

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

February 9, 2023

Upcoming Events

Installation Service for Fr. Doug
2/10 Friday, 6:00 p.m.

Diocesan Council
2/16-18 Thursday through Saturday

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
2/21 Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Services
2/22 Wednesday,
7:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Soup & Study
3/1 Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

From the Rector



Friday is a special day for St. Mark's. The official term for the scheduled service is "Celebration of a New Ministry", and it will be my second and St. Mark's third such event. The past four months have been a joy for me; every morning I awake looking forward to seeing what God has in mind for us throughout the day. I can tell that there is a new spirit of anticipation and excitement throughout the church. This energy shows up in small ways, and yet it has a large impact on attitudes, conversations, and hope. I am encouraged that my leadership style of embracing all the gifts of the church offered for the glory of God is being accepted with enthusiasm. Last Saturday, many heads of ministries of our church and members of the vestry met at the HEB House for a one day retreat. We reviewed leadership styles and were encouraged to be open to the idea that periods of tension may be more the result of a different worldview than a disagreement on content. We then moved to some of the nuts and bolts of the Episcopal Church and the roles of the Vestry, Ministry Heads, and our Office Manager. The larger part of the day was devoted to listening to the leaders of our ministries. What I saw was the church working together knowing that the vestry has its responsibilities and is to support

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Sunday Worship Service:
10:00 a.m.--Holy Eucharist-Sanctuary

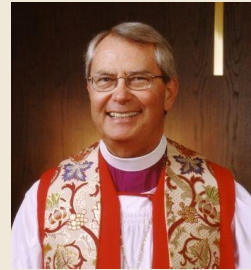
Visit our website

those who are leading the ministries of St. Mark's. People were interacting as equals in the work, and that brought me great joy. What a way to start a "Celebration of New Ministry" at St. Mark's!

Click here for the rest of [the article](#).

Installation Service

Installation Service for Fr. Doug Wasinger TOMORROW Friday, February 10th, at 6:00 p.m.



Fr. Doug will officially be installed as our third rector Friday evening by Bishop Rayford High. There will be a reception immediately after the service.

The offertory will support two ministries: Erin Cottos's ministry and Fr. Doug's discretionary fund. Please consider a gift to support them.

Fr. Doug's wife, Kellie, and two of his daughters, Rowan and Alexis, will be here from Wyoming, as well as Alexis's boyfriend, Ben.

**Make plans to be here for
this historic occasion!**



Baptism



God.

Baptism THIS Sunday, February 12th

Holy Baptism is one of our sacraments by which God adopts people as his children and makes them members of Christ's Body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of

Baptisms are always a wonderful event in the life of the church. This Sunday, February 12th, Fr. Doug's daughter Alexis's boyfriend, Ben Gustafson, will be baptized during the service. There will be a reception immediately after the service for Ben. Let's all welcome him to the family of Christ.

All Things Council

Diocesan Council February 16-18



Bishop Reed's final **Holy Eucharist Service** during Council will be Friday evening, February 17th, at 5:30 p.m. in the Henry Garrett Ballroom at the American Bank Center. It's open to everyone. You don't have to register for Council to attend the service. So, we want to encourage everyone to come. It will be a great celebration of Bishop Reed's ministry and service to our diocese.

Prayers for Council--Diocesan Council is fast approaching, and we could use your prayers. Please pray for:

- those who are working and planning for Council
- those who will be traveling to and from Council
- the Bishop Coadjutor election

If you would like to actually come to the [Prayer Room at Council](#), please use the link to sign up for specific time and date.

Bishop Coadjutor Candidates--Our diocese offered a forum to give people a chance to get to know the candidates for Bishop Coadjutor on Saturday, January 28th at Church of the Good Shepherd and two other locations in our diocese. The questions addressed were different at each of the three meetings. Here is a link to all of the [discernment meetings](#) if you'd like to hear how the candidates answered those questions.

