

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

March 7, 2025

Upcoming Events

Bring a Friend to Church

3/9, Sunday

Lenten Soup & Study Begins

3/12, Wednesday

Access Plus Ramp Build

3/15, Saturday

Consecration of Suffragan Bishop Cortinas

3/15, Saturday

Food Distribution

3/17, Monday

Inquirer's Class

3/23, Sunday

Missionary Sunday

3/30, Sunday

Adult Bible Study & Youth Group

Sundays after the service

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Giving Information

From the Rector Fr. Doug Wasinger



Yesterday was Ash Wednesday which marks the start of a season of spiritual discipline. I tend to have fun with the serious nature of Lent. During the early years of my priesthood, I was asked what I was planning to give up for Lent. It is a common question that people often ask of others. I informed the person who was asking that I had thought of giving up breathing, but that wouldn't last long, so I had another idea which was to give up my bad attitude. When I shared this with a fellow clergy member a couple of years later, he laughed and said he loved it. He then said, "Doug, I am going to tell people who come to complain that I have given them up for Lent and will not see them until after Easter." I don't know if he was successful, but I know that he understood what I was doing for my Lenten practice. I want to get closer to God. In my humble

Weekly Calendar
Helpful Links

Sunday Worship Service

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

opinion, most Lenten fasting practices seem to distance people from God rather than draw them to become more aligned with God.

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

[Visit our website](#)

Bring a Friend to Church



Bring a Friend to Church Sunday, 3/9

Mark your calendars for another Bring a Friend to Church on Sunday, March 9th. It's a great opportunity to share the love of Jesus through our St. Mark's family. Please consider inviting friends or family members to join you for worship. Better

yet, offer to also pick them up and bring them with you.

We will experience an Instructional Eucharist during the service, which means a narrator will explain aspects of the liturgy, such as the history or spiritual significance of why we celebrate the Eucharist as we do.

Camp Sunday Update

Camp Sunday Update

Last Sunday was Camp Sunday. Between the loose offering and designated gifts, we were able to provide a gift of \$319 to help fund scholarships for those from St. Mark's who would like to go a renewal weekend such as Cursillo for adults, a Happening for youth, or Summer Camp for kids and youth.



**Thank you to all who were able to
support this effort!**

Lenten Soup & Study



Lenten Soup & Study Wednesdays, beginning March 12, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

In *The Chosen* Season 3, Jesus sends his disciples on their first missions, leading them to face new challenges and confront personal struggles as they grapple with their newfound

spiritual gifts and the complexities of ministry. They encounter many issues like family reconciliation, unresolved pasts, and the growing crowds seeking Jesus's healing touch. This season delves deeper into the disciples' individual lives, exploring their doubts, conflicts, and personal burdens while showcasing Jesus's teachings on faith and compassion amidst increasing opposition from religious leaders and the Roman authorities, culminating in significant events like the feeding of the multitude and Jesus walking on water.

Key points about Season 3:

- Each apostle faces unique challenges, including Matthew's family estrangement, Simon Peter's marital issues with Eden, and Little James's unhealed disability.
- The season tackles themes like forgiveness, grief, the nature of faith, and the consequences of power.
- New characters like Veronica and Jairus, as well as the expansion of Jesus's ministries to different regions, are introduced.
- Major miracles are featured, like the feeding of the 5,000 and Jesus walking on water.
- Further exploration is provided into the backstories of characters like Simon the Zealot and his past with the Zealots.

People may watch *The Chosen* series by downloading *The Chosen App* from the Apple or Google store. *The Chosen App* may also be downloaded to your Roku, Firestick, or other devices.

Fr. Doug will provide a Guiding Question to keep in mind while watching each week's episode as well as the name and number of the episode to watch.

March 12, Session 1: Please watch season 3, episode 1 called "**Homecoming.**"

Guiding Question: What do you think was the hardest part for Matthew when he went back to attempt a reconciliation with his father?

