

Youth Group



2024 St John's Parish Riverstone Youth Group

The Youth Group took place on Friday night. The children had a fun night. Thank you to the St Johns' coordinators, the YFC and all of the parent helpers on the night.

6pm in the Church Hall on the following Friday nights:
18 October
 15 November (Christmas Party)

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.

Jubilee 2025

Jubilee 2025—Pope Francis The Holy Father has decided that 2025 will be a year of *Jubilee*, something which happens every 25 years. The theme is *"Pilgrims of Hope"*. Please view the following website for more information: <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

Church Roster September 2024

Date	Welcomers	Mass Co-ordinators	Acolytes	Special Ministers	Readers	Prayer of the Faithful	Children's Liturgy	Choir/Power Point	Cleaners
Sat 21 st 6pm	M Satorre	Sultana family	J Missio		A Jaszczyszyn S Nieves	M Sultana	M Galati R Edwards	Paul Sultana	Team Wed
Sun 22 nd 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana			C Wickman M Evans	P Perera	None	Power point	
Sun 22 nd 9am	Volunteer		J Teuma		E Abendan J Boemi	M Camilleri	L Fox	Rondalla Choir	
Sun 22 nd 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	D Catig		N D'Souza R D'Souza	D Gorkic	S Corben J Bugeja	Raymond & Co	
Sat 28 th 6pm	Volunteer	Sultana Family	J Missio		I Spram		L Canlas	Paul Sultana	Team Wed
Sun 29 th 7am	Volunteer	E Sultana	R Bigeni		C Wickman	P Perera	None	Powepoint	
Sun 29 th 9am	Volunteer		J Teuma		S Corben B Simon	K Amanda	L Fox S Brown	Noy & Tina Co	
Sun 29 th 10:30am	Volunteer	H Greedy	D Catig		D Gorkic S Suri		S Corben J Bugeja	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

Piety Store - Opening Hours

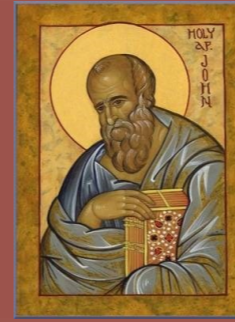
Sundays 10am - 12pm Tuesdays 10am - 11am

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
 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

22 September 2024

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

First Reading Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.

The godless say to themselves,

'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6

The Lord upholds my life.

O God, save me by your name;
 by your power, uphold my cause.
 O God, hear my prayers;
 listen to the words of my mouth.

The Lord upholds my life.

For proud men have risen against me,
 ruthless men seek my life.
 They have no regard for God.

The Lord upholds my life.

Prayers for our Community



Deceased Mass Offerings -

All Souls, All Souls in Purgatory, Forgotten 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, Joseph Sultana, Chris, John, Maryann Sultana & Sultana family, John, Michael, Angelo Clementina & Leanne Sultana & Sultana family, Maria & Nicholas Gatt, Joseph Jack Sultana, Nunziato Orlando & Domenico Procopio, Stefano Musico, Armie Osbual, Patrick Vella, Tony Vella, Joseph & Maria Mercieca, Emmanuel & Doris Sultana, Victor Gatt, Angelo Attard, Victor & Theresa Sultana, Sam & Grace Mercieca, Jane Refalo, Giovanni & Angela Panuccio, John (Jim) Galea, Harriot Perera, Snowy Sullivan, Mabel Donohoe, John Ripa, Thelma Pore, Evelina Acebedo, Joseph Raniyeoliekal, Darlene Rodrigues.

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, Lily Said, Candice Basopoulous, Anna Hoare, Myrna Manalili, Chadia, Lucia Musico, Joe Sant and those in our parish community.

Please respect the Blessed Eucharist. Please receive the Eucharist on the tongue. If you still wish to take it in your hand, stay and consume it in front of the priest or Eucharistic Minister. If you are a non-Catholic or a young child, you may receive a blessing instead. Please place your arms across your chest to receive a blessing.

Safeguarding Face to Face Training

Training will be held at our Parish in October. This training will take place during the day. Dates and times will be advertised soon. If you are unable to attend training during the day, you can complete online, in your own time, from your computer.

<https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.

