

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

April 21, 2022

Upcoming Events.

Youth Sunday

5/1 Sun, 10:00 a.m.

Mother's Day

5/8 Sun

Pentecost Sunday

6/5 Sun, 10:00 a.m.

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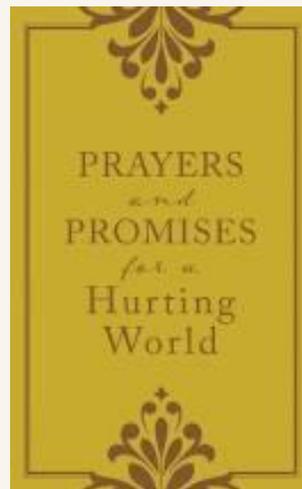
Helpful Links

Sunday Worship Service:

10:00 a.m.--Morning Prayer--Sanctuary

[Visit our website](#)

God's Promises



An excerpt taken from
***Prayers and Promises for
a Hurting World***
written by **Laura Freudig**

*"For he says, 'In the time of my favor
I heard you, and in the day of salvation
I helped you.' I tell you, now is the time
of God's favor, now is the
day of salvation."
2 Corinthian 6:2*

Dear Lord, I find myself trying to "protect" shallow relationships--with neighbors, acquaintances, relatives--by waiting to share the Gospel. I think a better time will come later or that maybe our relationships will deepen and I'll feel more comfortable sharing Your message of hope. But I know the time is *now*. How many days do I have left before it's too late to speak? Only You know. Fear in me is what makes me think the Gospel will--at some point in the future--become more palatable. No matter how I try to polish it up, or add bows and ribbons, the Gospel stands unchanged. It is unique in time and space. Jesus, who is God, became a man and, because of His great love, took the punishment we deserved for our sins. He

declares us righteous in His eyes when we believe in Him.

Forgive me for my cowardice, Lord, and help me to trust that without You there is *no good thing*. Help me to hope in You for others and nothing else. Not a better time or location. Not better works or a more clever angle. Just the simple Gospel, which is the power of God for salvation. Amen.

Our greatest strength may be our ability to stand still and trust God.

**Seek God! Pray!
Give it ALL to Him!**

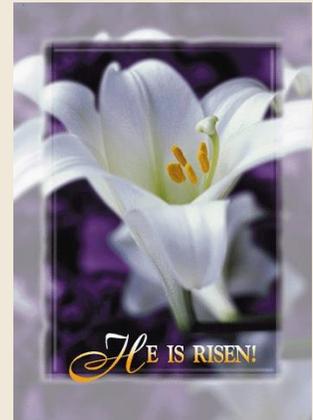
Easter Sunday Festivities

Please enjoy this video of our Easter Sunday Celebration.

[Link to Easter Video](#)

We had a glorious celebration of our Risen Lord this past Sunday. Click on the link above to watch a video capturing some of the joy, fun, worship, and family time we experienced.

And a HUGH shout of thanks to everyone who participated to make this Easter Celebration one to remember!



Search Process

Dear St. Mark's Faithful!

What a wonderful last few weeks we have had: confirmations, Holy Week, and Easter! It is truly a blessing to be a part of you! The Search Committee took a break during Holy Week, but we are back in session and met last night, Wednesday, April 20, 2022. We are excited and emboldened by the Holy Spirit to continue the search process in Him, in His time and in His timing. I ask for all of us to keep the faith; the process will produce the One whom God has chosen for us, and it will bear His fruit in the end.

The search process may seem like it is taking a long time, but I assure you that we are on task. Remember that Fr. John retired on July 31, 2021, and Search Committee names were submitted to the vestry for approval on September 20. The Parish Profile Workshop was held on October 10, and it took a month to formalize it. Archdeacon Besson came for the committee's training on November 10, and the first candidate names were brought to us on February 2, 2022. The average search process in the Diocese of West Texas takes a year.

**SEARCH
COMMITTEE NEWS**

Furthermore, every member of the Search Committee took an oath of confidentiality: an oath to God, to the Diocese of West Texas, to St. Mark's and the vestry. Our confidentiality oath is a solemn covenant. For example, our spouses, Judy, and Fr. Rick are not on the committee and do not know more than anyone else who is not on the committee.

So, I ask for your love and patience and prayers and faith in God, as the process continues.

