

Youth Group



St John's Parish, Riverstone Youth Group
 We look forward to Youth Group in 2024!
 Dates to be advised early 2024.

Indoor Soccer

St John's Eagles Round Robin Soccer Gala Day
 The next Soccer Gala Day will be on
 Wed 17th April 2024 9:30am - 2:30pm.
 All school-aged children are invited.

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. Our Parish cannot bank these coins. Please check your coins before placing them in the collection plates. Thank you.


Church Roster Jan/Feb2024

Date	Welcomers	Mass Coordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 27 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Padernia		A Jaszczyszyn S Nieves	M Sultana	None	Paul Sultana	C Messa S Corben
Sun 28 th 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni		C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	M Virgee JB
Sun 28 th 9am	Volunteer	R Brown	J Teuma		E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	None	Rondalla & Co	Annie MO
Sun 28 th 10:30am	M Satorre	H Greedy	J Padernia		N D'Souza R D'Souza	D Gorkic	None	Raymond & Co	
Sat 3 rd 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana family	J Missio	M Sultana	A Jaszczyszyn	M Sultana	M Galati	Jenchriss & Co	C Messa S Corben
Sun 4 th 7am	A Lomano	R Bigeni	R Bigeni	V Bonnici F Bonnici	C Wickman E Sultana	P Perera	None	Power point	M Virgee JB
Sun 4 th 9am	Sullivan Family	R Brown		J Sullivan P Sullivan	V Sultana L Fernandez	G Fernandez	J Sullivan S Brown		Annie MO
Sun 7 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy		H Greedy	F Dcruz A Dcruz	C Mascarenhas	S Corben	Jenchriss & 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.



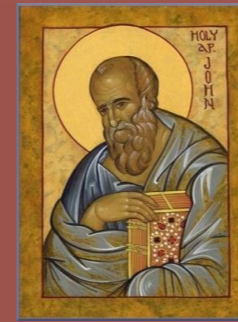
Piety Store

Piety Store - Opening Hours
Sundays **Tuesdays**
 10am - 12pm 10am - 11am
 Unfortunately, piety items are not available for purchase from the parish office.

Friday Prayer Group

Christ Catholic Community (CCC) Prayer Group
 Prayer meeting held every Friday 10am in the classroom building. For further information, please contact:
 Mary Camilleri Ph 0403116987.

Counters- J Shipley & A Hoare



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 Manager: Tony Brooker
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 -
 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

28 January 2024

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

First Reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.9

If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
 hail the rock who saves us.
 Let us come before him, giving thanks,
 with songs let us hail the Lord.

If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come in, let us kneel and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my Work.'

If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

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

The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy.

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs: all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:16

Alleluia, alleluia!
A people in darkness have seen a great light:
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.
Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel Mark 1:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

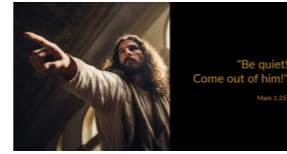
This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.
Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant.

. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Would you like to become an SRE in our Local Public Schools?

WHY IS SRE TAUGHT? The Catholic Church sees the education of Catholic children in the Faith, in schools, as integral and key to its mission. SRE's are representatives of our faith community.

WHO ARE CATECHISTS? Catechists (Scripture teachers) are volunteers who are approved, authorized and trained by the local parish and Dioceses of Parramatta, who are sharing their faith with the children.

Our Parish is always looking for parishioners who would like to become an SRE in one of our local public schools and share their faith with the children.

Without our SRE volunteers, our faith cannot be shared with the next generation. This ministry is vital part of our church community.

If you are interested, Please speak to Helena Greedy who attends the Sunday, 10:30am Mass or phone the Parish Office for more information.

Masses & Feasts

Wed 31 Jan St John Bosco

Fri 2 Feb The Presentation of the Lord

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

Please Remember - The Importance of Getting to Mass On Time - The Mass is a time to listen and respond to God's Word. 'In the reading, God's word is laid before the people and the treasures of the Bible opened to them.' During the Liturgy of the Word, we listen to the Word of God in the readings and the Gospel and then respond in prayer to each.

The **Parish Office** will re-open this Monday 29th January at 9am.

The next **Parish Council Meeting** will be on Wednesday 7th February at 7:30pm in the hall.

All parishioners are invited.

The Next **First Friday Mass is The Presentation of the Lord Mass** on 2nd February at 8:30am 7:30pm

The next **Anointing Mass** is Sat 3rd February at 8:30am

WWCC—volunteers, please check your date of expiry for your WWCC clearance. There are quite a few parishioners who will need to reapply for their WWCC, as they may expire in early 2024. Please contact the Parish office if you require any assistance. Thank you.

Piety Store - For Sale

God Word 2024 Book \$22 each

St John's Eagles Round Robin Soccer Gala Day

The next Soccer Gala Day will be on Wed 17th April 2024 9:30am—2:30pm. All school-aged children are invited to attend.

We are in need of parent helpers for the gala days for 2024. If you are able to help on these days, please contact the parish office and place your name on the list. More helpers will make the day run smoothly. Thank you.

Tea & Coffee After Mass - Everyone is welcome, after 9am and 10:30am Masses on Sunday mornings, at the Parish Centre side of the verandah.

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

We would like to start a **Saturday morning group of Volunteer Cleaners** for the Church. This would be after the 8:30am Mass. This will enable those who cannot spare time during the week to participate in this ministry. Please contact the Parish Office with your name and contact number.

Diocese of Parramatta

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in February 2024. If you are interested please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or marv.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://forworship.org.au/>

Prayers for our Community

Deceased Mass Offerings -

All Souls, All Souls in Purgatory, 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 & Sultana family, Maria & Nicholas Gatt, Joseph Jack Sultana, Harriot Perera, Fred Baskerville, Mary Calleja, Mary Polgar, Francis Stivala, Julian Dalley, Silvano Santilli, Antoinia Mercia, Lachlan Hayes, Rita & Carmen Xerri, Paul & Maria Bigeni.

For those who are sick:

Especially Adrian Bugeja, Carlos T Quinteros, Francis Saliba, John Padernia, Maria Pisto, Tony & Freda Attard, Margaret Galea, Belinda Grgic, Jeff Meilak and those in our parish community.

The February Volunteer Roster is in the porch.



Volunteers Needed!

- Acolytes
- Sacramental Program
- Baptism Classes
- Church Cleaners
- Special Ministers
- Indoor Soccer Parent Helpers

Our Parish is in need of more volunteers in various areas within our Parish. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Parish Office for more information and to place your name on the Volunteer List.

Please note that you will need to provide your Volunteer WWCC if you volunteer in an area that you may interact with children. Instructions on how to obtain this WWCC clearance can be obtained from the parish office.



Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers, who always help to make St John the Evangelist, Riverstone a lovely Parish!

Sacraments



Sacrament of Baptism

The next Baptism Class:
Tuesday 6 February 2024
7pm in the Church Hall.