

## Youth Group



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

All school-aged children and their parents are invited to attend a get-together for the Youth Group. Fun activities for both children and their parents.

You are most welcome to bring a friend.

**6pm in the Church Hall on these Friday nights:**

19 May	18 Aug
23 Jun	22 Sept
21 Jul	20 Oct
	17 Nov Christmas Party

## Appeals

**Project Compassion** - Please return your money boxes as soon as possible.

## 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

April 2023 Counters - A Hoare/J Shipley Cleaners - Volunteers

Thank you to all of our volunteers. J Padernia is not available until further notice.

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ord.	Acolytes	Readers	Prayers of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point
Sat 22nd Apr 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana Family	J Padernia	A Jaszczynyn Volunteer	M Sultana	P Mansweto	Katie Cameron & Paul Sultana
Sun 23rd Apr 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni	C Wickman M Evans	P Perara	None	Power point
Sun 23rd Apr 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma	E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	R Xuereb	Rondalla & Co
Sun 23rd Apr 10:30am	M Satorre	H Greedy		N D'Souza R D'Souza	Volunteer	S Corben	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

QR Code for payments directly to the Riverstone Parish - please enter your name & payment description.



## Piety Store

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

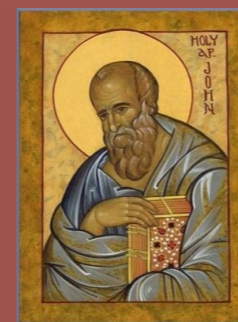
**Piety Store** - Opening Hours

<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** - As From March 2023

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

## 16 April 2023

### Second Sunday of Easter

*First Reading Acts 2:42-47*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.*

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

*The word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

*Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1*

*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.'  
Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.'  
Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.'

*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*

I was thrust, thrust down and falling  
but the Lord was my helper.  
The Lord is my strength and my song;  
he was my saviour.  
There are shouts of joy and victory  
in the tents of the just  
*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
his love is everlasting.*

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.  
This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad.  
*Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
his love is everlasting.*

### Second Reading 1 Pt 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter  
*He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising  
Jesus Christ from the dead.*  
Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in  
his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by  
raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure  
hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be  
spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being  
kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's  
power will guard you until the salvation which has been  
prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of  
great joy for you, even though you may for a short time  
have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that,  
when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been  
tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than  
gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by  
fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour.  
You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without  
seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that  
it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are  
sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is,  
the salvation of your souls.

*The word of the Lord.*  
*Thanks be to God.*

### Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!  
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;  
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!  
Alleluia!

*The Lord be with you.*  
*And with your Spirit.*

### Gospel Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.  
In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week,  
the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were,  
for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them.  
He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his  
hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when  
they saw the Lord, and he said to them again,  
'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'  
After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you  
forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you  
retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was  
not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said,  
'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the  
holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my  
finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my  
hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later  
the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was  
with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and  
stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he  
spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my  
hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no  
longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my  
God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.  
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the  
disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book.  
These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is  
the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you  
may have life through his name.

### The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ*



## Masses

Friday	5 May	7:30pm	First Friday Mass
Saturday	6 May	8:30am	Anointing Mass

## 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

Some people are not respecting the **Eucharist** and  
Fr Zak has recently found Eucharist left in the pews  
and carpark. Please consume the Eucharist as soon as  
you receive it, whilst standing in front of the Priest,  
acolyte or communion minister. If you are not a  
practicing Catholic, you may still come forward, cross  
your arms and receive a blessing. Thank you.

Reminder: **Youth Group is on Friday 21st April** at  
6pm in the church hall!

**The Parish Council Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday  
26th April at 7:30pm** in the church hall. All parishioners  
are welcome. We welcome any new parishioners who  
would like to join this meeting to listen to discussions on  
topics relevant to our Parish needs.

**Project Compassion** - *Please return your money boxes.  
as soon as possible.*

**The new Catholic Outlook Magazine is now available in the  
porch.**

**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.

**Help Needed** - Our Parish would like some more helpers  
for our Indoor Soccer Gala Day. The next day will be held  
in the July School Holidays (date to be confirmed).

We ask for more helpers in the following areas:

Cook sausages for lunch at venue or at your home

Sell food and drinks on the day

Assistance to the coordinator on the day

If you are willing to help in any of these areas, please  
contact the Parish Office for more information. It is only  
for 1 day in each of the school holidays and we would love  
more helpers so that the day runs smoothly. Thank you.



## 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, Maria & Nicholas Gatt, Harriot  
Perera, Joseph Sammit, Carmello, Victoria &  
Alfred Bugeja, Dorothy Hart, Xerri family &  
Azzopardi family, Michael Agius, Mary Calleja,  
Cresencia Fernando and Michael Jenaras.

### For those who are sick:

Especially Adrian Bugeja, Carlos T Quinteros,  
Francis Saliba, John Padernia, Joe Sultana, Marianne  
Sultana and those in our parish community.

## Indoor Soccer Gala Day

### ST JOHN'S EAGLES Round Robin Indoor Soccer

was held last Wednesday. The children had a great day.  
Thank you to the Filipovic family for organising the day.  
Thank you to the YFC and the parent/carer helpers on the  
day. The next gala day will be in the July school holidays.  
We will advise the date when confirmed.

## Sacraments

Baptism Class: Tues 2nd May at 7pm in the Church Hall.



**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.

## Diocese of Parramatta

Musicians, Clergy & Liturgy Planners are invited to attend a  
Music Workshop Presented by Eric Grella on Singing the  
Psalms & Chant on Thursday 4 May from 7pm to 8:30pm at the  
Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. RSVP by 1 May to  
[hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org)

CCD is hosting Dr Laurie Woods presenting A Study of St  
Matthew's Gospel - April 28; May 5, 12, 19 & 26. 10 am to  
2pm at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. To book  
please email Maree Collis [ccd.training@parracatholic.org](mailto:ccd.training@parracatholic.org)

The annual Diocesan Faith in Marriage Seminar returns in  
2023 with Chris Padgett, American Speaker, Musician, Author  
and Professor of Theology. This free event will be held on Friday  
19 May at 7:30pm at St Paul the Apostle Church, 40 Buckleys  
Road, Winston Hills. Please register your attendance at  
[marriage@parracatholic.org](mailto:marriage@parracatholic.org)