

# St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

September 12, 2024

## Upcoming Events

### The Discover Series-A Christian Journey

9/15, Sunday 11:30 a.m.

### Youth Group & Adult Bible Study

Sundays 11:30 a.m.

### Fishin' for Mission

9/20-21, Friday & Saturday

### Access Plus Ramp Build

9/21, Saturday 8:00 a.m.

### Church Work Day

9/28, Saturday 9:00 a.m.

### Missionary Sunday

9/29, Sunday 10:00 a.m.

### Blessing of the Animals

10/5, Saturday 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

### Bishop's Visit

10/6, Sunday 10:00 a.m.

## From the Rector Fr. Doug



I have been working through a Bible app called YouVersion. One of the advantages of this app is that the creators of the content of the app offer reading plans that include devotion. I have been incorporating the use of this app in my morning routine. I completed "Redeeming Your Time" led by Jordan Raynor. In his last session, Jordan talked about how Jesus is busy but not in a hurry. He pointed out that there is a difference between being busy and being in a hurry. Busy is about attending three Bible studies a week, whereas being in a hurry is about getting upset that I had to spend an extra 30 seconds in the check-out line at HEB.

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

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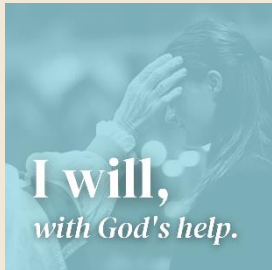
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## Sunday Worship Service

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

[Visit our website](#)

## A Christian Journey Course



### The Discovery Series A Christian Journey Course Sunday, 9/15, at 11:30 a.m.

One of the rich traditions of the Episcopal Church is the Rite of Confirmation / Reaffirmation / Reception into the Episcopal Church. The Bishop of each Episcopal diocese is the primary celebrant for this service. Sunday, October 6, 2024, will be our annual opportunity to host this service when the Right Reverend Dr. David Read will be visiting St. Mark's. For those who would like to be Confirmed / Reaffirmed / or Received into the Episcopal Church, Fr. Doug will be hosting a preparation series. During the one-hour sessions we will learn about:

- **Roots of Ministry**, which will cover topics like the Anglican Communion, the different roles of ministers, and church governance.
- **Episcopal Worship**, which will help people become familiar with The Book of Common Prayer and the sacraments.
- **What We Believe**, which will provide a review of the Creeds of the Episcopal Church, thus promoting a deeper understanding of them.
- **The Baptismal Covenant**, which is the final session where participants will learn more about the Episcopal Church's theology pertaining to this rite of adoption into God's family.

After the worship service, grab some coffee and refreshments during coffee fellowship and join Fr. Doug in the library for the class.

# Adult Bible Study

## Adult Bible Study Sundays after the service

Participants in the Adult Bible Study Group will meet in the Fellowship Hall after the service this Sunday, September 15th, to continue their study of the Gospel of Mark. Bring your Bibles if you'd like; however, there will be some available if you need one. Grab some refreshments and join in the conversation.



Below are the links to the previous study guides for chapters one through ten if you'd like to review them or catch up. The group will start with chapter 12 this Sunday.

### **Previous Chapters 1-10:**

[Chapter 1 Mark](#)

[Chapter 2 Mark](#)

[Chapter 3 Mark](#)

[Chapter 4 Mark](#)

[Chapter 5 Mark](#)

[Chapter 6 Mark](#)

[Chapter 7 Mark](#)

[Chapter 8 Mark](#)

[Chapter 9 Mark](#)

[Chapter 10 Mark](#)

### **New Chapters 11-16:**

[Chapter 11 Mark](#)---Week of 9/8

[Chapter 12 Mark](#)

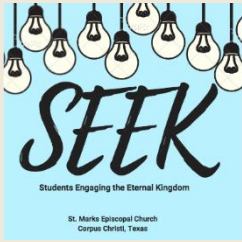
[Chapter 13 Mark](#)

[Chapter 14 Mark](#)

[Chapter 15 Mark](#)

[Chapter 16 Mark](#)

## Youth Group



### Youth Group Sundays after Church Service

#### Who do you say that Jesus is?

All youth 6th-12th grade are invited, and that includes your friends, to Youth Group! Grab a quick snack and meet us in the youth room after worship on Sundays.

We're going to have lots of fun this year as we grow in community, serve the Lord together, and complete the sentence, "JESUS IS \_\_\_\_\_." Who do you say that Jesus is? This Sunday we'll explore the statement, "Jesus is: Grace."

We all forgot to take pictures at the pool party last week, but we had a blast!!!

## Instagram

### We're Now on Instagram

We now have an Instagram account. Search for [stmarkschurchcc](#) to find us or click on the link. This will be used to compliment what is currently being posted on Facebook. Check it out!



