

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

December 12, 2024

Upcoming Events

Christmas Pageant Practice

12/14, Saturday

Christmas Pageant

12/15, Sunday

Christmas Caroling

12/15, Sunday

Food Distribution at Cimarron Senior Apartments

12/19, Thursday

Access Plus Ramp Build

12/21, Saturday

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

12/24, Tuesday

Christmas Day Service-Church of the Good Shepherd

12/15, Wednesday

Lessons & Carols

12/29, Sunday

Office Closed

12/23 at noon through 1/6

Youth Group & Adult Bible Study

Sundays following the service

A Word from the Rector Fr. Doug Wasinger



Advent Season

This week's Advent theme is "rejoice." What are we to be excited about? The arrival of God in our world changes us at our core, and how God makes this transformation occur is the opposite of what we would expect. God doesn't demand that we become a peer of the Divine but shows the world what it means to be forgiven and redeemed by love.

One of the well-known prophets of the Old Testament is Isaiah. The book of Isaiah has been nicknamed the Gospel of the Old Testament. The call story of Isaiah describes the dramatic encounter in a vision of a man with God. When Isaiah arrived in the heavenly temple of Almighty God, the sight was overwhelming to the human senses. Isaiah looked upon God's glorious presence only to find his own existence as being diminished. For Isaiah,

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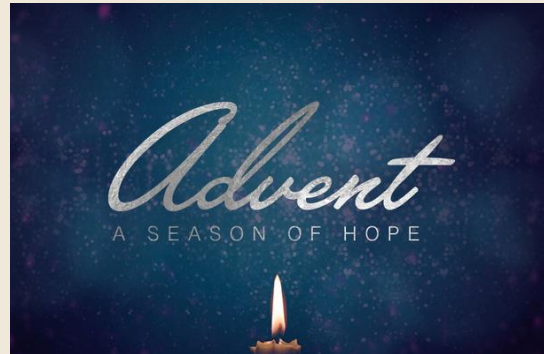
Sunday Worship Service

Morning Prayer & Pageant
at 10:00 a.m.

[Visit our website](#)

his own human limitations and faults were being exposed, and he was deeply disappointed in what he saw in himself. In comparison to God, he had nothing to offer to a mighty king or leader that could be measured as worthy of acceptance.

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



Christmas Rehearsal & Pageant



**Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Saturday, 12/14, 9:30 a.m.**

**Christmas Pageant
Sunday, 12/15**

Gay DeMontel is overseeing the Christmas Pageant again this year. Thank you, Gay! She is seeking children and adult participants. Please call Gay at (361) 944-4544 regarding which part you would like to play and costuming. There will be only one practice, which will be Saturday, 12/14, at 9:30 a.m. beginning in the fellowship hall.

Immediately after the service we will go over to the Corpus Christi Nursing and Rehabilitation Center to sing Christmas Carols for the residents. Everyone is invited to join in the fun. If you participate in the pageant and want help with the singing, please leave your costume on. The residents enjoy having us there, especially if a few of us are in costume!



Election of Delegates & Alternates

2025 Diocesan Delegates and Alternates



Here are the results of the election this past Sunday. The people who were nominated and not actually at meeting are unable to serve. So, the final results are below:

Delegates:

Marybeth Maxwell
Paul Baen
Terry Wright

Alternate:

Paula Baen

Thank you to those who are representing St. Mark's at Diocesan Council in February!

Poinsettia Plants



Poinsettia Plants to Decorate Altar for Christmas Eve Services

Our Christmas Eve services will be at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. as usual this year. As part of our tradition, we use poinsettia plants to decorate

the altar for the Christmas Eve services. There will be red inserts in the bulletins this Sunday to use if you would like to sign up for a plant or two. Sponsoring a plant is great way to honor a special someone or event in your life, or you may write down a dedication in memory of someone. The plants cost \$12.00 each. Thank you for helping to make the altar beautiful this Christmas Eve.

The deadline for the dedications is next Wednesday, 12/18.

Access Plus Ramp Build

**Access Plus Ramp Build
Saturday, 12/21, 8:00 a.m.
3601 S. Saxet Dr.**

The December ramp build is for a lady named Norma. She and her family will be blessed by the efforts of the Access Plus team, who will give them better access to her home.

Everyone is welcomed to come participate in the build even if you have no building experience. Doug Wayland and his team are more than happy to train you. Coffee, water, and donuts will be provided.



Please prayerfully consider being a part of this ministry!

Christmas Services



Christmas Eve Services
5:00 p.m. Family Service
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

Christmas Day Service
10:30 a.m. Church of the
Good Shepherd

Youth Group

Youth Group

The Christmas pageant is scheduled for THIS Sunday, December 15th. If you will be participating, come to the practice starting in the fellowship hall at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 14th. Like last year, the pageant on Sunday will be followed by caroling at the Corpus Christi Nursing & Rehabilitation Center next door.



Adult Bible Study



Adult Bible Study Sundays after the Service

Participants in the Adult Bible Study Group normally meet in the Fellowship Hall for Bible study but will not this Sunday due to the caroling scheduled after the service. The group will continue the study of the Gospel of Mark in January. 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.

Below are the links to the previous study guides for chapters one through twelve if you'd like to review them or catch up. The group is currently taking a break for the Christmas season.

Previous Chapters 1-10:

[Chapter 1 Mark](#)

[Chapter 2 Mark](#)

[Chapter 3 Mark](#)

[Chapter 4 Mark](#)

[Chapter 5 Mark](#)

[Chapter 6 Mark](#)

[Chapter 7 Mark](#)

[Chapter 8 Mark](#)

[Chapter 9 Mark](#)

[Chapter 10 Mark](#)
[Chapter 11 Mark](#)
[Chapter 12 Mark](#)

New Chapters 13-16:

[Chapter 13 Mark](#)
[Chapter 14 Mark](#)
[Chapter 15 Mark](#)
[Chapter 16 Mark](#)

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, or athletic shoes
- Donating travel size deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, bars of bath soap, body wash
- Donating toothbrushes
- 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 Information--Please use the link below to the diocesan page containing information on upcoming [Cursillo weekends](#).

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 [December 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's a link to the [December calendar](#).

December 14 - Saturday

9:30 a.m. - Christmas Pageant Practice--Fellowship Hall

3:00 p.m. - South Texas Amateur Radio Club Testing--Fellowship Hall

December 15 - Sunday

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

11:00 a.m. - Christmas Caroling--Corpus Christi Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

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

December 16- Monday

9:00 a.m. - Staff Retreat--Wandel Home

December 17 - Tuesday

7:30 a.m. - Women's Reunion Group--Corner Bakery, 4938 S. Staples St.

6:30 p.m. - Vestry Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

December 18- Wednesday

11:30 a.m. - Lunch with the Old Guys--Jason's Deli, 1416 Airline 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.

December 19 - Thursday

11:45 a.m. - Food Distribution--Cimarron Senior Apartments, 2802 Cimarron Blvd.

December 21 - Saturday

8:00 a.m. - Access Plus Ramp Build--3601 S. Saxet Dr.

**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

2727 Airline Rd

(361) 994-0285

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