

Matt's Missive

October 2024

Market Day Thanks

Another successful Market Day is behind us. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped in the week before to get the rooms cleared, spaces marked, and tables and chairs moved. A special thanks to Liz and John for their organization and guidance. Also, special thanks to Melissa and her crew for organizing, preparing, and selling the wonderful breakfast items. Plus, this year she enlisted help to cook and sell hamburgers and hot dogs for lunch. Thanks again for all the support. It takes a village....





Just a few of our wonderful volunteers!!

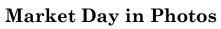




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FALL BACK! DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS 2 A.M. ON NOVEMBER 3!

Our Mission: We serve Jesus Christ as a community rich in the Episcopal tradition by welcoming the seeker, providing a caring family, encouraging spiritual growth, and reaching into our neighborhood and world.





The Rev. Angela Maria Cortiñas elected as next Bishop Suffragan of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas

The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas has elected the Rev. Angela Maria Cortiñas as its next bishop suffragan. Cortiñas currently serves as associate rector of St. David's Episcopal Church in Austin, Texas. She will be consecrated and installed as the seventh Bishop Suffragan of West Texas on March 29, 2025, pending consents of bishops with jurisdiction and Standing Committees of Episcopal Church dioceses, and will serve under the Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, D.D., Bishop of West Texas.



"The Diocese of West Texas has been blessed with the ministry of bishop suffragans since 1955," said Bishop

Read. "Each of the bishop suffragan nominees brought unique talents and background that align with the mission of the diocese, and all were well suited for the role. I am grateful for their trust in putting forth their name as a candidate and participating in the discernment process. I extend my congratulations to Rev. Cortiñas. Angela's passion for the mission of bringing the love of Jesus far and wide is a gift. I give thanks and praise for her willingness to step into this role."

In her statement to the delegation, Rev. Cortinas thanked the nominating committee and Bishop Read for their hard work over the past months and said, "You could feel the Holy Spirit throughout the whole process." She thanked clergy and delegates for their belief in her and said she is ready to do the work of the bishop suffragan in the Diocese of West Texas.

The bishop suffragan-elect was chosen by clergy and lay delegates representing each congregation of the diocese on Saturday, October 19, 2024, at a Special Council, held inperson at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Corpus Christi, Texas. Cortiñas was elected on the 5th round of balloting with 59% of the clergy votes and 52% of lay votes. A majority of both clergy and lay votes in the same round, defined as 50% plus one vote, was needed for election.

The other nominees included the Rev. Canon Wm. Lee Curtis, canon to the ordinary for the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande, and the Rev. Matthew Wise, associate rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in San Antonio, Texas.

The Rev. James J. Derkits, rector of Trinity by the Sea Episcopal Church in Port Aransas, Texas and president of the Diocese of West Texas Standing Committee, said "The committee and I give thanks to God for the amazing group of nominees who have faithfully participated in this process. The Holy Spirit has been at work these eight months of discernment through our diocese, the Standing and Nominating Committees, our clergy and delegates, and the nominees. It has been a care-filled and joyous discernment process with so many holy moments."

2024 Stewardship Program

By Wayne Mudge

St. Matthew's 2024 Stewardship Program officially kicks-off on November 10, 2024 and will continue through December 8, 2024. Our campaign theme this year is *Walk in Love*. Our intentions this year are 1) to remind parishioners how the many facets of stewardship (time, talent, and treasure) interrelate with walking in love and 2) to encourage every parishioner to examine the spiritual journey they are on, as they pray about their stewardship. During this year's program, we will ask parishioners to think about these questions: What does Walk in Love mean to you? How has God's love and your response to His love formed your gratitude and generosity?

Our schedule for this year:

November 10: *WALK IN LOVE* SUNDAY – with a short stewardship introduction at both services.

November 17: TESTIMONY SUNDAY – testimony about stewardship to be shared.

November 24: GENEROSITY SUNDAY – estimate of giving cards for 2024 will be available for completion in the parish hall after the service.

December 8: GRATITUDE AND BLESSINGS SUNDAY – completed estimate of giving cards to be blessed during the services.

You will receive more information when our campaign kicks off in November. I ask that you pray with us as we launch our annual review of gifts and gratitude and consider how you will share your gifts.



"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:1-2, NRSV

Dear St. Matthew's Friends.