Council in Action--The host churches for each Council decide on an outreach project that the entire diocese can participate in. This year, the decision was made to support Agape Ranch through CarePortal. Agape Ranch provides care and guidance for foster children and families in South Texas. They are in need of some specific items:

- Twin bedding sets, including sheets and comforters
- Johnson's Bath Discovery Baby Gift sets (available on Amazon)
- Hygiene kits for older children and teens (toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, shower gel, combs and hairbrushes in a container)
- Waterproof twin mattress protectors
- Pack and plays
- Monetary donations by check or online to help fund the next bed build and other needs for foster care.

Please visit agaperanch.org to learn more about this ministry. You may bring donations to St. Mark's between now and Tuesday, 2/14.

Need Singers--Gay deMontel is leading the music for the Eucharist worship service at Council on Friday, February 17th. She needs singers for the choir. If you love to sing, please reach out to her to get information. There will be two practices: the first is Saturday, February 11th, at 10:00 a.m. at Church of the Good Shepherd and the second will be Wednesday, February 15th, at 6:00 p.m. at the American Bank Center. Please consider helping out!



Calling all Cookie Bakers!

There's still time to bake those cookies!

Several of you have asked how many more dozen we need. Since many are baking at home and freezing them and members of at least four churches are baking, we have no way to really know where we are in the count. So please, just keep on baking! If we have extra, we'll freeze them for Coffee Hour.

Here's a shout-out to our Men's Reunion Group; they have baked approximately 200 dozen cookies to date. Way to go, guys!

Here are the instructions:

- All types of cookies are encouraged.
- Please package your cookies in quart-size freezer Ziplock bags.
- Write the type and quantity on the bag.

You may bring your cookies between now and Tuesday, February 14th.

- Friday, 2/10, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, 2/12, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Monday and Tuesday, 2/13-14, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

We won't be available after Tuesday because we'll be at the American Bank Center setting up for Council, and then Council will begin Thursday.

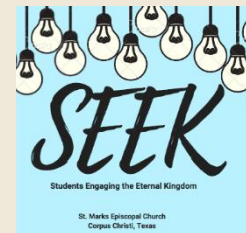
Thank you for your support of this HUGE cookie baking endeavor!

SEEK Youth Group

SEEK Youth Group

Coming up in February:

- **Friday, 2/10** Father Doug's Installation service
- **Sunday, 2/12** Youth group after church
- **Sunday, 2/19** Youth group after church
- **Tuesday, 2/21** Pancake Supper: opportunity to help cook pancakes, serve, cleanup if you'd like, or just come and eat pancakes!
- **Wednesday, 2/22** Ash Wednesday
- **Sunday, 2/26** We will watch season 1, episode 1 of *The Chosen* together. All are welcome to stay and watch with us!
-



Summer Camp Opportunities at Camp Capers

Registration is now open for:

Summer Camp:

Senior High (10th-12th grade)
Junior High (8th-9th grade)
Intermediate (6th-7th grade)
Primary (3rd-5th grade)

Here's a link to the [diocesan website](#) for registration and additional information.

Shrove Tuesday

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper February 21, at 6:00 p.m.



As has been our tradition, the men of the church will cook for us for the pancake supper. We will also have some fun activities for all to partake in, some involving pancakes. Of course, the fellowship will be awesome, so make plans to come join in the festivities.

The Season of Lent



Ash Wednesday Services February 22 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. We will have two services, one at 7:00 a.m. and the second at 7:00 p.m. We will have Holy Eucharist at the 7:00 p.m. service only.

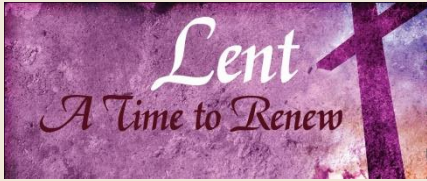
Lenten Soup and Study of *The Chosen* Series Wednesdays beginning March 1st



Ash Wednesday is February 22nd, which marks the beginning of the season of Lent. This year our Lenten event will consist of a soup supper with bread and dessert, followed by a discussion of the episodes of *The Chosen* series. Each week an episode will be assigned for you to view. A link will be sent out in the weekly ENews, so you'll have several days to watch it before coming on Wednesday to discuss it. If you can't view the episodes at home, you may stay after Coffee Hour on Sundays to watch them in the fellowship hall.

