

# St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

January 29, 2026

## Upcoming Events

### Annual Meeting

2/1, Sunday

### Conversations with God Bible Study

2/2, Monday

### Lunch with the Old Guys

2/4, Wednesday

### Camp Sunday

2/8, Sunday

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

2/17, Tuesday

### Ash Wednesday Services

2/18 Wednesday

### Cookies for Council

2/23, Sunday

### Soup & Study Begins

2/25, Wednesday



## Reflections from the Rector



Matthew recounts how Jesus called his first disciples to follow him. He didn't begin with a grand speech or offer measurable guarantees. Instead, he simply invited them: "Come, follow me, and you will do great things for God." Jesus then confirmed this calling through action—he healed the sick, proclaimed the good news of the kingdom in local synagogues, and embodied God's compassion without seeking public praise. He remained grounded and authentic, showing his disciples the kind of ministry they would one day share.

When the crowds swelled, Jesus echoed Moses, the great leader of Israel's past. He went up the mountain, took his seat, and began to teach. Rather than issuing commands, Jesus described the way life in God's kingdom truly works. He taught, not demanded.

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

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## Sunday Worship Service

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

[Visit our website](#)

## Annual Meeting

### Annual Meeting and Potluck Lunch THIS Sunday, 2/1, after the Service

Our Annual Meeting is this Sunday, February 1st, after the service. We will have an Italian-themed potluck lunch before the meeting begins. Make plans to attend as we'll elect three new vestry members, watch a photo recap of 2025 events, hear a financial update on how the year ended, hear from ministry leaders, and learn about plans for 2026.



## Cimarron Senior Apartments Ministry



### Ministry to the Residents at Cimarron Senior Apartments 2802 Cimarron Blvd.

#### Conversations with God Monday, 2/2, at 11:00 a.m.

#### **Conversations with God Bible Study on the First Monday of Every Month at 11:00 a.m.**

Once a month, John deMontel, Fr. Doug Wasinger, and others provide snacks and a Bible study they call "Conversations with God" for the residents. It generally lasts an hour. If you'd like to help with this ministry, please contact John at (361) 815-9498.

#### **Food Delivery to Residents on the Third Monday of Every Month at 11:30 a.m.**

The Coastal Bend Food Bank delivers food to the Cimarron Senior Apartments once a month. A team of dedicated St. Mark's volunteers helps distribute the food to the residents after it has arrived. If you have an hour or so to give, please consider helping with the monthly food distribution.

## Cookies for Council

### Cookies for Council Deadline February 23rd

Please consider helping us supply homemade cookies for our Diocesan Council in February. Our men's group baked 36 dozen cookies, so now we only need 164 dozen cookies to fulfill our 200 dozen commitment, so fire up those ovens!



Please package your cookies in gallon Ziplock bags. Write the name of the type of cookie, and how many are in the bag.

PLEASE NOTE that you should write "Contains nuts" on the bags if your cookies contain nuts. If you make them now, please freeze them. If you don't have freezer space, we have freezer space available at the church. Please let Judy know when you bring cookies to the church so she can keep track of the count and know where we are at any given time.

Please bring your cookies by Sunday, February 23rd. We will need to box them up to get ready to deliver them to the Hilliard Center, where Council is being held.

**Thank you for your help with our Cookies for Council project!**

## Need Pack-n-Plays



### Pack-n-Plays Needed for Council

Chrystal Wilkey oversees the childcare for diocesan council each year. She is in need of four pack-n-plays for the infants who are registered. Please let her know if you have one she may borrow Thursday, 2/26, through Saturday, 2/28. You can reach her at (361) 549-8917.

## Children's Chapel

### Children's Chapel Needs Help

Each Sunday, when we have children in our service, Fr. Doug invites them to the front to say a prayer over them before they head to their chapel area, before he reads the Gospel lesson. This ministry helps our children learn Bible stories and get to know God better. It's such an important ministry for our kids' spiritual lives.

We have recently had two teachers transition to other ministries, so we need volunteers to lead chapel once a month. If this ministry interests you, please contact Sally Buck at (361) 813-5732. She would be happy to answer any questions you may have about this special ministry.



