

## Youth Group



**St John's Parish, Riverstone  
Youth Group**

2023 dates will be available soon.

## Appeals

**Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care's Assistance with Care and Housing Service**  
*Thank you* to our generous parishioners who have donated to this appeal.

Please note that our Parish has met the quota from the Diocese of Parramatta for this appeal which was \$2775.

Our parish donated a total of \$3810.95 for this appeal. The extra amount donated will be credited to our next appeals' quota.

## Collection Plates

**The First Church Collections** plus donations from Marriages, Baptisms and Funerals and 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*

## Church Roster

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 28th Jan 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Padernia		Volunteer Volunteer	M Sultana	To be rotated amongst 4 volunteers	Katie Cameron & Paul Sultana
Sun 29th Jan 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni		E Sultana Volunteer	Volunteer	To be rotated amongst 4 volunteers	Power point
Sun 29th Jan 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		S Corben B Simon	L Fox	To be rotated amongst 4 volunteers	Nonoy & Tina
Sun 29th Jan 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy			David Julien	P Mansweto	To be rotated amongst 4 volunteers	Raymond & Co

## 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.

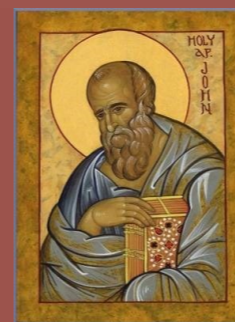
**Piety Store - Opening Hours**

<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>
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:** 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

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** 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

**22 January 2023**

### 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

*First Reading Is 8:23 - 9:3*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.*

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Responsorial Psalm Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14. R. v.1*

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; Before whom shall I shrink?

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
for this I long,  
to live in the house of the Lord,  
all the days of my life,  
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,  
to behold his temple.

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord!

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

*Second Reading 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.*

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23*

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

*The Lord be with you.*

*And with your Spirit.*

*Gospel Mt 4:12-23*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.*

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!  
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,  
Galilee of the nations!  
The people that lived in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death  
a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.



## Baptisms



The next Baptism Class is on Tuesday 7th February 2023 at 7pm in the Church Hall.

Baptisms in 2023 are available on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month at 12pm.

Please visit our website for more information.

## Liturgical Feasts this Week

24 Jan	Tues	St Francis de Sales
25 Jan	Wed	The Conversion of St Paul
26 Jan	Thurs	Australia Day
28 Jan	Sat	St Thomas Aquinas

## 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

**Australia Day Mass** Thursday 26 Jan at 8:30am.  
All welcome.

**School Holiday Fun! This Wednesday!**  
**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.

**HELP NEEDED:** Parishioners to participate in the offertory procession for Masses on Saturdays and Sundays.

Please speak to the Mass Coordinator at each Mass to offer your help.

**Children's Liturgy** — time during Mass has been extended. Children will return to their parents/carers just before the "Our Father", Therefore the children will not participate in bringing the offertory gifts to the altar. Thank you.



### 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.

**For Sale** - The Craft Ladies are selling plants. These plants are displayed under the pergola. Prices are displayed on a sign in the area. 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.

**The Friday Prayer Group** 10am Fridays. Come and hear what God has to say!

We always welcome new members.

## 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 & Sultana family, John, Michael, Angelo & Clementina Sultana and Sultana family, Joe Camilleri, Domenico Pollefroni, Harriot Perera, Nunziato Orlando & family, Procopia family, Frances Miles, Julian Pontelli Emmanuel & Mary Haber, Julian & Rose Portelli, Paul & Josephine Zammit, Paul & Josephine Galea, Paul, Maria & Laurie Bigeni, Charlie & Jane Refalo & George Pulickal

### 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! Copies available at our Parish & via [catholicoutlook.org/magazine](http://catholicoutlook.org/magazine)

### 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](http://www.parrawyd.org)

### Sr Nathalie Becquart Sydney Public Forum and Lecture

Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCJ, the Vatican's most influential female, is coming to Australia for a whirlwind tour in February 2023. Sr Nathalie will be in Sydney on Friday 3 February, presenting at a public forum at 4pm and a public lecture at 7pm, both held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Places are limited, so please register via <https://parracatholic.org/srnathalie/>.

A **Mass for the World Day of the Sick**, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Saturday 11 February 2023 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2022 to [hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org)

## Sacraments

Sacraments 2023 dates will be available early Feb 2023.