Thank you, John d

Scripture for the week:

Deuteronomy 1:21

See, the Lord your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, told you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Deuteronomy 31:8

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Here is a list of useful links to use during the search process for our new rector:

Parish Profile on St. Mark's [website](#)

Diocese of West Texas website [churches in transition](#)

Prayers during the search process: [prayers](#)

Youth Sunday

Youth Sunday, May 1st

Each year a Sunday in May is designated Youth Sunday so we can honor the young people in our church family. This year it will be May 1st--that's coming up fast!



The youth will serve in various ministries that Sunday morning as a way to honor us as well. We will celebrate those who will graduate from high school and their accomplishments.

The loose offering, as well as any designated gifts, will go to support college scholarships that are awarded through our Youth Endowment Fund. Please consider contributing to this fund so our college students may be blessed.

We are aware of one Senior this year. If you know of anyone graduating from high school this year, please let Judy know by calling the office at (361) 994-0285, or email her at judy@stmarksgc.org.

Flowers



Altar Flowers

During Lent, we did not have flowers on the altar to bring reverence to the service. But now that we've celebrated Easter, the altar flowers are back. We have four Sundays that have not been sponsored for 2022. One of them is **Mother's Day, May 8th**. The other three are July 17, August 21, and October 16. Sponsoring the altar flowers is a great way to honor a special someone or special event in your life.

A reminder email will be sent to those who signed up for a Sunday in a given month. There will be a request for how the flower dedication should read. Simply respond to that email. The flower arrangements cost \$55 for each Sunday.

Please let Judy know at (361) 994-0285 or judy@stmarksgc.org, if you'd like to sponsor one of the four Sundays listed above.

Easter Lilies

Thank you to those of you who helped make our altar so beautiful Easter morning by sponsoring an Easter lily or two.



If you indicated that you wanted to take the Easter lilies you sponsored, please make sure to pick them up this Sunday. Any that are left behind will either be planted in the courtyard or given away.

Outdoor Book Exchange Box

Take a Book, Leave a Book

Several years ago Patti Purdy, our former Children's Ministry Director, had an outdoor book exchange box made. It was used in our Kids in Christ area to encourage our children to read and exchange books with one another.

Fast forward a few years, and we're now going to take it out of the Kids in Christ area to display it prominently outside on our property. Our hope is that the community, old and young alike, will utilize the book exchange box. So, if you have books you'd like to put in the box, please bring them with you to church May 1st.

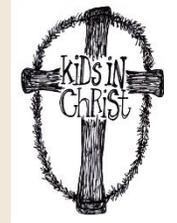


Youth and Children's Ministry

SEEK Youth Group and Kids in Christ

Kids in Christ

All children ages 3-12 are invited to stay after church for Kids in Christ. This Sunday we'll begin a new unit about growing closer to Jesus. We know we're supposed to talk to God, but what do we say? (Even the disciples asked!) Come find out about five-finger prayers this Sunday (after you have a snack!).



SEEK Youth Group

Youth group will meet this Sunday at 4:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall for Bible study, prayer, and fun and games. Please join us!



Youth are also invited to join Kids in Christ after the service, if you'd like to learn about five-finger prayers!

Youth Sunday will be on May 1st. Mark your calendars!

The office is aware of one senior graduating this year. Are there any others? Please let Judy know in the office at (361) 994-0285 or judy@stmarkscc.org.

Feel free to text prayers requests in our group chat or to Mrs. Molly anytime.

Ways to Support God's Kingdom through St. Mark's

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORT ST. MARK'S CHURCH!

Is the Lord blessing you? Are you grateful for what He has done in your life? Remember His Church. Though we have experienced limitations for worshipping together, we still 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 the four 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.



- **NEW APP**----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.
- 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.

**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 April schedule for our ministries, which is still a work in progress. Please check each week to see if there are any changes.

April 24 - Sunday

10:00 a.m. - Morning Prayer Service--Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. - Coffee Hour--Fellowship Hall
11:30 a.m. - Kids in Christ--Fellowship Hall
4:00 p.m. - SEEK Youth Group--Fellowship Hall

April 25 - Monday

6:30 p.m. - Vestry Meeting--Online via Zoom

April 26 - Tuesday

10:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. - Women's Group--Jason's Deli, 1416 Airline
6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant, 7426 S. Staples
7:00 p.m. - Bible Study & Prayer Group--Online via Zoom

April 27 - Wednesday

12:00 p.m. - Noonday Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall
5:30 p.m. - Search Committee Meeting--Fellowship Hall

April 28 - Thursday

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

Helpful Links

**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](#)

[Denison Forum--News Discerned Differently](#)

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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