## Youth Ministry



### SEEK Youth Group Meets Sundays after the Service

**Happening Weekend**--Youth in the 10th through 12th grade are invited to consider attending a Happening weekend retreat. The retreats are hosted by various churches in our diocese. The next one is March 6th-8th at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Harlingen. Scholarships are available. Click [Happening](#) to register. If you've attended a Happening and would like to serve on the H.I.S. Love team, use the same link to register.

**Summer Camp**--Registration for [Summer Camp at Camp Capers](#) is open. Click the link to the diocesan page for more information and to register.

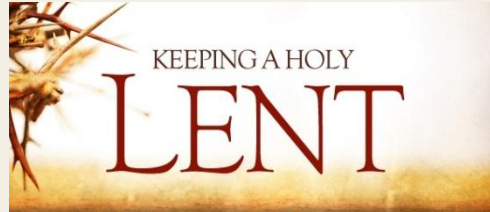
*Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face continually. (1 Chronicles 16:11)*

## Lenten Season

### The Season of Lent Begins February 18th

#### Shrove Tuesday--2/17

Before the Lenten season begins, we'll gather for our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 17th. Our men's group will prepare the meal for us. There will be time for fun, fellowship, and games.



#### Ash Wednesday Services--2/18

7:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary chapel

5:00 p.m. Ashes to Go in the church parking lot

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary

#### Lenten Soup and Study--2/25

Begins Wednesday, 2/25, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall with a soup supper and will continue with meetings on Wednesdays during Lent. We will discuss the fourth season of *The Chosen*. Please sign up on the back of your Connection Card if you plan to attend and let us know if you will need childcare.

## Adult Bible Study



### Adult Bible Study Class Sundays at 11:45 a.m.

The Adult Bible study class has resumed, but won't be meeting this Sunday because of our Annual Meeting. The group will continue to meet in the fellowship hall library. If you'd like to join in the study, head to fellowship hall after the service, grab some refreshments, and then go to the library. Bibles will be available if you need one.

## Timon's Ministry

### Ministry in Partnership with Timon's Ministries

Over the course of many years, St. Mark's has partnered with Timon's Ministries 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 Ministries, working in the Clothing Closet, organizing items, and visiting with people. The group has asked for help with their efforts in any of the following ways:

- Donating band aids, bandages, gauze, etc.
- Donating clothing, especially men's shirts, jeans, shorts, athletic shoes, flip-flops, socks, and belts, and women's jeans, shorts, undergarments, socks, and purses
- Donating sleeping bags, backpacks, tote bags, suitcases, and recyclable plastic bags
- Donating travel-size deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, bars of bath soap, body wash, bath towels
- Donating toothbrushes and new or used shoelaces
- Donating laundry supplies
- Donating items for to-go food bags: tuna and cracker packs, granola bars, chips, bottled water, etc.
- Sorting clothing and helping clients on Mondays from 8:45 to noon

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

**Cursillo Weekend**--Registration for the March 12th-15th weekend held at Camp Capers closes on March 9th. [Here is a link for more information.](#)

**Summer Camps at Camp Capers**-- Registration for Summer Camps has opened up for campers. [Here is a link for more information.](#)



**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 on 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 our [February ministry schedule](#). Click here for the [February church calendar](#).

#### **February 1 - Sunday**

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

11:30 a.m. - Annual Meeting & Potluck--Fellowship Hall

#### **February 2 - Monday**

8:45 a.m. - Clothing Shop--Timon's Ministry, 10501 S. Padre Island Dr.

9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

11:00 a.m. - Conversations with God--Cimarron Senior Apartments, 2802 Cimarron Blvd.

#### **February 3 - Tuesday**

8:00 a.m. - Women's Reunion Group--Corner Baker Restaurant, 4928 S. Staples St.

#### **February 4- Wednesday**

11:30 a.m. - Lunch with the Old Guys, Acapulco Restaurant & Bar, 6602 Saratoga Blvd

12:00 p.m. - Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall Library

6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Fellowship Hall Kitchen

**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](#)



(361) 994-0285  
[www.stmarksc.org](http://www.stmarksc.org)



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