

Matt's Missive

January 2025

Who...

Who is this you worship, my sister, my friend?
I need to understand it, please tell me once again.
Who is this man Jesus, and what does He say
That makes you want to follow Him in His special way?

Who is this you worship, my brother, my pal?
How does He command your attention even now?
Who is this man Jesus, and what does He do
To give such perfect joy and serenity to you?

I've heard so much of this man, I want to hear some more
Of miracles and sermons; of traveling, footsore,
To reach for every person's heart. Oh would that I was there
Please tell me more of this man, whose love is everywhere.

Who is this you worship: I think I finally see
That this man Jesus reaches through you and you to me.
For your lives are graced by His love and now is mine also,
And I will set my eyes on Him, and searching others, go.

Janet Clere
© June 27, 2007
Austin, TX



A Celebration of Life
Rev. Timothy (Tim) Vellom
11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 28
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
315 Pecan St.
San Antonio TX 78205



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.

Hospitality Notes

By Melissa Mudge

Almighty God, who called your servant George Herbert from the pursuit of worldly honors to be a poet and a pastor of souls: Give us grace, we pray, joyfully to dedicate all our powers to your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (Collect February 27, Feast Day of George Herbert)

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.

Donations of new and gently used coats, sweaters, jackets, sweatshirts and shoes were greatly appreciated at **Haven for Hope**. You still have time to clean out your closet. The next collection of warm garments will be taken at the end of January. Thanks for thinking of/loving those out in the cold.

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.

New Hospitality Hosts for 10:00 Service: Colleen Hubberd and Maribeth Likins.

Welcome to the Hospitality team—looking forward to great times in the Parish Hall!

- ◆ Hospitality Committee – Volunteers are needed to prepare food, set up, serve, and clean-up at some of our church related activities. If you would like to be “hospitality on call,” please let me know. I have a list!
- ◆ On-going Kitchen Clean-up – The best way to stop the spread of viruses? Remember to ***Wash Your Hands*** when you enter the kitchen to prepare any kind of snacks, feasts, and yes, even coffee. Thanks.

Give it – To Go

The bags are put away for a while. 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.

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

- ◆ February 11—World Day of the Sick.
- ◆ February 17—Random Acts of Kindness Day.
- ◆ February 20—World day of Social Justice.
- ◆ March 1—World Day of Prayer.

RACAP NEWS

By Kathy Ercoline

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

RACAP'S 'SOUPER' BOWL ANNUAL FOOD COLLECTION:

During the month of **January**, and until Super Bowl Sunday on February 9th, please donate **Canned Soups, Canned Fruits, and Crackers** to fill RACAP's pantry shelves. Cash donations are always graciously accepted.

Current Pantry Needs:

Ramen	Spaghetti Sauce	Soup
Tomato Products	Dish Soap	Pet Food

A SUMMARY of RACAP'S DIRECTOR Lisa Loftus's JANUARY MESSAGE:

RACAP's 2024 Christmas Meal Basket Program provided meal baskets to 118 Families. A huge thank you to Kathy Stone, our RACAP assistant director, our amazing volunteers and all the member churches, businesses, schools, organizations, clubs, groups, and individuals that help to make what we do at RACAP possible. Whether it's a food drive or monetary donations, we appreciate it all! Every contribution makes a difference! With the start of a new year RACAP, our mission continues... to help our clients and offer them hope.

Month in Review

December 2024 Results

Total # of Families Assisted: 75*

Total # of People Assisted: 197*

Total # of Pantry Orders: 47

Total # of People Fed: 127

Estimated cost of food given: \$8,088.74

*Included in these statistics are clients who were assisted with rent,

Thank you to all the members of St. Matthew's for your continued support to fulfill RACAP's mission to "Feed My Sheep" (John 21:15-17). Without your generous contributions of food items and monetary donations, RACAP would not exist.

As we begin 2025, always remember to find gratitude during the most challenging times, and to show grace and kindness to others. We never know how a simple act of kindness can impact someone's life.

"In the same way let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

God Bless you all! Have a Happy, Healthy, and Blessed 2025!

"Thank you for helping us help others."

“Sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and Marked as Christ’s Own”

On Sunday, January 12, we were honored to witness the baptism of Grace Joy Bradlaw, held by her father, Devon Bradlaw. Also pictured: her mother Ariel, Fr. Christopher, her sister and brother, Evelyn and Liam.



February Birthdays

*May he give you the desire of your heart and
make all your plans succeed. (Psalm 20:4)*

Jan Dooling	Holly Crouch
Susan Walker	Melissa Mudge
Deb Hynes	Carolyn Hull
Ivy Keane-Dawes	Molly Baskin
Susan Brown	Sean McBride
Eleanor (Memo) Bjoring	Joan McClain

121st Council of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas “Here I am. Send Me.”

Council 2025 will convene in-person February 20 - 22, at the Convention Center in San Marcos, TX. Clergy and lay delegates will assemble to hear ministry reports, conduct the annual business of the Diocese, worship together, participate in workshops, and share fellowship. Learn more [here](#).

Council 2025 Registration is open for Guests, Childcare, and Exhibitors

- ◆ All members of the Diocese are invited to attend as a guest to hear ministry reports, participate in Holy Eucharist and Morning and Noontime prayers, and to reconnect with friends from across the diocese. Click [here](#) to register.
- ◆ Preregistration is required for our **onsite childcare, Kid's Wonder Zone**, during Council Business sessions and activities. Click [here](#) to register.
- ◆ Ministries, Episcopal organizations, small businesses, and committees are invited to host a booth in the Council Exhibit Hall. Click [here](#) to register.

Deadline to register is February 1.

PLEASE JOIN US!

**Dining Out on Thursday, January 30th,
at 6:30 p.m.**

Romano’s Macaroni Grill
8355 Agora Parkway, Selma, TX 78154
RSVP by January 28th to
Kathy & Bill Ercoline





Happenings Around The Diocese

Nails & Prayers Service Retreat: March 7-9 at Camp Capers. This is a great opportunity for high school students to earn service hours. If you are unable to stay the whole weekend, we invite you to come for the day on Saturday. Enjoy some fun activities in the beautiful Hill Country and participate in fellowship and worship. Work projects may include grounds clean-up, trail maintenance, stocking firewood, painting, small construction projects, landscaping, and gardening.

Spring Break Family Camp: March 13-16 at Mustang Island Family Camp. Spend Spring Break weekend with your family on the beach! Programming begins Thursday afternoon/evening and continues through Sunday lunch. Each day ends with worship, music, and a family-centered Bible teaching.

Cursillo #295: March 13-16 at Camp Capers. Cursillo (a Spanish word meaning "little course") gives church members the tools and "rules of life" to enthusiastically share the joys of knowing Christ with others in their everyday environments. Cursillo is patterned on Jesus' own example. He searched out and called groups of potential leaders, trained them and sent them out to bring the world to Him.

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

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



From the Blog

Save the Date: Consecration of the 7th Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of West Texas

You're invited to join the Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, D.D. and the Diocese of West Texas to celebrate the Consecration and Ordination of the 7th Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of West Texas, the Rev. Angela Maria Cortiñas. The Rev. Cortiñas will be consecrated at St. John's Episcopal Church, McAllen on March 15 at 10:00 a.m. The Most Reverend Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church, to Serve as Chief Consecrator. Read more [here](#).

Support Episcopal Relief & Development's (ERD) Wildfire Response Fund

ERD is working with local diocesan partners to assess the needs of Southern California evacuees and provide support in the coming days. As the scope of the disaster continues to unfold, they need your help. Please make a gift to their Wildfire Response Fund today. Learn more [here](#).

The Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read Extends Invitation to read James and 1 & 2 Peter

Continuing a tradition begun by the Rt. Rev. Gary Lillibridge and continued through the episcopacy of the Rt. Rev. David M. Reed. Bishop Read invites the diocese to study the letters of 1 & 2 Peter and James. He notes in his letter to the diocese, "We as a diocese have studied most of the 27 books of the New Testament with the exception of these three letters and the Letter to the Hebrews. It seems like a good practice for us to complete our survey of the New Testament together." Read more [here](#).

