

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

September 18, 2025

Upcoming Events

Access Plus Ramp Build

9/20, Saturday

Adult Bible Study

9/21, Sunday

Lunch with the Old Guys

9/24, Wednesday

Blue Mass for First Responders

9/29, Monday

Bible Study at Cimarron Senior Apartments

10/7, Tuesday



From the Rector Fr. Doug Wasinger



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Sunday Worship Service

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

I once knew a man who was full of contradictions; his thoughts and behaviors often conflicted. He took inappropriate liberties with women, and yet he genuinely cared about helping others. When he died, I was asked to preside over his memorial service. During the eulogy, his friends spoke with honesty and love about their complex friend. One explained, "He wanted people to like him, but there were times when he was unlikable. He was a man who did the right thing for the wrong reasons."

Jesus once told a parable that can be confusing and difficult to understand. It's the story of a rich man who discovered that his manager had squandered his possessions. Because of this scandal, the manager was about to be dismissed. Facing unemployment, the manager reflected on his situation. He admitted to himself, "I'm too proud to beg and too weak

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to dig." So, he devised a plan to win favor with others who might welcome him into their homes once he was fired. He approached his master's debtors and substantially reduced their debts. In doing so, he secured future hospitality for himself.

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

Access Plus Ramp Build



Access Plus Ramp Build THIS Saturday, 9/20, 8:00 a.m. 106 Cliffwood St.

Mark your calendars for the September ramp build on Saturday, September 20th. The ramp build for this month will benefit a lady named Stacy who has multiple health issues.

She and her family are looking forward to the blessing of having this ramp to make it easier for Stacy to access her home.

Youth Ministry

SEEK Youth Group Meets Sundays after the Service

Youth group will meet this week in the youth room for highs and lows and prayer. Grab some snacks and join the group in the youth room.



Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face continually. (1 Chronicles 16:11)

Adult Bible Study



Adult Bible Study Class Resumes Sunday, 9/21, at 11:30 a.m.

The Adult Bible Study Class is scheduled to resume THIS Sunday, September 21st. Tom Curry will lead a study entitled **"Understanding the Old Testament in Jesus's**

Time." Bring your own Bible, or use one of the several that will be available. Pick up some refreshments, and join the class in the fellowship hall library.

Piano Recital

**Shao-Shan
Chen
and
David
Sutanto
Solo & Duo
Recital**

Del Mar College Department of Music and
Saint Christopher's By-the-Sea Episcopal Church
Present

Solo and Duo Piano Recital

Shao-Shan Chen
&
David Sutanto



Friday, September 26, 2025
7 PM

Saint Christopher's By-the-Sea Episcopal Church
820 Wildcat Dr. 78374
Portland, TX.

Free Admission

*Program includes solo and duo works by Beethoven, Liszt,
Ginastera, Peixun Chen, and William Hirtz*

*For more information, contact Dr. David Sutanto (dsutanto@delmar.edu) OR
Fr. John Blackburn (frblackburn@stchristophersbythesea.com)*



Blue Mass for First Responders



**Blue Mass for First
Responders
Monday, 9/29, at 6:30 p.m.
St. Christopher's by the Sea
Episcopal Church
830 Wildcat Dr., Portland**

St. Christopher's by the Sea Episcopal Church will celebrate the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, as well as honor all First Responders (Law Enforcement, EMS personnel, Firefighters, Military Personnel, and others) to pray for them and the people they serve. The service begins at 6:30 p.m. Fallen First Responders will be remembered with a traditional "End of Watch" ceremony following Communion. There will be a meal for the First Responders after the service.

This is a time for us to come together and pray for those who protect our communities. Please let St. Christopher's know if you plan to attend. They want to make sure they have enough seating available for everyone. Click here for the link to [St. Christopher's Facebook page](#) to let them know if you plan to attend.

Folk Dance Class

**Folk Dance Class
Wednesday, October 1st,
at 6:00 p.m.**

Gay deMontel will lead a class to learn folk dance on the first Wednesday in October. This promises to be an evening of fun for all. Before the class begins, we'll enjoy a meal provided by a few of our parishioners, so we won't have to worry about cooking!



We need to have a general idea of how many people will attend, so please sign up on the Connection Card that will be in the bulletins this Sunday. You may also contact the church office by calling (361) 994-0285 or emailing Judy at judy@stmarksgcc.org.

Cimarron Senior Apartments Ministry



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

Conversations With God Bible Study Tuesday, 10/7, at 11:00 a.m.

Conversations with God Bible Study on the First Tuesday 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 serving to help 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 through 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 - 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

Annual Christian Formation Ministry Summit--The summit is for those who are leaders of children, youth, and adult formation. It is an overnight event hosted at Camp Capers on **October 3-4**. Click here for [details on the summit and registration information](#).

Cursillo Weekends--A Cursillo is a three-day spiritual retreat weekend for adults. There are two planned: one at **Mustang Island Conference Center, 10/9-12**, and one at **Camp Capers, 11/6-9**. [Click this link](#) for more information and to register.

Discovery Weekend at Camp Capers--This weekend, scheduled for **November 14-15**, is designed to help both lay and ordained persons discern a deeper call to ministry. [Click here 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 which 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 our [September ministry schedule](#). Click here for the [September church calendar](#).

September 21 - Sunday

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

September 22 - Monday

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

September 23 - Tuesday

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

September 24 - Wednesday.

11:30 a.m. - Lunch with the Old Guys--Catfish Charlie's Restaurant, 5830 McArdle Rd.
12:00 p.m. - Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall Library
6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant--7426 S. Staples St.

September 25 - Thursday

7:00 p.m. - South Texas Amateur Radio Club--Fellowship Hall

**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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