

Youth Group



St John’s Parish, Riverstone  
Youth Group

2023 dates will be available early next year.

Appeals

Bishop’s Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care’s  
Assistance with Care and Housing Service

Thank you to our generous parishioners who have  
already donated to this appeal.

Please note that our Parish will need to meet a  
quota from the Diocese of Parramatta for this  
appeal. Our donations are currently being counted.

Collection Plates

The First Church Collections plus donations from  
Marriages, Baptisms and Funerals and goes  
directly towards supporting the various minis-  
tries 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

Church Roster

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: (Name of parishioner)

OR

Weekly Envelopes OR

Tap & Go OR

Credit Card Donations OR

Collection Plates at Mass

Please note - collection plates:

1st Collection - Diocese of Parramatta

2nd Collection - Riverstone Parish

Piety Store

For Sale - God’s Word Book \$20 each.  
Columban Calendars \$10 each

Please visit the Piety store to purchase any of these  
items.

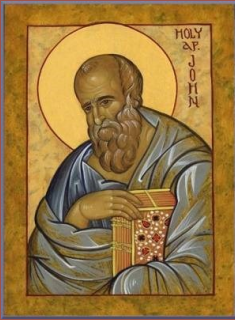
Piety Store - Opening Hours

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

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

Advertising

If you would like to promote your services ,  
please contact the parish office to discuss this  
opportunity.



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

**Parish Secretary:** Melissa Spence

**Parish Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 9am-2pm

**Phone:** 9627-1176

**Email:** stjohns10@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

**Marriage**  
Please give 6 months notice

**Baptism** From November 2022 -  
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month

**Baptism Information Night**  
First Tuesday of each month at 7pm

**Marriage & Baptism**  
By arrangement during office hours

**1 January 2023**  
**Mary, the Holy Mother of God**  
*First Reading Nm 6:22-27*  
A reading from the book of Numbers  
*They will call down my name on the children of Israel and I will bless them.*  
The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ‘Say this to Aaron and his sons: “This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:  
May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace.”  
This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.’  
*The word of the Lord.*  
*Thanks be to God.*

*Responsorial Psalm Ps 66:2-3. 5. 6. 8. R. v.2*  
*May God bless us in his mercy.*  
God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.  
*May God bless us in his mercy.*  
Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples.  
you guide the nations on earth.  
*May God bless us in his mercy.*

January 2023 Counters - A Hoare/J Shipley Cleaners - Volunteer Thank you to all of our volunteers.

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ord.	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayers of the Faithful	Children’s Liturgy	Choir/Power Point
Sat 7th Jan 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	C Catapang		A Jaszczynzyn Volunteer	M Sultana	J Eroles	Katie Cameron & Paul Sultana
Sun 8th Jan 7am	Volunteer	R Bigeni	R Bigeni		C Wickman E Sultana	P Perera	None	Power point
Sun 8th Jan 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Padernia		K Amanda R Xuereb	S Yapa	R Brown	Nonoy & Tina
Sun 8th Jan 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	J Padernia		J Sultana M Syme	D Gorkic	L Fox	Raymond & Co



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

*May God bless us in his mercy.*

*Second Reading Gal 4:4-7*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

When the appointed time came, God sent his son, born of a woman.  
When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, ‘Abba, Father’, and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Gospel Acclamation Heb 1:1-2*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;  
now he speaks to us through his Son.  
Alleluia!

*The Lord be with you.*

*And with your Spirit.*

*Gospel Lk 2:16-21*

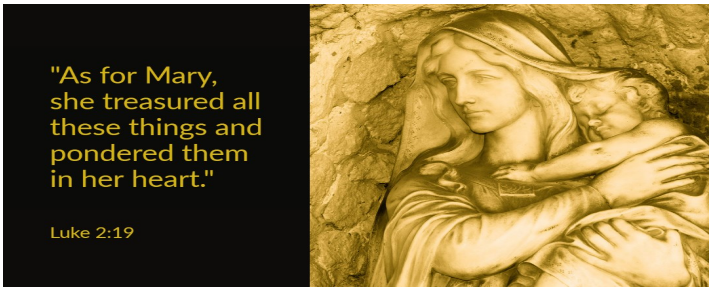
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The shepherds found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the crib... When the eighth day came they gave him the name of Jesus.  
The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.*



*Fr Zakaria and the Parish Team would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year*

