

October 3, 2024

Upcoming Events

Blessing of the Animals

10/5, Saturday

Bishop's Visit

10/6 Sunday

Access Plus Ramp Build

10/12, Saturday

Bishop Suffragan Election

10/19, Saturday

Worship Under the Oaks

10/20, Sunday

Fall Festival

10/26, Saturday

Bring a Friend to Church

10/27, Sunday

Youth Group & Adult Bible Study

Sundays following the service

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From the Rector

Fr. Doug



At this time of year, I hear about how other organizations are starting up their annual fundraising campaigns, and I am always curious about how these efforts are presented. I am not a strong supporter of the marketing/selling tactics which encourage a new person to sign up and make a small monthly contribution in order to become eligible to win an iPad, gift certificate, or some other item. I am not personally motivated by these approaches. However, I cannot argue strongly against using them for they seem to work, enabling organizations to fund their operations. Imitation is the ultimate form of flattery, and so this method of fundraising is duplicated without reserve.

From the Rector

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Sunday Worship Service

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

[Visit our website](#)

Blessing of the Animals

The Blessing of the Animals Service

THIS 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 THIS Saturday, October 5th.

Bishop's Annual Visit



Bishop Read to Visit

THIS 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.

We will celebrate his visit with a brunch immediately after the service. Bishop Read won't be able to stay long because he needs to return to San Antonio for a diocesan forum meeting. Please consider bringing a dish to share.

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

Donations due THIS Sunday, 10/6

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our stuffed animal drive for the children of Plaza de Paz, which is a respite center for immigrants in San Antonio. Bishop Read will transport what we've collected when he leaves to go back home to San Antonio. So, **THIS Sunday** is the last day to donate items.



Thank you for your generosity!

Access Plus Ramp Build



Access Plus Ramp Build

Saturday, 10/12, at 8:30 a.m.

3426 Kenwood Dr.

The October ramp build was rescheduled for the second Saturday in October because the Suffragan Bishop election is scheduled for 10/19. As a result of moving the date, the volunteers from Oak Ridge Baptist Church will not be joining us, as they will be working on their own regularly scheduled ramp build

on the 12th.

Please consider coming to help the St. Mark's team bless a family with a ramp that will help them care for their loved one.

Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible Study

Sundays after the service

Participants in the Adult Bible Study Group will not meet in the Fellowship Hall for Bible study after the service this Sunday, October 5th, due to Bishop Read's visit and our scheduled brunch.

The group will continue the study of the Gospel of Mark on Sunday, October 13th. 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 continue with chapter 13 on Sunday, October 13th.

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

NOT Meeting This Sunday

Will Resume Next Week

Youth group will not have a lesson this week. Enjoy brunch with the Bishop, play some pool, and meet in the youth room if you'd like to share highs and lows and prayer requests.

Timothy 4:12

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity."

Coming up:

1. Join us after the service to explore how and why Jesus is a friend of sinners.
2. Let Molly know if you'll be able to help with Fall Fest!
3. Text Molly anytime with prayer requests, questions, or just to say hi! 214-762-8792

Fall Festival

Fall Festival

Saturday, 10/26

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



We are partnering with the staff of Kindercare again to host our annual Fall Festival on the last Saturday in October. The event will be free. Chrystal Wilkey is overseeing the event and needs our help to make it a success. We need volunteers to help in several ways:

- Volunteers to help with games and other activities, parking, and the silent auction
- Halloween candy (boxes will be available in the fellowship hall and the sanctuary)
- Child friendly Trunk or Treat vehicles

Please contact Chrystal by calling her at (361) 549-8917 if you would like to help. Signup sheets will be available in the bulletins this Sunday.

Sundays in October



Mark Your Calendars for our Special October Sunday Focuses

10/13--Walk in love Campaign Kickoff

10/20--Worship Under the Oaks

Bring a lawn chair if you'd like. Hopefully the weather will cooperate.

10/27--Bring a Friend to Church Sunday with an Instructional Eucharist

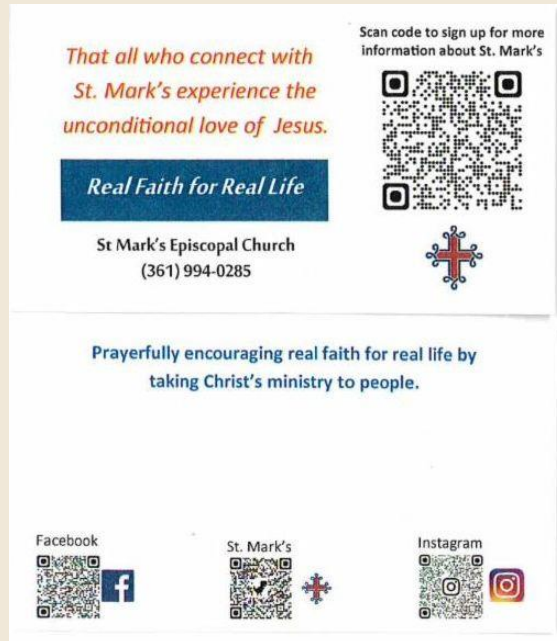
New Guest Card

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. It is business card size so it will fit in your pocket or wallet. There is space on the back if you'd like to share your contact information with someone.

The cards will be available on the brown table in the narthex. Feel free to take several!



New Offering Card

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.

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 haven't been able to experience the blessing of watching their offerings to God presented on the altar because they haven't had anything tangible to put in the offering baskets as they are passed down the pews.

That's about to change! 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 on the right) 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.

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 8:15 - 10:30 a.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 & National Church News

Relief for Victims of Hurricane Helene--

For more information how to donate funds to help those affected by hurricane Helene, [click here](#).

Suffragan Bishop Election News--Meet the Candidate forums have been scheduled. [Click here for more information](#) on the meetings and the process. The election is scheduled for Saturday, October 19th. Our delegates will vote for the candidate they feel will best represent the core beliefs of St. Mark's. Please keep this election in your prayers.

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.



**Pray for the Suffragan
Bishop Election**

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 [October 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 [October calendar](#).

October 5 - Saturday

9:00 a.m. - Blessing of the Animals--Courtyard

October 6 - Sunday--Bishop's Visit

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

11:30 a.m. - Brunch--Fellowship Hall

No Christian Education Classes this Sunday

October 7- Monday

8:15 a.m. - Clothing Sorting--Timon's Ministry, 10501 S. Padre Island Dr.

October 8 - Tuesday

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

October 9 - Wednesday

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

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

October 12 - Saturday

7:30 a.m. - South Texas Amateur Radio Club Tailgate & Testing--Fellowship Hall & Grounds

8:00 a.m. - Access Plus Ramp Build--3426 Kenwood Dr.

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](#)

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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