Thank you so much for your outreach and ministry to the Army Residence Community (ARC). You have Saint Matthew's members here that you reach out to weekly; you have others from the community who attend the weekly service and cherish your ministry--like me!

Fr. Cristopher is a gift to us. Please know that your continuing outreach is no way small. To us, it is a "Blessed Lifeline."

Mahalo and aloha.

Chaplain Bruce Betker Army Residence Community (ARC) Thank You!

Hospitality Notes

By Melissa Mudge

St. Therese of Lisieux

Born: January 2, 1873, Alençon, France Died: September 30, 1897 (age 24 years)

"Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love."

"Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, or even at their difficulty, as at the love with which we do them."

St. Therese is a patron saint of missionaries, florists, pilots, and priests. She is also invoked on behalf of the sick. Marie-Françoise-Thérèse Martin was the youngest of nine children, five of whom survived childhood. After her mother died of breast cancer in 1877, Martin moved with her family to Lisieux, France.

Many Thanks

Thank you, people of St. Matthew's. Whatever the need, you are there with unique skills, willing spirit, and helping hands to complete our tasks. The Parish Hall was once again filled with laughter and fellowship during our St. Matthew's Day celebration. Thanks to all who shared their favorite dishes.

On-Going Hospitality

Morning Coffee Fellowship after each Sunday Service.

8:00 service—morning coffee and snacks will be ready about 8:45.

10:00 service—coffee and snacks will be ready about 10:45.

Thanks, host families, for the love that goes into planning, preparation, and serving of our coffee snacks (and more) each week.

Are you ready to join the team? <u>A Fourth Host is Needed</u> to take a turn in the Coffee Hour rotation after the 10:00 a.m. service. We look forward to sharing this ministry with YOU.

- Hospitality Committee Volunteers are needed to prepare food, set up, serve, and cleanup at some of our church related activities. If you would like to be "hospitality on call," please let me know.
- On-going Kitchen Clean-up Thanks everyone for leaving our kitchen clean and shiny after your event. Thanks for keeping us all safe and healthy.

Give it - To Go

The bags are put away for a while. It is time to revive/regroup. Please let me know if you are the one to create a new look and invigorate the purpose for giving hygiene bags to those who need them.

Pray for all poor and neglected people whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who are broken in body or spirit. Turn their sorrow into joy.

(Continued on next page)

Hospitality Notes (Continued)

Special Days/Events (Some dates to look forward to)

- Continuing our celebration of Saints—Please join us in celebrating our Departed Saints. Now through November 2, All Souls Day, you are invited to bring pictures and personal items of those you love and those who have been an influence in your life. Tables are set up in the front and back of the parish hall to honor and remember our personal saints. All are welcome remember, Matthew was a lot of other things before he became a saint.
- November 3—Daylight Saving Time ends. Fall back.
- November 3—Harvest Sunday. See the RACAP article on page 7 for all the details.
- November 5—Election Day.
- November 11—Veterans Day.
- November 28—Thanksgiving Day.
- December 1—First Sunday in Advent. Tamales and Trimming—details coming soon.

November Birthdays

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy." (Philippians 1:3-4)

| Cindy Hull | Terry May | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|--|--|--|
| Jayne Creasy | Mitch Hopkins | | | |
| Max Hopkins | Jackson Mudge | | | |
| Kristina Robinson | Howard Egbert | | | |
| Barbara Duffield | Wayne Mudge | | | |
| Sam Crouch | Mendell Morgan | | | |
| Adalyn Mains | | | | |



Military Outreach Ministry



By Arlene Stalvey

Almighty God, we commend to you for care and keeping all the women and men of our Armed Forces, active, reserve or retiree. Be with them and defend them in any difficulty, trial or peril that may be them wherever they are. Grant them all an abiding presence of you every day, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

November 1: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Retiree Appreciation Day at the Kendrick Club on Randolph AFB.

November 11: Veterans Day.

December 7: Pearl Harbor Day.

RACAP NEWS

By Kathy Ercoline

ST. MATTHEW'S HARVEST SUNDAY is November 3rd. The Harvest Sunday contributions will go toward filling the RACAP holiday meal baskets for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Lists of needed food items are posted in the Narthex and throughout Creasy Hall. Snap a picture of the list to help you when shopping for your donations. There is also a picture of list on page 8 of the Missive. On Harvest Sunday we will present food items and/or cash donations at the altar during both services. The cash donations will be used to purchase the turkeys and perishable food items that are added to the baskets when they are distributed.

