

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

December 22, 2022

Upcoming Events

Christmas Eve Services

12/24 Saturday, 5:00 p.m. &
10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service

12/25 Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Bishop Reed's Visit

1/8 Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Annual Meeting

1/29 Sunday, 11:30 a.m.

Installation Service for Fr. Doug

2/10 Friday, 6:00 p.m.

In This Issue

Reflections from the Rector
Merry Christmas
Holiday Office Closure
Christmas Pageant Pictures
Bishop's Visit
Installation Service
Flowers
SEEK Youth Group
All Things Council
Diocesan Events
Giving Information
Weekly Calendar
Helpful Links

Sunday Worship Service:

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

Reflections from the Rector



Fr. Doug Wasinger

While talking to a friend the other day, I noted that the birth of Jesus was perhaps normal for Jesus's time. Couples like Joseph and Mary were considered ordinary, and their lives would be considered no different from their peers. They experienced the difficulty of traveling and the pending birth, and when they arrived in the City of David and found that their friends and relatives didn't have an extra room for them, that too was to be expected. So, what made this birth different from others?

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

Visit our website

Merry Christmas



Wishing
you and
yours a
very
blessed

Christmas!

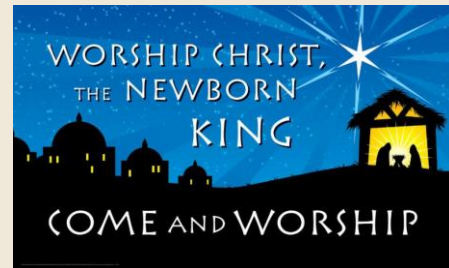
Christmas Services

Christmas Service Schedule

Our Christmas services will be:

Christmas Eve Saturday, 12/24

5:00 p.m. Family Service
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service



[Click this link](#) for a flyer that you can give to friends and family to invite them to our Christmas services.

Holiday Office Closure



Closed for the Holidays

The church office will close for the holidays Thursday, 12/22, at noon and reopen Tuesday, 1/3. We will monitor messages during that time.

Christmas Pageant Pictures



Christmas Pageant

Our annual Christmas Pageant was a wonderful success! Thank you to all who participated. You all did a great job. Thank you to Gay deMontel who organized the pageant this year and all of her adult helpers.







Bishop's Visit

Bishop Reed to Visit 1/8

Our annual Bishop's visit, which is very early this year, will be on Sunday, January 8th. Bishop Reed will be our guest. The loose offering and any designated gifts will go to support the bishop's discretionary fund.



Installation Service



Installation Service for Fr. Doug Wasinger Friday, February 10th

Fr. Doug will officially be installed as our rector in February. The service will be on a Friday evening with a reception to follow. There will be more information available later, but we wanted you to have the date now. Mark your calendars for this historic event in the life of St. Mark's.

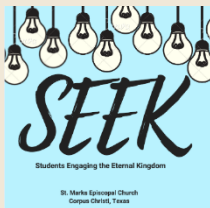
Flowers

Flower Chart Available in the Sanctuary

You may sign up to sponsor the altar flowers on a special Sunday in 2023 by writing your name by the date on the flower chart which is now available in the entryway to the sanctuary. The flowers cost \$55. An email requesting your dedication will be sent at the beginning of the month you sign up for. Please consider sponsoring the flowers in January; it's just around the corner!



SEEK Youth Group



SEEK Youth Group

There will be no Youth Group meetings until January 8th, so we can be with our families during the holidays.

Registration for **Camp Capers camping opportunities** are now open:

Mid-Winter Camp 1/6/23-1/8/23
Mid-Winter Camp 1/13/23-1/15/23
Mid-Winter Camp 1/20/23-1/22/23

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.

All Things Council

**Volunteer to Serve on a
Subcommittee for the
2023 Diocesan Council
Registration Deadline 1/15/23**



Bishop Reed asked St. Andrew's, St. Peter's, and St. Mark's to be co-hosts for Council. We are now inviting you to serve on a sub-committee. Council begins at the American Bank Center on Thursday, but the committees will set up Wednesday. Some committees have specific days and times when volunteers will be needed, while others require volunteers for the entire time that Council is in session.

Hotels—Chair: Beth Offutt. Two or three volunteers provide onsite check-in assistance and welcome guests.

Transportation—Chair: John deMontel. Several volunteers provide assistance for people getting on and off the shuttle service, which will be offered to those who have mobility issues, as well as those who will attend the luncheon at the Omni on Friday.

Hospitality—Chairs: Molly Wandel and Marybeth Maxwell. We need to have 584 dozen (6,000+) cookies available. Several volunteers will work to keep cookie trays full and the area clean, as well as work with the ABC staff to keep beverages well stocked.

Nursery/Childcare—Chair: Chrystal Wilkey. Four or five volunteers, who must have a current Safeguarding God's Children certificate, will set up space for 6-15 children, serve snacks and meals, provide age appropriate activities, and keep the children safe.

Worship Service—Music, Acolytes, and Ushers—Music Chair: Gay deMontel. Bishop Reed will plan and oversee the Holy Eucharist service Friday evening. Volunteers from all area churches and the surrounding area will participate. St. Mark's is responsible for the acolytes and the music. We will also need ushers/greeters to serve as ushers. We have all our acolytes but need a lot of singers for the choir and three or four ushers/greeters.

To help with a sub-committee, please contact Judy in the church office at (361) 994-0285 or at judy@stmarksgcc.org.



Calling all Cookie Bakers!

We need your help with the cookie project for Diocesan Council. We are supplying over 500 dozen cookies, but we're not responsible for baking all of them. Thank goodness! We will be inviting the eleven churches in our area to help. That means each church would need to bake 55 dozen, which is much more doable.

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.
- Freeze them.
- We now have a new freezer to store cookies, if you need help with storage.

Diocesan Events

Diocesan News



Nominees for Bishop Coadjutor Election Announced--Click on [the link](#) for more information.

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!



Deadline for 2022 giving is December 31st

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 December schedule for our ministries, which is still a work in progress. Please check each week to see if there are any changes.

December 24 - Saturday--Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. - Family Christmas Service--Sanctuary

10:00 p.m. - Candlelight Christmas Service--Sanctuary

December 25 - Sunday--Christmas Day

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

No Coffee Hour

December 26- January 2

Office Closed

December 27 - Tuesday

6:30 p.m. - Women's Group--Fellowship Hall Library

December 28 - Wednesday

11:30 a.m. - Lunch with the Old Guys--Silverado Smokehouse, 4522 Weber Rd.

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
2727 Airline Rd
(361) 994-0285
www.stmarksco.org



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