

Youth Group

**St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group**  
All school-aged children are invited!  
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 10 <sup>th</sup> 6pm Week 2 | L Canlas<br>A Canlas | Sultana Family        | J Missio    |                   | S Bonnici<br>C Dony    | M Sultana              | L Canlas             | P Sultana         |          |
| Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> 7am        | Volunteer            | R Bigeni              | R Bigeni    |                   | A Perera               | P Perera               | None                 | Power Point       | Team Wed |
| Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> 9am        | S Brown              | R Brown               | J Teuma     |                   | K Amanda<br>N Tsui     | D Thomas               | V Sultana<br>S Suri  | Nonoy & Tina      |          |
| Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am    | Volunteer            | H Greedy or N D'Souza | R Cannilire |                   | Volunteer<br>A D'Souza | S Nobleza              | S Corben<br>J Bugeja | Jenchris & Co     |          |
| Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> 6pm Week 3 | L Canlas<br>A Canlas | Sultana family        | J Missio    |                   | L Canlas<br>P Canlas   | M Sultana              | J Eroles             | P Sultana         |          |
| Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> 7am        | Volunteer            | R Bigeni              | R Bigeni    |                   | A Perera               | P Perera               | None                 | Power point       | Team Wed |
| Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> 9am        | A Hoare              | R Brown               | J Teuma     |                   | S Corben<br>B Simon    | S Yapa                 | A Delara<br>L Fox    | Gel, Dennis & Co  |          |
| Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> 10:30am    | A Hoare              | H Greedy              | R Cannalire |                   | I Sprem<br>W Suri      | Volunteer              | S Corben<br>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.

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

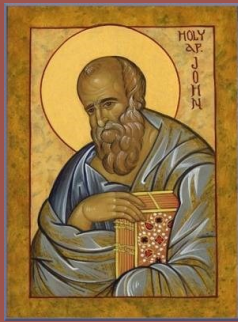
Unfortunately, piety items are not available for purchase from the parish office.

**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

**11 October 2026**  
**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**  
**First Reading** *Isaiah 25:6-10*  
A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.*  
On this mountain,  
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people  
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,  
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.  
On this mountain he will remove  
the mourning veil covering all peoples,  
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,  
he will destroy Death for ever.  
The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek;  
he will take away his people's shame  
everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so.  
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God  
in whom we hoped for salvation;  
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.  
We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us;  
for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.  
**The word of the Lord.**  
*Thanks be to God*

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 22. R. v.6**  
*I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.  
*I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort.  
*I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.  
*I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.  
*I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

**Second Reading** *Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20*  
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians  
*I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.*  
I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I  
have been through my initiation and now I am ready for  
anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach,  
poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with  
the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same,  
it was good of you to share with me in my hardships.  
In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ  
Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our  
Father, for ever and ever. Amen.  
**The word of the Lord.**  
*Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation** *Ephesians 1:17-18*  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our heart  
that we might see how great is the hope  
to which we are called.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** *Matthew 22:1-10*  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
*Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.*  
Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people:  
“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who  
gave a feast for his son’s wedding. He sent his servants to  
call those who had been invited, but they would not come.  
Next he sent some more servants. “Tell those who have  
been invited” he said “that I have my banquet all pre-  
pared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered,  
everything is ready. Come to the wedding.” But they were  
not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his  
business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated  
them and killed them. The king was furious. He dis-  
patched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt  
their town. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding is  
ready; but as those who were invited proved to be  
unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite eve-  
ryone you can find to the wedding.”

So these servants went out on to the roads and collected  
together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and  
the wedding hall was filled with guests.’

**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

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

 **November Mass Offerings**  
November is celebrated with All Saints on Saturday the 1st  
November and All Souls on Sunday 2nd November.

All masses during the month of November will be offered  
for those listed on the November envelopes. No deceased  
names will be placed in the bulletin or on the power point.  
The List can be found during the month of November on  
the lectern near the Altar.  
**Envelopes are now available in the porch.**  
Please, CLEARLY write each name that you would like to  
be included in the book, on the envelope, enclose your  
donation and then place the envelope in either of the  
collection plates during any Mass.  
**Please complete your Envelopes and return to the office by  
Wed 28th October.**

For those parishioners who are new to our Parish, please  
note that No Memorials or Anniversaries will be mentioned  
during any Masses in the month of November.  
Instead parishioners will keep all of the deceased names  
that are listed in the book in their prayers for the whole  
month of November.

| Masses & Feasts |        |                        |  |
|-----------------|--------|------------------------|--|
| Thurs           | 15 Oct | St Teresa of Jesus     |  |
| Sat             | 17 Oct | St Ignatius of Antioch |  |

**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 THE EVANGELIST FEAST DAY**  
**Sunday 29th November – 10:30am Mass**  
followed by celebrations at the **Parish Centre.**  
**HELPERS NEEDED!**  
Please place your name on the clipboard in the church  
foyer. **DONATIONS NEEDED:**  
Monetary donations, small juice boxes, bottled water or  
soft drinks are gratefully appreciated.  
**NEXT MEETING: Saturday 31st October, 9:00am in the  
Hall. All welcome!**

**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.....**  
**WHO IS AN ALTAR SERVER?**  
An Altar Server assists the priest and deacon during  
Mass, helping with the altar, processions and other sa-  
cred actions.  
**FUN FACT:**  
Altar Servers help us to **pray and worship more  
reverently** by assisting with the beautiful traditions and  
ceremonies of the Mass.

**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 - Today, Sunday 11th October 2026**  
If you bring any glass bottles, please pack separately in  
a cardboard box - 6 per box.

**Appeals**  
The **Catholic Mission Appeal** will take place in our  
Parish this weekend, Saturday 10th October and  
Sunday 11th October. Envelopes will be provided.  
Please give generously.

Thank you to all of our generous parishioners who have  
contributed towards the **Bishop’s Father’s Day Appeal** for  
the Clergy Support Foundation, which supports all of our  
clergy in the Diocese of Parramatta.

**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,  
Carmen, Zane Belista, Leli Sammut,  
**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 be-  
come 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/](https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/)  
Dates for training face-to-face at our Riverstone Parish to  
be advised.

**Sacraments**  
**Sacramental Program** - Registrations for the **Sacrament  
of Confirmation have now closed.**  
The program begins with Lesson 1 Parent & Child  
Tuesday 20th October at 7pm in the Galilee Room.  
Sacramental Coordinator Rosanna Ph: 0428766727  
or email: sacraments10@outlook.com.au  
**Baptism Classes** -  
The next Baptism Class:  
Tuesday 3rd November 2026 at 7pm in the Church Hall.