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L)	3 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	4	5 HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, L, VEB) Eucharist 11am (ARC) Wednesday Night Study 6-8pm (CH)	6 Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (C) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	7	8
9 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L)	10 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	11 Vestry Meeting 6pm (CH)	12 HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, L, VEB) Eucharist 11am (ARC) Wednesday Night Study 6-8pm (CH)	13 Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (C) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	14	15
16 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L) Kiwanis 5-6pm (CH)	17 Presidents' Day Office Closed No Staff or Prayer Meeting AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	18	19 HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, L, VEB) Eucharist 11am (ARC) Wednesday Night Study 6-8pm (CH)	20 DWTX Annual Council (San Marcos TX) Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (C) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	21 DWTX Annual Council (San Marcos TX)	22 DWTX Annual Council (San Marcos TX)
23 Worship 8 & 10am (C) Sunday School 9:15am (L)	24 Staff Meeting 9am (L) Prayer Meeting 12pm (L) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	25	26 HOME 10am-3:30pm (CH, C, L, VEB) Eucharist 11am (ARC) Wednesday Night Study 6-8pm (CH)	27 Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (C) Dining Out 6:30pm (TBD) AA Meeting 8-9pm (CH)	28 Celebration of Life for Fr. Tim 11am St. Mark's Episcopal Church 315 Pecan St. San Antonio TX 78205	

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

FEBRUARY 2025 SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Ministry	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23
Altar Guild	Cindy Hull Diane Woods	Pat Clarke-Kempf Diane Woods	Terry May Suzanne Milton	Maggie Barnes Stephanie McBride Diane Woods
8 AM Reader	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Joan McClain	Max Hopkins
8 AM Greeter/Usher	Joan McClain	Max Hopkins	Jayne Dunlap	Ron Dunlap
8 AM Coffee	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Tarawanda Howard	Joan McClain
10 AM Server	Terry May	Wayne Mudge	Sean Francis	Sean Keane-Dawes
10 AM Reader	Sean Francis	Liz Sampson	Susan Brown	Maribeth Likins
10 AM Greeter/Usher	Melissa Mudge	Diane Woods	Terry May	Kathy Ercoline
Prayers of the People	Janet Clere	Bill Ercoline	Maribeth Likins	Liz Sampson
Newcomer Visits	Terry May Diane Woods	Ellen Yelverton	Terry May Diane Woods	Ellen Yelverton
Home Communion	Sean Keane-Dawes	No Home Communion	Janet Clere	No Home Communion
Prayer Ministry	Mendell Morgan	Maribeth Likins	Ellen Yelverton	Mendell Morgan
10 AM Coffee	Colleen Hubberd Maribeth Likins	Diane Woods	Kathy Ercoline	Melissa Mudge
Audio Visual	Wayne Mudge	Terry May	Kristina Robinson	Terry May
Lockup/Security	Ellen Yelverton	Tarawanda Howard	Terry May	Arlene Stalvey

Save the Date: Saturday, March 29th St. Matthew's Goes to the Ballpark

Join your fellow parishioners for some fun in the sun! We're organizing an outing to cheer for the local college baseball team that Fr. Cristopher serves as team chaplain. On March 29th, the Saints from Our Lady of the Lake University play host to the Wildcats of Louisiana Christian University in a double-header starting at noon.

Our hospitality team is making plans to feed the team in between games. More details will be included in the February or March edition of Matt's Missive.

DECEMBER 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

Monthly	Pledge	Plate	Other	Total	2024 YTD	Pledge	Plate	Other	Total
Operating Income Received	\$16,689	\$1,161	\$1,308	\$19,158	Operating Income Received	\$184,431	\$22,538	\$13,640	\$220,609
Operating Income Budgeted	\$13,869	\$1,652	\$860	\$16,381	Operating Income Budgeted	\$166,434	\$19,819	\$8,000	\$194,253
	Monthly	YTD				Monthly	YTD		
Overall Operating Expenses	\$31,415	\$233,936			Outreach	\$200	\$9,585		
Budgeted Operating Expenses	\$18,264	\$231,429							

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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