

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

February 5, 2026

Upcoming Events

Camp Sunday

2/8, Sunday

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

2/17, Tuesday

Ash Wednesday Services

2/18, Wednesday

Food Distribution to Cimarron Senior Apartments

2/20, Friday

Access Plus Ramp Build

2/21, Saturday

Cookies for Council & Food Donations for Council in Action Deadline

2/22, Sunday

Soup & Study Begins

2/25, Wednesday

Diocesan Council

2/26-28, Thursday-Saturday

GriefShare Group

2/26, Thursday



Reflections from the Rector



Jesus was most likely quite controversial in his day. Stories told about him suggest that he often broke with religious expectations. Jesus was seen in the company of people the broader Jewish community was encouraged to avoid. He healed people on the Sabbath—an act considered work and therefore forbidden on the day of rest. Jesus was not a traditional rabbi, and this distinction did not go unnoticed.

What we today might consider confrontational exchanges were, in Jesus's Jewish context, often political or theological debates intended to refine understanding rather than determine a clear winner. The debates recorded in Scripture were not always about discrediting opponents, but about sharpening one's grasp of the law and God's will.

[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](#)

Camp Sunday



Camp Sunday THIS Sunday

Our diocese has three camp facilities that provide wonderful experiences for those who attend their programs: Camp Capers, Duncan Park, and Mustang Island Retreat Center. Each year, the diocese asks the churches to take up a collection to help support the camping programs, which include scholarship opportunities. We have had many members of St. Mark's experience these

camps during summer camp, mid-winter camp, family camp, and Cursillo.

Today, the loose offering and any designated gifts will go to the diocese camp program. Thank you for your support.

Cookies for Council

Cookies for Council Deadline February 22nd

Please consider helping us supply homemade cookies for our Diocesan Council in February. We now have 53 dozen cookies in the freezer, so we only need 147 dozen cookies to fulfill our 200 dozen commitment. 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 22nd. 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!

Council in Action Project

COUNCIL IN ACTION SHOPPING LIST

BACKPACK BAGS
Individual Servings of:

<input type="checkbox"/> Chef Boyardee	<input type="checkbox"/> Applesauce	<input type="checkbox"/> Oatmeal
<input type="checkbox"/> Granola Bars	<input type="checkbox"/> Beef Jerky	<input type="checkbox"/> Ziplock Gallon Bags
<input type="checkbox"/> Cookies	<input type="checkbox"/> Easy Mac & Cheese	<input type="checkbox"/> Peanut Butter to Go
<input type="checkbox"/> Chips	<input type="checkbox"/> Oatmeal	

FOOD BANK OF THE GOLDEN CRESCENT
Most Needed Food Items

<input type="checkbox"/> Peanut Butter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cereal	<input type="checkbox"/> Beans
<input type="checkbox"/> Rice	<input type="checkbox"/> Mac & Cheese	<input type="checkbox"/> Powdered Milk
<input type="checkbox"/> Canned Meat	<input type="checkbox"/> Chili & Stew	<input type="checkbox"/> Canned Soup
<input type="checkbox"/> Canned Veggies	<input type="checkbox"/> Meals-In-A-Box	<input type="checkbox"/> Canned Fruit

SCAN THE QR CODE TO MAKE A MONETARY DONATION



Council in Action Project Food Collection Project

Each year, the host churches for the diocesan Council choose an outreach project for the entire diocese to participate in through donations of items and funds. This year, the host churches chose a hunger relief project in Beeville and Victoria. They are asking all of the churches to collect food items to supply this project, which are on the shopping list to the left. You can scan the QR code to make a monetary donation. There will be boxes in the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall where you may place your donations.

The deadline for food donations is on Sunday, 2/22.

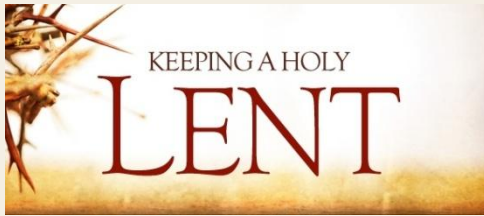
Need Pack-n-Plays

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.



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.

Access Plus Ramp Build

Access Plus Ramp Build Saturday, 2/21, 8:00 a.m. 2910 Newport Dr.

The Access Plus Ministry builds a ramp each month, free of charge to the recipient. This month's build will be for Diana and her daughter Dahlia. They are looking forward to gaining better access to their home. If you are interested in helping with a ramp build, please contact Doug Wayland at (361) 813-1781 for more information.

You don't need any building/carpentry experience; Doug's team is happy to train you. Just bring a willing heart.



The Access Plus team will also give the ramp recipient a devotional book and a blanket made by a member of our Wrapped in Prayer ministry. The members of this ministry crochet borders around fleece fabric to create blankets. The blankets are prayed over as they are made and blessed before they are given away. If this ministry interests you, please call Judy at (361) 994-0285.



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 the reading of 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)

Adult Bible Study



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

The Adult Bible study class has resumed. If you'd like to join in the study, head to fellowship hall after the service, grab some refreshments, and then go to the fellowship hall library. Bibles will be available if you need one.

GriefShare Program

**GriefShare Program to Begin
at St. Bartholomew's
Episcopal Church
February 26th, 1:30-3:30 p.m.**



The GriefShare program is for those who have lost a loved one, someone special in their lives. Facilitated by Janice Sykoa, it will run for 13 weeks beginning on February 26th at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church. The course is free, but you will need to pay \$20 for a workbook. You may register in person or [online using this link](#). Here is a [PDF of a flyer](#) with more information.

Cimarron Senior Apartments Ministry



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

**Food Distribution
Friday, 2/20, at 11:30 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.

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 8 - Sunday

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. - Coffee & Conversation--Fellowship Hall
11:30 a.m. - SEEK Youth Group--Fellowship Hall Youth Room
11:45 a.m. - Adult Bible Study--Fellowship Hall Library

February 9 - Monday

8:45 a.m. - Clothing Shop--Timon's Ministry, 10501 S. Padre Island Dr.
9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

February 10 - Tuesday

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

February 11- 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.

**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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