## Masses

Fri	6th January	First Friday Mass	7:30pm
Sat	7th January	Anointing Mass	8:30am

Mon	9th January	The Baptism of the Lord	8:30am
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## Liturgical Feasts this Week

Mon	2 Jan	Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
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## 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

**All Welcome** - to celebrate The Baptism of the Lord Mass at 8:30am on Monday 9th January 2023.

**Christmas Mass Offering Envelopes are in the porch.**  
Thank you to all of the generous parishioners who donated by these envelopes



Thank you, all volunteers during our Christmas ceremonies. Thank you volunteers, altar servers, acolytes, children's mass coordinators, organists, musicians, singers and all who have helped in the liturgy in any way. We are grateful for your generosity  
- Fr Zak and the Parish Team.



**Defibrillator** \*In case of an emergency\*  
Please be aware that our Defibrillator has now be installed on the wall behind the priest carpark/toilets. There is a green sign on the wall to show where it is. It has been placed in this position, so that it may be accessed by the public, even when the church is closed.

**NEW Riverstone Parish Website.** We are excited to announce the launch of our new Parish website.

Our parishioners are invited to view our new website:  
<https://www.stjohnsriverstone.org.au/>

Or just type in st johns church riverstone in your search bar. The website will now be managed by the parish office. We would like to thank our “New Website” Team Jerry Teuma, Tony Brooker & Peter Sullivan for giving their time and expertise to complete this project. We would also like to thank Jerry Teuma and Peter Long who originally launched our website many years ago & managed the website weekly. We are very grateful.

**School Holiday Fun!**

**St John's Eagles Indoor Soccer Round Robin**

Indoor Sports Centre, Corner Hamilton St and Garfield Rd, Riverstone **Wednesday 25 January 2023.** 9.30am - 2.30pm Opened to boys and girls aged 5-16 Cost of \$15 per person includes a sausage sizzle and a ticket for Lucky Door Prize. You may just turn up on the day to play. Bring your friends and enjoy the day.

**For Sale** - The Craft Ladies are selling plants.. If you would like to purchase a plant, please see Fr Zak or Jenny, from the piety store.

**Gluten free hosts** are available for those who wish to receive Holy Communion. To arrange, please contact the parish office the week before.

**Tea & Coffee After Mass** - Everyone is welcome, after Mass on Sunday mornings, in the church hall.

## Prayers for our Community



**For those who have died:**

All Souls, John & Rosy Attard, Philip Azzopardi, Br Joe Byrne, Anthony Buttigieg, Sam Bugeja, Alex Calleja, John Cannata, John Grima, Alan Hoare, Maureen Muccillo, Peter Shipley, Chris, John & Maryann Sultana and Sultana family, Joe Camilleri, Domenico Pollefroni, Harriet Perera, Nunziato Orlando & family, Procopia family, Frances Miles, Julian Pontelli Emmanuel & Mary Haber, Julian & Rose Portelli, Paul & Josephine Zammit, Paul & Josephine Galea.

**For those who are sick:**

Especially Adrian Bugeja and those in our parish community.

## Diocese of Parramatta

**Advent/Summer 2022 Catholic Outlook Magazine out now!**

The Advent | Summer 2022 version of the Catholic Outlook Magazine is out now! This edition, discover how our multicultural families across the Diocese are celebrating Christmas, learn about using Christmas to deepen your marriage and read Bishop Vincent's Christmas message. Pick up your free copy from parishes and offices across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains today or read it online via [catholicoutlook.org/magazine](https://catholicoutlook.org/magazine)

**Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care's Assistance with Care and Housing Service**

No one should be homeless or without support. Your Christmas gift today will enable Catholic Care to give homeless people practical and emotional support, and a safe place to call home. Please stretch out your hand to the poor and give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal envelopes, at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](https://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) or scan this QR code. Thank you for your prayers, heart-felt compassion, and help to end homelessness.

**Diocese of Parramatta WYD23 Pilgrimage Registrations Open!**

Registration for WYD23 in Lisbon has now opened. Young people aged 16-35 can now view our itinerary, inclusions, indicative pricing, register and pay their \$800 deposit to secure their place. Limited spaces still available to join our team of 170 pilgrims with Bishop Vincent. Visit [www.parrawyd.org](https://www.parrawyd.org)

## Sacraments

Please Note: No Baptism Class in January 2023

Sacraments 2023 dates will be available early Feb 2023.