## Fishin' for Mission



### Fishin' for Mission Fishing Tournament Friday-Saturday, 9/20-9/21

The Fishin' for Mission Fishing Tournament is a fundraiser that supports the diocesan Missions Department. Teams composed of four anglers will compete to see who can catch the most fish. It will begin with a fried fish dinner hosted by St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Rockport on Friday night. The fishing begins at 6:00 a.m. Saturday morning. All are welcome to participate. The cost per adult angler is \$85, and anglers under the age of 17 are \$35 each. Please contact Jeremy Wilkey at (361) 658-9950 if you are interested in being part of team.

# Access Plus Ramp Build

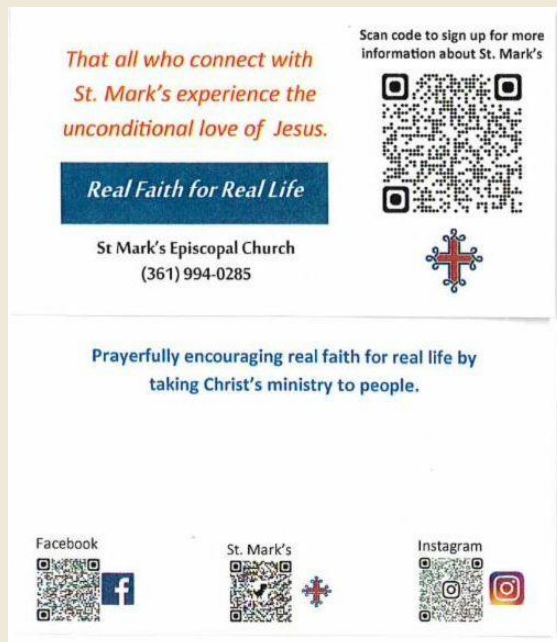
## Ramp Build Saturday, 9/21, 8:00 a.m. 942 Erwin Ave.



Our Access Plus Ramp Building ministry will build a ramp For Guadalupe September 21st. She and her family have been patiently waiting for this blessing.

Please join the group at the above address at 8:00 a.m. if you're interested in helping with this build. You don't need any experience to participate, just a willing heart. Doug Wayland oversees this ministry and is available to visit with you about the ramp building if you have any questions. You may call him at (361) 813-1781.

## New Guest Card



## Guest Cards

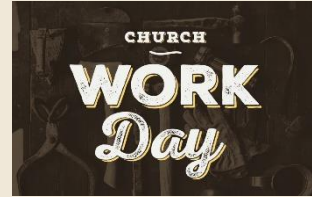
Have you ever found yourself wanting to give someone information about St. Mark's in a quick and easy way? Here's a helpful card that you may use to do just that.

It includes QR codes to our Facebook page, our website, our Instagram account, and to a place where people can sign up to receive more information about St. Mark's. The cards are business card size so they'll fit in your pocket or wallet. There is space on back if you'd like to share your contact information with someone.

The cards will be available Sunday, 9/22.

## Church Clean Up Day

**Church Clean Up Day**  
**Saturday, 9/28**  
**9:00 a.m.**



A church clean up day is scheduled for the last Saturday of September in preparation for Bishop Read's visit in early October. We'll work on the grounds as well as the interior of the buildings. There will be something for everyone to help with. Please mark this day on your calendars and plan to come help.

## Missionary Sunday



**Missionary Sunday**  
**Erin Cottos to Visit**  
**September 29th**

Erin Cottos will make a visit to St. Mark's the last Sunday in September. She will share what God has been doing in life and ministry during the service and be available to visit after the service.

The loose offering and designated gifts will go to support her ministry that Sunday.

## New Offering Card

### EGiving Offering Card

Every Sunday our financial offerings are gathered, placed on the altar, and blessed for God to use. Those who give through our EGiving platform don't get to experience the blessing of watching their offerings to God presented on the altar because they don't have anything tangible to put in the offering baskets as they are passed down the pews.

Here's a way for that to happen. When you give through our Egiving, whether it's Sunday morning or another time during the week, you will be invited to place one of the cards (featured) in the offering basket as a way to acknowledge your gift to the church. The cards will be available in the pew racks in the sanctuary.

#### Three Ways to Support God's Kingdom through St. Mark's Church.

There are three easy ways to make a donation to St. Mark's Church. Please select from the options below. Once you've offered your gift, please place this card in the offering basket to be blessed on the altar.

We use the secure **Vanco Giving** platform for electronic giving. You may scan this QR code to access it.



**GIVE+Text**



Text to give by texting:  
1-844-763-1978

Type in an amount and follow the prompts.



Download the Vanco Mobile Giving app found in your app store. It's available for Android and iPhone phones.

*THANK YOU for helping us share God's love through your financial support.*

## Get to Know You



### Get to Know our Parishioners

We had a very positive response to the biographies of those who participated in our Welcoming Liturgy. We've decided to feature one or two parishioners each week in our ENews in a section called, "Get to Know You." Of course, we need your help to accomplish this project. Please consider submitting a short, two to three paragraph biography. Think about including things that others may not know about you or special talents you possess. Please send your write-ups to Judy at [judy@stmarkscc.org](mailto:judy@stmarkscc.org). This will help everyone get to know one another on a different level. Please join in the fun!

