

Youth Group



St John's Parish, Riverstone Youth Group

2023 dates will be available soon.
Youth Group will begin in March.

Appeals

Project Compassion begins on the 1st weekend of Lent 25th & 26th February 2023. Money boxes will be available for you to take home and fill during Lent.

Good Friday Appeal will take place on Good Friday 7th March 2023. Please give generously to support the people and places of the *Holy Land*

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

February 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 25th Feb 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Padernia		A Jaszczynzyn Volunteer	M Sultana	P Mansweto	Katie Cameron & Paul Sultana
Sun 26th Feb 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni		C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point
Sun 26th Feb 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		E Abendan K Amanda	M Camilleri	R Xuereb	Rondalla & Co
Sun 26th Feb 10:30am	M Satorre	H Greedy	C Catapang		N D'Souza R D'Souza	Volunteer	Angie J Bugaja	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: 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

Piety Store

For Sale - God's Word Book \$20 each.

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

Piety Store - Opening Hours

Sundays

10am - 12pm

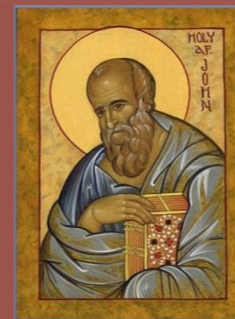
Tuesdays

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 February 2023

2nd & 4th Saturday of the month at 11am

Baptism Information Night

First Tuesday of each month at 7pm

Marriage & Baptism

By arrangement during office hours

19 February 2023

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

First Reading Lv 19:1-2. 17-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading 1 Cor 3:16-23

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

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Jn 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!
Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.
Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel Mt 5:38-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike.

For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.



Masses

Wed 22 Feb	Ash Wednesday Mass	8:30am & 7:30pm
Fri 03 Mar	First Friday Mass	7:30pm
Sat 04 Mar	Anointing Mass	8:30am

Baptisms



BAPTISM: Our Parish would like to welcome *Jacob Attard* into our community and congratulate his family and friends on this special day.

The next Baptism Class will take place on Tuesday 7 March 2023 at 7pm in the Church Hall.

Liturgical Feasts this Week

Wed 22 Feb Ash Wednesday
Please remember this is a day of obligation. It is a day of fasting, please give up meat & dairy products following the law of the catholic church.

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

Welcome - Deacon Michael - our Parish is blessed to welcome a new Deacon, Deacon Michael, into our church community. Deacon Michael will join Fr Zakaria from the 2nd Week of Lent.

Triumph Lent Program — \$10 per copy. This booklet is A5 size and is available to purchase from the Parish office. Do not miss out ! There are only 8 copies available.

Easter Raffle - our parish will be holding an Easter raffle with beautiful dome statue as 1st & 2nd Prize. Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Please purchase tickets after weekend masses. Thanks for supporting our Parish.

Project Compassion - Project Compassion 2023 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from our parish from Ash Wednesday.

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.

HELP NEEDED: helpers for the Sacrament Program. If you are able to help in any way, please contact the parish office.

Calling for the Lord's Housekeepers We need more volunteers to help clean the church please. If you can spare a few hours once a month to help keep our church beautiful, please contact the Parish office.

NEW Riverstone Parish Website. Our parishioners are invited to view our new website:

<https://www.stjohnsriverstone.org.au/>

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.

St Vinnies— if you need assistance, please Contact: Blacktown Support Centre Ph **8861 704** Or Head Office: vinnies@vinnies.org.au

Defibrillator *In case of an emergency* Please look for the green sign.

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, Harriot Perera, Nunziato Orlando & family, Procopia family, Paul & Josephine Zammit, Corazon Santos, George Micallef, Xerri family, Azzopardi family, Cresencia Fernando, Josephine Camilleri, Joseph, Maria, Emmanwella Aguis, Joseph & Carmea Muscat, Jason Daep, Alvin Sebastian, Andrew Mifsud, Sylvia, Anthony, Peter Bartolo, Victoria Zammitt, Carmela Bajada, Victoria Bugeja, Frank Stacey.

For those who are sick:

Especially Adrian Bugeja, Carlos T Quinteros Charlie Spiteri, Michael Aguis and those in our parish community.

Thanksgiving Mass for Birthday

Armando Pangilinan

Stations of the Cross



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held during Lent . All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Wednesday after the 8.30am Mass and

Friday evenings at 7pm before Mass 7:30pm

Please be advised that the 7:30pm Mass will be held every Friday night during Lent.

Sacraments

Sacraments 2023

The parent information and dates letter is now available in the porch. If you have a child who will be making their sacrament this year, please take a copy home. The letter will explain the process to enrol your child in our sacramental program.

The Sacrament of Penance - The enrolment form completed and returned with donation, is required by 24th April.

The Parent Information Meeting is on Tuesday 16th May at 7pm in the Galilee Room.

We also require helpers for the Sacraments. If you are able to help, in any way, please contact the parish office.