HARVEST LUNCHEON: Immediately following the 10:00 service on Harvest Sunday, we will meet in Creasy Hall for our soup and salad luncheon. There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex and on the receptionist's desk in Creasy Hall table to bring soup, salad, rolls, and desserts to share. Please drop-off your soups, salads, etc., to the kitchen in Creasy Hall **before** the 10:00 service. Looking forward to sharing food and fellowship on November 3rd, 10:00 AM.

CURRENT RACAP PANTRY NEEDS: In addition to Harvest Sunday donations the RACAP pantry needs:

Canned Beans Canned Fruit Mac 'n Cheese Canned Pasta Meals

Dry Rice (1lb bags) Jelly Jell-O Canned Tomato Products

Peanut Butter Shampoo Conditioner Toothpaste

Laundry Detergent Dish Detergent Pet Food

REMINDER: Please remember to check the expiration dates on your food donations. RACAP cannot distribute food with expired dates.

Month in Review September 2024 Results

*Please note that the amount of rent, utilities, and medications assistance is included this month's report.

Total # of Families Seen: 144; Total # of People: 409 Total # of Pantry Visits: 99; Total # of People Fed: 280

Estimated cost of food given: \$24,570.00

*Total # of Families Pledged Assistance With:

Rent: 44 Utilities: 60 Medications:

Amount for rent & utility pledges paid: \$2,908.32

"Thank you for helping us help others."



November 3, 2024 St. Matthew's Harvest Sunday



Please help RACAP fill our clients' Thanksgiving and Christmas meal baskets.



Items Needed:
Brown Sugar (1 lb.)
Evaporated Milk
Stuffing Mix
Canned Pumpkin
Yams or Sweet Potatoes
Fruit Cocktail
Cranberry Sauce
Corn (not creamed)
Green Beans (not French)
Chicken Broth

*Donated funds will be used to purchase turkeys and perishable items for the baskets.

*Bring your food items and cash donations to our church service on Sunday, November 3rd 2024.

*Joins us for a special soup and salad luncheon after the 10:00AM service celebrating St. Matthew's Harvest Sunday.

(There is a luncheon sign up sheet in the Narthex)
*See Kathy Ercoline for more information 210-410-9314

Thank you for helping us help others!





Happenings Around The Diocese

Wounded Warriors/Veterans Family Camp: November 1-3 at Mustang Island Conference Center. Wounded Warrior families are invited to a relaxed family weekend at the beach.

Cursillo #294: November 7-10 at Camp Capers. During the weekend, participants engage in study, reflection, fellowship, and worship.

53rd Annual Diocesan Silent Retreat:

November 7-10 at Mustang Island Conference Center. *Allured by God: The Desert Journey Home*. During this retreat we will let the wisdom of the Ammas and Abbas guide us into the desert of our own lives and challenge us to become more alive. What, for example, does a green pea on the road have to do with your life? More than you might think. Come hear what Abba Agathon has to say about that.

Family Camp: December 6-8 at Camp Capers. This is the perfect opportunity for the whole family to enjoy the beauty of the Texas Hill Country along the banks of the Guadalupe River. Whether this is your first time or one of many visiting Camp Capers, come and make lifelong memories with those you love. Activities will include arts & crafts, games of all kinds, faith-based discussions, s'mores and much more.

You can find more information and registration on these & other events at https://www.dwtx.org/ events



From the Blog

Nominations are Open for Offices to be filled at the 121st Diocese of West Texas Council in 2025.

The Diocesan Nominating Committee Seeks Clergy and Lay Nominees from around the diocese. Nominations close on November 1. Learn more here.

Applications are Open for Summer 2025 positions at Camp Capers, Duncan Park, and Mustang Island.

Be a part of a team that inspires campers from across diocese and provide opportunities for campers of all ages to encounter transforming relationships with Jesus Christ. Learn more here.

San Antonio Churches Partner for a Week of Mission with the Diocese of West Texas Immigration and Refugee Ministries.

Youth Groups from San Antonio churches including St. Luke's, St. Marks', and Church of Reconciliation focused on Immigration and Refugee Ministries for a week of mission work in their hometown. Read more here.

DWTX in the News

St. Nicholas Hill Country, Bulverde's Pet Blessing was featured on KENS 5 Evening News. Click <u>here</u> to watch the segment.

