have already volunteered.**

Cross - 120 Year Celebration - The cross has enough space for 21 more plaques. We encourage parishioners to fill out a form as our Parish will place another order later in the year.

Parish Centre

Work for the interior furnishings and communication systems for the Parish Centre continues.

Did you know.....

WHAT IS AN ANOINTING MASS?

An Anointing Mass is a special Mass where the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is offered to those who are elderly, ill or in need of God’s healing and strength.

FUN FACT:

The Anointing of the Sick brings **comfort, peace and spiritual strength**, reminding us that Jesus is especially close to us in times of illness and suffering.

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, 17th October at 10am** in the church hall. The topic for this session is **Evangelisation**. 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 11th October 2026 If you bring any glass bottles, please pack separately in a cardboard box - 6 per box.
September Earn was \$55.70. Thank you!

Appeals

The **Catholic Mission Appeal** will take place in our Parish on Saturday 10th October and Sunday 11th October. Envelopes will be provided. Please give generously 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, Fr Eugene Stockton, Mary Muinde Tithe, Nunziato Orlando & family, Silvana & Domenico Procopio, Maria Procopio & Circosta family, Harriot & Michael Perera, Charles Vella, Victor Gatt, Angelo Attard, Anton Grgic, Anton Prsa, Anton Bicanic, Fraternidad Ramirez, Flora Ferino, Tess F.Rehac, Dr Mario Romero, Catherine & Rex Kodippily, Recaredo Ojera, Raymond Baker

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, Kate Lapsuks, Dianne Lazatin and those in our parish community.

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.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding training is available online through the Diocesan Safeguarding Learning: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>
Dates for training face-to-face at our Riverstone Parish to be advised.

Sacraments

Sacramental Program - The next sacrament to be celebrated in our Parish will be the ***Sacrament of Confirmation.*** Please register your child by the **10th October**. Registration forms can be obtained by attending a Mass with your child and approaching the Priest and asking for a form.

Sacramental Coordinator Rosanna Ph: 0428766727 or email: sacraments10@outlook.com.au

Baptism Classes -

The next Baptism Class:
Tuesday 6th October 2026 at 7pm in the Church Hall.