St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

October 22, 2026

Upcoming Events

Fall Festival
10/24, Saturday

Ultreya
10/24, Saturday

Pumpkin Carving
10/25, Sunday

Time of Contemplation & Healing Prayer
10/28, Wednesday

Missionary Erin Cottos Visit
11/8, Sunday

Giving in Gratitude Potluck
11/8, Sunday

Ingathering of the Estimate of Giving Cards
11/8, Sunday

Blood Drive
11/22, Sunday

Fishpond Living Apartment Thanksgiving Food Distribution
11/24, Tuesday

In This Issue

- Reflections from the Rector
- Fall Festival
- Plenty Good Room Campaign
- 2027 Flower Chart
- Bibles for CCNRC Residents
- Youth Ministry

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Bringing Faith to Life.

Reflections from the Rector



In Jewish culture, asking questions and debating has always been a sign of respect. Jesus must therefore have been highly respected because people asked him plenty of questions, though in Matthew many of those questions came as tests. While Jesus was teaching in the shadow of the Temple, a lawyer approached him with a direct question about the Jewish Law: Which commandment is the greatest of all? Jesus answered this complex question simply, with words most Jews knew well: Love God with everything you have. Then Jesus pointed out a second great commandment, similar to the first: Love your neighbor. A simple answer to a complicated question.

Jesus then took the opportunity to present a question of his own. He asked the Pharisees gathered around him what they

- Ultreya
- Adult Bible Study
- Time of Contemplation & Healing Prayer
- Thanksgiving Food Collection
- Cimarron Senior Apartment Ministry
- Blood Drive
- Volunteer Hours App
- Spiritual Growth Resources
- Diocesan Events
- Giving Information
- Weekly Calendar
- Helpful Links

Sunday Worship Service

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

thought of the Messiah, or more to the point, whose son is he? They gave the correct answer: the son of David. David was a hero of faith and a man after God's own heart, and the Messiah would come from his family line. Next Jesus asked a question they could not answer. He pointed to Psalm 110, where David had written, "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.'" Then Jesus inquired, "If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" These trained experts in Hebrew scripture had no answer.

Click here for the rest of the article.

Visit our website

Fall Festival

Our Annual Fall Festival THIS SATURDAY, 10/24!



The Fall Festival is this Saturday, and it promises to be another really fun event for our community. Thank you, everyone who has volunteered to help in all capacities.

Thank you to everyone who donated candy and game prizes.
We still need a little more.
Please consider picking up some candy or prizes and bringing them to church Friday between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. or Saturday morning before the event starts. Thank you!

Set up is scheduled for Friday, 10/25, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. If you're available, please consider helping. **Early bidding** on the silent auction items will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 7:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact Chrystal at (361) 549-8917.

Here is a copy of the flyer below that can be printed and given to those you'd like to invite to the Fall Festival.

Thank you for considering helping us to make this a wonderful event for our community!



Plenty Good Room Stewardship Campaign

Plenty Good Room Stewardship Campaign

Our 2027 stewardship campaign is underway. We will hear from Chrystal Wilkey this Sunday as she shares her personal stewardship experiences to inspire us as we consider our own stewardship practice for 2027.

The campaign will culminate on Sunday, November 8th, with the ingathering of our Estimate of Giving cards for 2027 and our annual Giving in Gratitude potluck. A sign-up form to bring a

dish for the potluck will be in your bulletins this Sunday. The vestry is providing the brisket, and Kirk Buchi will cook it. So, we're asking everyone to help with the sides: salads, vegetables, rolls, and desserts. It will be a wonderful celebration!

As a bonus, Erin Cottos, our missionary, will be with us on the 8th to share what God has been doing through her ministry this past year. The loose offering that Sunday will go to support Erin's missionary work.

2027 Flower Chart



2027 Flower Chart Available in the Entryway to the Sanctuary

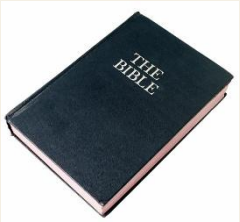
Sponsoring the altar flowers on a Sunday is a wonderful way to honor a loved one or a special event in your life while adding beauty to our altar. You can sign up for a Sunday on the flower chart in the entryway. Please note that we don't have altar flowers during Lent because it's a somber, penitential season.

Each flower arrangement costs $60. You will receive an email prior to your selected Sunday with information on how to take care of the cost, and you will be asked for your flower dedication, which will be printed on the back of the Sunday bulletin.

Thank you for helping to make our altar beautiful!

Bibles for Nursing Home Residents

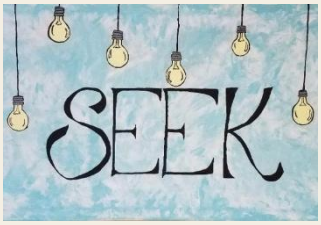
Bible Request for Residents of Corpus Christi Nursing & Rehabilitation Center



We had the cost of all four Bibles covered and had offers to purchase more if needed. What a blessing to those residents who received large-print Bibles!