## Blessing of the Animals

### The Blessing of the Animals Service Saturday, 10/5 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.



St. Francis of Assisi is known as the patron saint of animals, as well as a deeply spiritual friar. He had a special connection with animals that didn't go unnoticed. October 4th was designated the day to celebrate St. Francis of Assisi, which lead to churches hosting Blessing of Animals services in his honor.

We will celebrate the Blessing of the Animals service on Saturday, October 5th. Be sure to mark your calendars and bring your pets.

## Bishop's Annual Visit



### Bishop Read to Visit Sunday, October 6th

October 6th is going to be a big Sunday for us. Bishop Read will make his first Bishop's visit to St. Mark's. He will confirm and receive those who wish to join the Episcopal Church and bless those who wish to reaffirm their faith.

We will celebrate his visit with a brunch immediately after the service. Bishop Read won't be able to spend much time with us after the service because he needs to leave to return to San

Antonio for a diocesan forum meeting.

The loose offering and any designated gifts will go to support Bishop Read's discretionary fund. He uses that fund to assist priests and their families.



## Stuffed Animal Drive

### Stuffed Animal Drive to Benefit the Children of Plaza de Paz Deadline October 6th



The diocese has asked that diocesan churches participate in a stuffed animal drive. Please consider donating new or gently used stuffed animals. The collection will conclude Sunday, 10/6. There will be boxes in the entry way to the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall for the donations.

The Plaza de Paz is a respite center for immigrants in San Antonio. Many of the families arrive with very little. These stuffed animals will serve as an encouragement to the children.

## Timon's Ministry



### Ministry in Partnership with Timon's Ministry

Over the course of many years, St. Mark's has partnered with Timon's Ministry in various ways. Timon's goal "is to provide a hand up, empowering individuals to regain their strength, dignity, and ultimately, their place in the workforce." Our women's reunion group has discovered several ways to serve this community.

Members of the group have been volunteering their time at Timon's Ministry working in the Clothing Closet organizing items and visiting with people. The group has asked for help with their efforts through any of the following ways:

- Donating band aids, bandages, and gauze
- Donating clothing, especially men's shirts, jeans, or athletic shoes
- Donating travel size deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, bars of bath soap, body wash
- Donating toothbrushes
- Donating items for to-go food bags: tuna and cracker packs, granola bars, chips, bottled water, etc.
- Sorting clothing on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

You may leave your donations in designated boxes located in the entryway to the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall. Contact Pam Cater at (361) 446-4498 for more information.

**Thank you for your help with this important  
ministry opportunity.**

## Diocesan Events

### Diocesan News



**Suffragan Bishop Election News**--Meet the Candidate meetings have been scheduled. [Click here for more information](#) on the meetings and the process.

**Fishin' for Mission Fishing Tournament**--The tournament will be in Rockport on 9/21. [Click for registration and details for the event.](#)

**Spiritual Retreats in Recovery** --This spiritual retreat is geared for those dealing with addiction personally, whether it is their addiction or recovery, or that of someone they love. Click here for information about the [Recovery Retreat](#).

**Cursillo Information**--Please use the link below to the diocesan page containing information on upcoming [Cursillo weekends](#).

**Diocesan ENews**--To stay informed on what is happening in our Diocese, you may 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. We 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.

- You may also use the QR code below.
- 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 [September schedule](#) for our ministries. The schedule is an ongoing work in progress. so please check each week to see if there are any changes. Here's a link to the [September calendar](#).

#### **September 15 - Sunday**

- 10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. - Coffee Hour--Fellowship Hall
- 11:30 a.m. - Youth Group--Fellowship Hall Youth Room
- 11:30 a.m. - Discovery Series-A Christian Journey--Fellowship Hall Library
- 11:45 a.m. - Adult Bible Study--Fellowship Hall

#### **September 16 - Monday**

- 9:00 a.m. - Clothing Sorting--Timon's Ministry, 10501 S. Padre Island Dr.
- 9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library
- 6:30 p.m. - Vestry Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

#### **September 17 - Tuesday**

- 7:30 a.m. - Women's Reunion Group--Corner Bakery, 4938 S. Staples St.

#### **September 18 - Wednesday**

- 11:30 a.m. - Lunch with the Old Guys--Niko's Steakhouse, 5409 Saratoga Blvd.
- 12:00 p.m. - Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall Library
- 6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant, 7426 S. Staples St.

#### **September 19 - Thursday**

12:00 p.m. - Food Distribution--Cimarron Senior Apartments, 2802 Cimarron Blvd.

**September 20-21 - Friday & Saturday**

Fishin' for Mission, Rockport

**September 21 - Saturday**

8:00 a.m. - Access Plus Ramp Build--942 Erwin Ave.

**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](#)

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(361) 994-0285

[www.stmarksc.org](http://www.stmarksc.org)



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