

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

August 20, 2026

Upcoming Events

Come Make Chrismons

8/22, Saturday

9/11, 9/18, 9/25, Fridays

Walk in Love Classes

8/23-9/13, Sundays

Time of Contemplation and Healing Prayer

Wednesday, 8/26

Church Work Week

Saturday, 9/12-Friday 9/18

40th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, 9/19

Bishop Read's Visit

Sunday, 9/20



Reflections from the Rector



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The Bible is an ancient text, yet its wisdom provides direct guidance no matter where we find ourselves in history. In his letter to the Romans, Paul guided the emerging Church on showing how a renewed relationship with God transforms how we engage the world. He wrote about how human beings can align with God to become who we were truly designed to be: *"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect."* — Romans 12:2

We don't always know why our brains work the way they do. I know my own thoughts and interests are not always focused, but during last year's clergy retreat, two seemingly unrelated topics sparked my

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Sunday Worship Service

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

curiosity: the rise of Artificial Intelligence and the concept of Moral Injury.

As I've read theological studies concerning both topics, a common theme has emerged. Both lead us to address the same fundamental question: What does it mean to be human?

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

Visit our website

Pictorial Directory



Sign Up for Your Family Photo for Our Pictorial Directory

Sunday, 8/23 11:30 a.m.-12:20 p.m.

Sunday, 8/30 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Sunday, 9/6 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

We are working to produce a pictorial directory for our 40th anniversary celebration, and we need everyone's participation. Please [sign up using this link](#) to have your family photo taken. Several new time slots have been added to the sign-up form to give people more options.

Luke Markert and Britt Thompson will take pictures in the sanctuary beginning at 11:30 a.m. each of the next three Sundays. Sign up to reserve your spot.

If you can't use the sign-up form, please call Judy in the office at (361) 994-0285 to reserve a spot.

Come Make Chrismons

Come Help Make Chrismons for Our Trees for Advent This Saturday and Fridays in September

Chrismons are white and gold ornaments that are symbols of Christ and the meaning of Advent. They will be used for decorating our sanctuary trees for Advent.

"Chrismon" means Christ Monogram.

We want them to be lovely and durable, so we are using materials that will last for many years. If you like to embroider, needlepoint, do beadwork, paint on wood, or otherwise craft with long-lasting materials, please consider joining us.

We have some patterns and a variety of materials/supplies to begin this project, but you are welcome to use others as you wish.

We will meet on Saturdays in August and Fridays in September in the fellowship hall.

- **August 22nd from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**
- **September 11th, 18th, and 25th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

There is no requirement to attend all sessions. Come as you are able. We will have more get-togethers later, dates and times to be determined.

For questions, contact Paula Baen by calling her at (832) 289-9842 or emailing her at paularupp57@gmail.com.

This is a link to some [photos of Chrismons](#) gathered from the web - simply for ideas.



Time of Contemplation & Healing Prayer



Time of Contemplation and Healing Prayer Wednesday, 8/26, 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 someone you know, or to offer your prayers for others.

Youth Confirmation Class

Next Youth Confirmation Class Sunday, 8/30

The next youth confirmation class is scheduled for Sunday, August 30th at Molly's house after church. Please invite your sponsors to come as well.



Cimarron Senior Apartments Ministry



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

Conversations with God Monday, 9/14, 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.

Church Work Week

Church Work Week Saturday, 9/12, to Friday, 9/18

In preparation for our 40th anniversary celebration and our annual Bishop's visit, a church work week is being planned to spruce up the property. It will begin on Saturday, 9/12, and go through Friday, 9/18.

A list of tasks will be available in the fellowship hall. If you can't come on Saturday, you can come during the week. Stop by the office to see what tasks still need to be done, pick those you'd like to take care of, and get to work!

We need as many people as possible to help, so please put the dates on your calendar and make plans to come help. If you can come and you have some supplies and/or equipment that would make the work easier, please consider bringing them.



40th Anniversary Celebration



*40 Years of
Bringing Faith
to Life*

Save the Date!
40th Anniversary
Saturday, 9/19
at 6:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars
for Saturday,
September 19th,

for our 40th anniversary celebration.
Bishop David Read and his lovely wife, Jacqui,
will join us for the party!

Bishop's Visit

The Rt. Rev. Bishop David Read Annual Bishop's Visit Sunday, 9/20

After spending an evening celebrating our 40th anniversary, Bishop David Read will be with us for our annual bishop's visit on Sunday, September 20th. He will confirm and receive those who would like to join the Episcopal Church. He will also be available to those who would like to reaffirm their faith. The weekend will be full of celebrations!



Grief Share Program



Grief Share Program to Begin a New Session

**8/27/26, 1:30 to 3:30
p.m.**

**St. Bartholomew's
Episcopal Church Parish Hall
622 Airline Rd.**

Grief Share is a program designed for people who have experienced the death of a loved one and may need support coping with the emotions and stresses of grief. After losing her husband Wayne, Janice Sykora attended a Grief Share program. It helped her so much that she decided to go through the training program so she could offer the course to others.

The next Grief Share session is set to begin Thursday, August 27th, at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church. The cost of the program is \$25, which covers the cost of the workbook; the sessions are free. Please [register through this link](#). Here is a [flyer with more information](#).

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](#) or scan the QR code 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.

MyTimeTithe

Track Your Volunteer Hours. Celebrate Your Service.

A simple app for St. Mark's volunteers to log hours and stay connected with your church community.

Scan the QR Code to Sign Up!

MyTimeTithe.org/stmarksc

Created by Jeremy Wilkey

Christian Formation Summer Break



Adult Bible Study Class and SEEK Youth Group Summer Break

The Adult Bible Study class and SEEK Youth Group are still taking a break for the summer. They will resume in the fall. We'll let you know when we have those dates.

Timon's Ministry

Ministry in Partnership with Timon's Ministries

The volunteer work at Timon's Clothing Closet has been temporarily suspended due to changes in its hours of operation. We are hoping the volunteers can return soon to the ministry they have come to enjoy.



We will not be collecting items at St. Mark's for the time being. Thank you!

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

Diocesan News



Cursillo Weekends-- There are two Cursillos planned for the fall: one at Mustang Island Conference Center, October 8-11, and a Spanish Cursillo at Camp Capers, November 5-8. [Here is a link for more information.](#)

21st Annual Bishop's Golf Classic--The Bishop's Golf Classic is scheduled for Monday, 9/21. Registration opened on August 16th. Proceeds go to support the Diocesan Camp Programs. [Here's a link to more information](#) on the event.

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 [August ministry schedule](#). Click here for the [August church calendar](#).

August 22 - Saturday

1:00 p.m. - Chrismon Project--Fellowship Hall

August 23 - Sunday

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

11:30 a.m. - Coffee & Conversation--Fellowship Hall

11:30 a.m. - Family Photos--Sanctuary

11:30 a.m. - Walk in Love--Fellowship Hall Library

August 24- Monday

9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship

August 25 - Tuesday

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

August 26 - Wednesday

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

5:45 p.m. - Time of Contemplation and 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](#)

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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