If you would like to attend, you may sign up on the back of your Connection Card this Sunday. Please indicate how many members of your family will attend, so we can plan for the meals.

Invite your friends and family to come too.



The Season of Lent

We will be bringing back the Rite I liturgy during the season of Lent. Rite I is a more formal liturgy, which uses traditional language. We used Rite I during Advent. This change can lead to more reflection and

introspection, which is appropriate for the season of Lent.

Ride to Church



Parishioner Needs Help Getting to Church

Ginny Yager enjoys being a part of our St. Mark's family but has a hard time getting to church on Sundays and for parish events. Two people have been giving her rides to and from church on Sundays, but they could use some help. Ginny lives in the senior apartment complex directly

to the west of St. Mark's property on Cimmaron Boulevard, so she's quite close to the church.

She needs someone with a vehicle that is low to the ground. Trucks are difficult for her. If you can help, please phone Judy at the church office at (361) 994-0285 or email her at judy@stmarksgc.org, and she'll give you Ginny's contact information.

Diocesan Events

Diocesan News



Discernment Forums with Bishop Coadjutor Candidate--Click on [the link](#) for more information.

Relief Fund for Turkey and Syria--Click on [this link](#) if you'd like to donate to support relief efforts for the victims of the earthquakes.

Youth/Children's Camp at Camp Capers--For [information and registration](#), click here.

Diocesan ENews--Sign up for the [Diocese of West Texas ENews](#) by clicking the link. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on a white button that has "Let's Connect" written in it.

Ways to Support God's Kingdom through St. Mark's

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORT ST. MARK'S CHURCH!

Thank-you for Your Generosity

Is the Lord blessing you? Are you grateful for what He has done in your life? Remember His Church. Though we have experienced limitations for worshiping together, we still have ministries to support and salaries and bills to pay. Give out of faith, thanksgiving, and generosity, and never out of guilt. If you are blessed to be able to give, here are several ways to do that:



- Online through our website. There is a blue "Giving" button at the bottom of each page. Just click on that and it will take you to our online EGiving page. You will need to set up a user profile, and then you can set up a one-time gift or recurring gifts. You can also give through the ["Donate to St. Mark's"](#) link.
- Through your cell phone using the app, **Vanco Mobile**. To get the app, go to the app store and search for "Vanco Mobile". The icon background is dark purple with a white circle and a purple letter "V" in the center. Download the app and follow the prompts. You can use it to set up a one-time gift or recurring gifts.
- Mail in your check to: St. Mark's Church, 2727 Airline Rd, CC, TX 78414. We have a drop-in mailbox that is locked at all times. We check the mail every day, so your check will be secure.
- Drop your check off at the church. Just put it in the locked mailbox to the left of the red doors at the fellowship hall.
- Bequest giving is another way to give to St. Mark's with a gift through your estate. Simply list St. Mark's in your will.

**THANK YOU for helping spread the Kingdom
through your continuing support
of St. Mark's Church.**

Weekly Calendar

Calendar & Ministry Schedule

Here is the link to the [February schedule](#) for our ministries, which is still a work in progress. Please check each week to see if there are any changes.

February 10 - Friday

6:00 p.m. - Installation Service for Fr. Doug--Sanctuary

7:30 p.m. - Reception for Fr. Doug--Fellowship Hall

February 12 - Sunday--Holy Baptism

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. - Reception--Fellowship Hall

February 14 - Tuesday

10:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

February 15 - Wednesday

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Set up for Diocesan Council--American Bank Center

5:00 p.m. - Council Worship Service practice--American Bank Center, Henry Garrett Ballroom

6:00 p.m. - Council Worship Service choir practice--American Bank Center, Henry Garrett Ballroom

6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant, 7426 S. Staples St.

February 16-18 - Thursday through Saturday

Diocesan Council--American Bank Center

Helpful Links

Below you will find several links to websites or Facebook Pages that you might find helpful.

[St. Mark's Episcopal Church](#)

[Donate to St. Mark's Church](#)

[St. Mark's Church Facebook Page](#)

[Diocese of West Texas](#)

[Diocesan Newsletter and Reflection Magazine](#)

[Denison Forum--News Discerned Differently](#)

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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