A soup supper will be provided by a different ministry each week. If your ministry would like to contribute a meal, please contact Judy in the church office at 361-994-0285 or via email at judy@stmarksgcc.org. Four of the five Wednesday dates are covered, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, and 4/2, which leaves 4/9 yet to be sponsored.

If you plan to attend the study, please sign up on your Connection Card **this Sunday** and indicate whether you will need childcare so we can ensure it is available.

Access Plus Ramp Build

Access Plus Ramp Build Saturday, 3/15, 8:00 a.m. 912 Mynier Dr, Robstown

The ramp build for March is for a lady named Janice. She and her family are grateful for our Access Plus Ministry, an important service to those in our community who don't have adequate access to their homes.



If you have any questions about this ministry, please contact Doug Wayland at (361) 813-1781. You may also show up at the build site at 8:00 a.m., and Doug and his team will be happy to train you.

Inquirer's Class

INQUIRER'S CLASS



Inquirer's Class Sunday, March 23rd, After the Service

Fr. Doug will lead an Inquirer's Class for those who are new or newish to St. Mark's and would like to learn about St. Mark's beliefs, ministries, and so much more. If you'd like to attend, please let the church office know by calling (361) 994-0285 to ensure we have enough booklets. We also need to know whether or not you need childcare.

Nursery Refresh

Help with Nursery Supplies and Equipment

When you get a chance, take a peak in the nursery to see how wonderfully inviting it is now with all the new equipment and toys. This picture doesn't do it justice.

There are still a few items on the wishlist if you haven't had an opportunity to participate in the nursery refresh project. Here is a link to the [Amazon wish list](#). Below is a QR code to access the list as well. All items ordered will be



delivered straight to the church. If you have other items you would like to donate, please feel free to reach out to Chrystal Wilkey at 361-549-8917.

**Thank you to those who have purchased items from the Amazon wish list.
We've made great progress!**



Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible Study Sundays after the Service

The Adult Bible Study Group meets in the Fellowship Hall library at 11:45 AM. You can 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.



The group will continue the study of the Epistle of 1st John. If you'd like to be a part of this study, please read the book of 1st John, which is short, then join the group Sunday.

Timon's Ministry



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, shorts, athletic shoes, flip-flops, belts and women's jeans, shorts, undergarments, and purses
- Donating sleeping bags, backpacks, tote bags, and recyclable plastic bags
- Donating travel size deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, bars of bath soap, body wash

- Donating toothbrushes and shoelaces
- Donating items for to-go food bags: tuna and cracker packs, granola bars, chips, bottled water, etc.
- Sorting clothing on Mondays from 8:45 - 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 & National Church News



Cursillo Weekends--Cursillo weekends are spiritual retreats for adults. There are two Cursillos planned for the spring, one at **Camp Capers March 13-16** and one at **Mustang Island May 1-4**. For more information, please [click this link for March](#) and [click this link for May](#).

Happening Weekend--Happening is a renewal weekend for 10th through 12th grade youth. There is an event planned to begin **March 7 in Victoria**. Here is the [link for more information](#).

Consecration of Suffragan Bishop Cortinas--Our new Suffragan Bishop will be consecrated Saturday, March 15th, at St. John's Episcopal Church in McAllen. Here's the [link for more information](#).

Summer Camp at Camp Capers--The schedule for kids' summer sessions for Camp Capers is available. [Click here for more information](#). Just scroll down until you find the camp that you are interested in.

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.

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 [March 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 is the [March calendar](#) for the church.

March 9 - Sunday--Bring a Friend to Church Sunday

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

March 10 - Monday

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

March 11 - Tuesday

7:30 a.m. - Women's Reunion Group--Corner Bakery Café, 4928 S. Staples St.

March 12 - Wednesday

12:00 p.m. - Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall Library
6:00 p.m. - Soup & Study--Fellowship Hall

March 15 - Saturday

8:00 a.m. - Access Plus Ramp Build--912 Mynier Dr, Robstown
10:00 a.m. - Consecration of Suffragan Bishop Cortinas--St. John's Episcopal Church, McAllen

**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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