Thank you for your wonderful response!

Youth Group



Family Pumpkin Carving October 25

Youth and Children and their Families are invited to stay after church on Sunday, October 25, to decorate pumpkins for Halloween. Bring your own pumpkin to paint or carve and any carving tools you may have. Lunch will be provided.

Will yours be spooky or silly?



Ultreya

Ultreya
Saturday,
October 24th
4:00-5:30 p.m.
at
Trinity by the Sea Episcopal Church
in Port Aransas



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Adult Bible Study



Adult Bible Study Class
Sundays after the Service

The Adult Bible Study class meets after the service on Sundays. The group has begun a study of the book of Romans. All are welcome to join!

Healing Prayer

Time of Contemplation and Healing Prayer
Wednesday, 10/28, 5:45 p.m.



If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, this service is for you. The first part of the service includes hearing scripture, listening to worship music, being quiet before the Holy Spirit, and praying for people as a group. The second part is a time for individual prayer with prayer ministers.

The services are scheduled for the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Please consider joining us for prayers for yourself or for others you know.



Personal Prayer Sessions

If you would ever like personal prayer, just let Judy know; prayer ministers can be available to pray with you individually. They usually pray in pairs. Just call the office at (361) 994-0285 to schedule a time. If you can't set up a time, just come into the office where Judy and Fr. Doug would be happy to pray with you.

Thanksgiving Food Collection

Thanksgiving Meal Food Collection for the Residents of Fishpond Living Apartments



We will begin collecting nonperishable food items next Sunday for the residents of the Fishpond Living Apartments so they can prepare their Thanksgiving dinners. Here is the list of items we need:

- **Stuffing--6 oz. box**
- **Turkey gravy-- 1 oz. packet**
- **Sweet Potatoes/Yams--individual cans, 15 oz. (no large cans, please)**
- **Cranberry Sauce--14 oz. can**
- **Green Beans--14 oz. can**
- **Corn--14 oz. can**

We don't know how many residents have signed up for the meal delivery yet. There will be weekly updates as to how many more of each item we need.

The food items will be delivered to the residents on Tuesday, November 24th.

Cimarron Senior Apartments Ministry



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

Conversations with God Bible Study Monday, 11/2, 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 11:15 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 residents. If you have an hour or so to give, please consider helping with the monthly food distribution.

Coastal Bend Blood Center Blood Drive

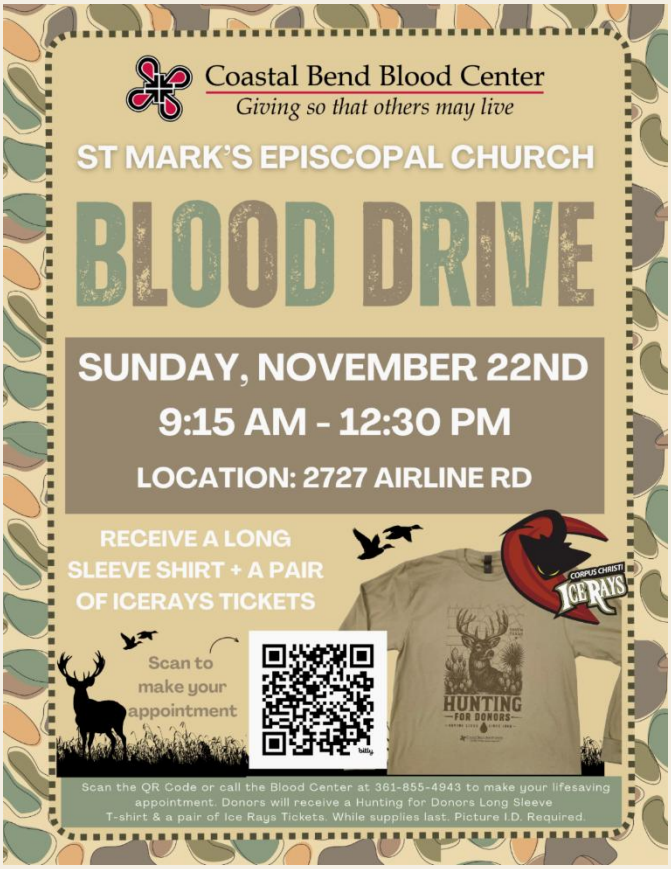
Coastal Bend Blood Center Blood Drive Sunday, 11/22