Toongabbie Legal Centre (TLC) volunteers will be selling raffle tickets this weekend, along with some merchandise. All proceeds will directly support their free legal clinic provided for over 16 years to disadvantaged, marginalised and vulnerable people of Western Sydney. **They are set up under the pagola at Sat 6pm Vigil and Sunday 7am, 9am & 10:30am Masses.**

Tickets are \$2.00 each or \$20.00 for a book of 10 tickets. Prizes include Tasmania with 5 x \$50 Restaurant Food voucher plus \$300.00 toward airfare*, 1 week accommodation in Cairns plus \$300.00 toward airfare*, Jabra GN – Evolve 2 75 speaker phone, Fitbit – Smartwatch, Samsung Tablet.

Sacraments

The Sacrament of Confirmation -

Please register by 27th September 2024. Enrolment form completed and returned with donation by this date. The Parent Information Meeting: Tuesday 22nd October at 7pm

Baptism Classes

The next Baptism Class: Tuesday 1st October 7pm in the Church Hall.

Parish Notices

Please Remember - The Importance of Getting to Mass On Time - Mass is the number-one way God feeds us each and every week. In the Mass, we are invited to encounter the True Presence of God in the most profound way. Please arrive on time.

Volunteer Help Needed:

* **Children's Liturgy presenters.** * **Acolytes**

* **1-2 Representatives for Western Deanery Meetings**

• **RCIA helper**

• **Choir 1st Sun 10:30am and Saturdays 6pm Vigil Mass**

St John's Parish & School Combined Christmas Carols

Fri 6 Dec 6:30pm. Please place a reminder on your calendar. All parishioners are invited.

St John's Eagles Indoor Soccer Gala Day Unfortunately, there will be no indoor soccer gala day for the upcoming school holidays for Term 3. We look forward to the January School holidays for the next Indoor soccer gala day.

If there are any keen **gardeners** in the Parish—we need your help in the **Parish Centre**. We welcome you to look after your section of the garden and keep visiting to maintain the section, please contact the Parish Office.

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

There will be **Tea and Coffee** after the 9am & 10:30am Sunday Masses in the Parish Centre.

Parish Centre

The Parish would like to give our Parish Centre a name. One befitting our Parish History and also a tribute to the nuns who taught and resided here for many years. A couple of suggestions are CLARES HOUSE, ST CLARES HOUSE. Any other suggestions you may have would be greatly appreciated.

ALSO

The Parish proposes to install a new gate leading from the car park to the Parish Centre. All parishioners are invited to submit their suggestions, with a diagram, of what would be a fitting welcoming to the Centre. Responses to both these invites may be left in the **Suggestion Box** in the foyer of the church or left in the Parish Office. We would love to hear your thoughts with respect to both of these proposals.

Appeals

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal -

Thank you for your kind donations.

*Next Appeal - Bishop's Christmas Appeal
30 November and 1 December 2024
Envelopes will be provided*

He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



John's Parish, Riverstone 120 Year Celebration - Sunday 17 November after the 10:30am Mass.

To celebrate this milestone a large Cross will be ordered, covered with gold coloured plaques engraved with your name or family name. The cross will remain on the altar during the year and used on Good Friday. We ask for a donation of between \$300 and \$500 per plaque.

Please fill out a form that can be found in the porch and place it in an envelope with your donation.

The order of plaques positioned on the cross will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. Please give your envelope to Fr Zak or the Parish office.

Closing date for orders is Tuesday 15 October 2024.

Daylight Savings - Sunday, 6 October 2024, 2:00 am clocks are turned forward 1 hour to Sunday, 6 October 2024, 3:00 am AEDT instead.

Masses & Feasts

Mon	23 Sept	St Pius of Pietrelcina
Fri	27 Sept	St Vincent de Paul
Fri	04 Oct	First Friday Mass
Sat	05 Oct	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.



But I have God for my help.
The Lord upholds my life.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart
and praise your name for it is good.

The Lord upholds my life.

Second Reading James 3:16 – 4:3

A reading from the letter of St James

Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown in a spirit of peace.

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Thessalonians 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Gospel Mark 9:30-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of humanity ... All who wish to be first must make themselves the servants of all.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.'