The submission **DEADLINE** for the Missive is the 15th of the month. Any late submissions will be in the next month's issue.

| NOVEMBER CALENDAR | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|---------------------|----------|--|--|
| Sunday Monday | | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | | |
| 3 Harvest Sunday Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L) Soup & Salad Potluck 11am (CH) | 4 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH) | 5 Election Day | 6 HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, L, VEB) Eucharist 11am (ARC) Small Group Study 6-8pm (CH) | 7 Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (C) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH) | 8 | 9 | | |
| 10 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L) | 11 Veterans Day Office Closed No Staff or Prayer Meeting AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH) | 12 | 13 HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, L, VEB) Eucharist 11am (ARC) Small Group Study 6-8pm (CH) | 14 Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (C) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH) | 15 | 16 | | |
| Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L) Kiwanis 5-6pm (CH) | 18 Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH) | 19 Vestry Meeting 6pm (<i>CH</i>) | 20 HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, L, VEB) Eucharist 11am (ARC) | 21 Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (C) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH) | 22 | 23 | | |
| 24 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L) | orship Staff Meeting LOam (C) 9am (L) ay School Prayer Meeting | | 27 HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, L, VEB) Eucharist 11am (ARC) | 28 Office Closed AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH) | 29 Office Closed | 30 | | |

C - Church; CH - Creasy Hall; VEB - Vellom Ed Building; L - Library ARC - Army Residence Community

NOVEMBER 2024 SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

| Ministry | November 3 | November 10 | November 17 | November 24 | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| | All Saints Sunday | | | | | |
| Altar Guild | Melody Johnson | Tarawanda Howard | Terry May | Terry May Suzanne Milton | | |
| | Diane Woods | Suzanne Milton | Suzanne Milton | | | |
| 8 AM Reader | Joan McClain | Max Hopkins | Suzi Hopkins | Jayne Dunlap | | |
| 8 AM | Max Hopkins | Jayne Dunlap | Ron Dunlap | Suzi Hopkins | | |
| Greeter/Usher | | | | | | |
| 8 AM Coffee | Joan McClain | Jayne Dunlap | Suzi Hopkins | Tarawanda Howard | | |
| 10 AM Server | Mendell Morgan | Wayne Mudge | Terry May | Sean Francis | | |
| 10 AM Reader | Wayne Mudge | Susan Brown | Melissa Mudge | Liz Sampson | | |
| 10 AM | Diane Woods | Maribeth Likins | Melissa Mudge | Kathy Ercoline | | |
| Greeters/Ushers | Terry May | Arlene Stalvey | | Bill Ercoline | | |
| | | Diane Woods | | | | |
| Prayers of the | Susan Brown | Bill Ercoline | Maribeth Likins | Liz Sampson | | |
| People | | | | | | |
| Newcomer Visits | Ellen Yelverton | Terry May | Ellen Yelverton | Terry May | | |
| | | Diane Woods | | Diane Woods | | |
| Home Communion | No Home Communion | Mendell Morgan | No Home Communion | Ellen Yelverton | | |
| Prayer Ministry | Ellen Yelverton | Mendell Morgan | Maribeth Likins | Ellen Yelverton | | |
| 10 AM Coffee | Melissa Mudge | Diane Woods Kathy Ercoline | | Diane Woods | | |
| Audio Visual | Kristina Robinson | Terry May Wayne Mudge | | Terry May | | |
| Lockup/Security | Richard Guerrero | Jayne Dunlap | Maribeth Likins | Terry May | | |

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers ad privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of our governmental leaders; that by faithful and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (1 Peter 4:10-11)

SEPTEMBER 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

| Monthly | Pledge | Plate | Other | Total | 2024 YTD | Pledge | Plate | Other | Total |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|---------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Operating Income Received | \$14,377 | \$3,175 | \$3,919 | \$21,471 | Operating Income Received | \$139,431 | \$16,518 | \$10,894 | \$166,843 |
| Operating Income Budgeted | \$13,869 | \$1,652 | \$80 | \$15,601 | Operating Income Budgeted | \$124,825 | \$14,864 | \$6,380 | \$146,069 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | Monthly | YTD | | | | Monthly | YTD | | |
| Overall Operating Expenses | \$20,578 | \$170,195 | | | Outreach | \$600 | \$8,057 | | |
| Budgeted Operating | | | | | | | | | |
| Expenses | \$18,264 | \$173,837 | | | | | | | |

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