Coastal Bend Blood Center
Giving so that others may live

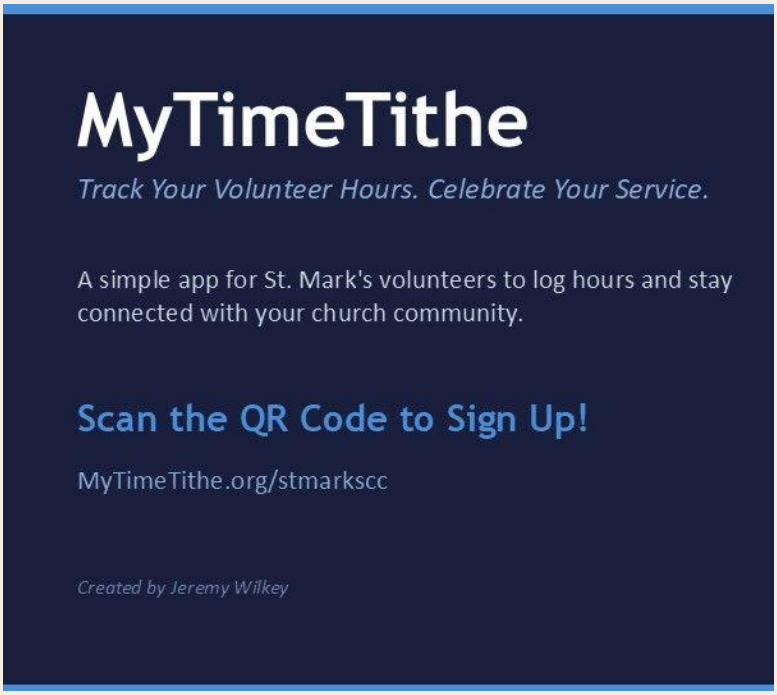
The Coastal Bend Blood Center has asked us to sponsor another blood drive. This time, they set a goal of 15 units of blood, which is a little higher than our previous goal of 12.

All donors will receive a donor long-sleeve T-shirt and a pair of Ice Rays tickets.

If you'd like, you can schedule an appointment between 9:15 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. by clicking this link, or you can simply walk in on that Sunday.



Volunteer Hours App



MyTimeTithe App to Track Volunteer Hours

The time we serve in ministry at St. Mark's, in the community, or in any other capacity matters and has economic value. Wouldn't it be interesting to know how much time we serve? Jeremy Wilkey developed an app for us to use to log those hours. You can click on this link to get started.

Enter your name in the space provided. If it's your first time, click "Don't see your name? Add yourself" to enter your name. Then fill in the page that opens up. You will select the date, the number of hours you served, which ministry the hours were for, and you may add a note about your service if you'd like.

Spiritual Growth Resources

Tools for Spiritual Disciplines



Here are some online resources to use for spiritual growth. Each one also has an app that you can download on your phone. Just search your app store to find them. Most of them are free; two have subscription fees, which are noted below.

YouVersion Holy Bible--Here's a link to it online. You'll have access to the Bible in several different versions. There are Bible reading plans available. You can also search for a specific subject, such as prayer, and receive reading plans that span several weeks.

Forward Movement Day by Day Devotionals--Here's a link to it online. Once you're on the site, you'll see many resources that you might enjoy.

The Daily Office--Here's a **link to it online.** If you enjoy the Daily Office, this app makes it easy to access each day.

Centering Prayer--Here's a **link to it online.** If you enjoy centering prayer, this app offers various ways to participate, including chimes and other sounds, that help you get to a place of inner peace and quiet.

Abide--Here's a **link to it online.** This site includes meditations set to music, which are especially helpful to use before bed. There is a subscription fee for this one.

She Reads Truth--Here's a **link to it online**. This one is specifically for women. There is a subscription fee for this one too.

Diocesan Events

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas

Diocesan News

Cursillo Weekends-- There is a Spanish language Cursillo at Camp Capers, November 5-8. **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 so:

- Online through our website. There is a blue "Giving" button at the bottom of each page. Just click on it, 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.
- Using the QR code below.
- Mailing in your check to: St. Mark's Church, 2727 Airline Rd, CC, TX 78414. Our drop-in mailbox is locked at all times. We check the mail every day, so your check will be secure.
- Dropping your check off at the church. Just put it in the locked mailbox to the left of the red doors of the fellowship hall.
- Bequest giving 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 October ministry schedule. Click here for the October church calendar.

October 23 - Friday
5:00 p.m. - Fall Festival Set Up--Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. - Silent Auction Early Bidding-- Fellowship Hall

October 24 - Saturday
9:00 a.m. - Fall Festival--Fellowship Hall and Grounds
4:00 p.m. - Ultreya--Trinity by the Sea Episcopal Church, 433 Trojan St.

October 25 - Sunday
10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. - Coffee & Conversation--Fellowship Hall
11:30 a.m. - Pumpkin Carving--Courtyard
11:45 a.m. - Adult Bible Study--Fellowship Hall Library

October 26- Monday
9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. - Vestry Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

October 27 - Tuesday
8:00 a.m. - Women's Reunion Group--Corner Bakery Restaurant, 4928 S. Staples St.

October 28 - Wednesday
11:30 a.m. - Lunch with the Old Guys--Cafe Italia, 4117 S. Staples St.
12:00 p.m. - Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall Library
5:45 p.m. - Time of Contemplation & Healing Prayer--Sanctuary Chapel
6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant, 7426 S. Staples St.

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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