

THE REV. ANGELA MARIA CORTIÑAS ORDAINED AND CONSECRATED AS SEVENTH BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WEST TEXAS

The Rt. Rev. Angela Maria Cortiñas was ordained and consecrated as the 7th Bishop Suffragan of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas on Saturday, March 15th, in St. John's Episcopal Church, McAllen, Texas. Bishop Cortiñas will work alongside the Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, D.D., Bishop of West Texas.



The Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, was the chief consecrator. Co-consecrators were the Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle Bishop, Diocese of Texas, the Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves, Managing Director at the College for Bishops of The Episcopal Church, the Rt. Rev. Hector Monterroso, Bishop Assistant, Diocese of Texas, the Rt. Rev. Brian N. Prior, Assisting Bishop, Diocese of Alabama, and the Rt. Rev. Kathryn M. Ryan, Bishop Suffragan, Diocese of Texas.

We give thanks for Bishop Cortiñas and her family, the Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, the Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, the Clergy of the Diocese of West Texas, and St. John's, McAllen for joyfully hosting the service.

Click [here](#) for the video and [photos](#) of the service, as well as the service booklet.



PLEASE JOIN US!

Dining Out on Thursday, March 27th, at 6:30 p.m.

Shang-Hai Chinese Restaurant

2935 Pat Booker Rd. #130, Universal City, TX 78148

RSVP by March 25th to Diane Woods & Terry May



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.

Highlights from the 121st Council of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas

For the second consecutive year, the San Marcos Conference Center was the location for the 121st Diocese of West Texas Council. Frigid temperature did not deter attendance with approximately 800 Clergy, Council Delegates, Alternates, Guests, Exhibitors, and staff gathering to conduct Council business, listen to bishop addresses, ministry and guest speakers, worship, and share fellowship together. Commencing the afternoon of Thursday, February 20th, and concluding at noon on Saturday, February 22nd, Council encompassed a full schedule with opportunities for applicable learnings for clergy and delegates to bring back to their churches. Read more [here](#).

The Bishop's Address to the 121st Council of the Diocese

The Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, D.D., addressed Council 2025 on Friday, February 21. He reflected on our theme, Here Am I. Send Me. "I chose it to remind us that each one of us is called. Every person, in every pew, in every congregation, is called. Women and men; youth and children; middle aged and senior citizens; high school and college students - all are called. The Risen Lord is inviting each one of us to actively engage in the mission and ministry of reconciling all people and all creation to God." He also challenged the diocese to "Pray bigger prayers." "Don't pray for crutches – pray for wings." "There is not one prayer you or I can pray that Jesus doesn't wish was bigger. Pray bigger prayers, for the Diocese of West Texas, pray bigger prayers for your congregation, and pray bigger prayers for yourself. Pray bigger prayers." Click [here](#) to read and watch the Bishop's Address.

Videos from Council 2025

Click [here](#) to watch all of our Council videos and the Livestream from each day.

Completion of Elections

Congratulations to those elected to serve as leaders of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas by its 121st Annual Council. Click [here](#) to read the full list.

St. Matthew's Delegation

Terry May, Richard Guerrero, Fr. Cristopher, Arlene Stalvey
Not pictured but in attendance: Kathy Ercoline



MAKING PALM CROSSES

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Liz Sampson graciously agreed to organize and show everyone interested how to make the palm crosses for our Palm Sunday services. Please join her in Creasy Hall at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 12. All you need is your willingness to help and a pair of scissors.



RACAP NEWS

By Kathy Ercoline

St. Matthew's Lenten program, "40 CANS FOR LENT" continues until Good Friday. Our contributions are being donated to RACAP to help families in our local area. Thus far, approximately 200 lbs. of food donations from St. Matthew's parishioners, have been delivered to the RACAP pantry. Thank you to those who donated. If you have not already done so, please donate **one can of food per day** (40 items). Bring your cans of food and/or paper products to **Creasy Hall** at any time during the Lenten Season, and they will be delivered to RACAP.

We will have a special in-gathering of one extra can per person on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025.

Cash donations are welcomed and appreciated. Make your checks payable to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and write "40 Cans for Lent" on the memo line. If you donate cash, please put it in an envelope and label it specifically for RACAP "40 Cans for Lent Program."

Current Pantry Needs:

Boxed Meat Helpers	Rice	Spaghetti	Jelly
Tomato Products	Toilet Paper	Diapers	Dish Soap
Personal Hygiene Products	Pet Food		

All Toiletry Items (shampoo, bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.)

A quote from RACAP's Board President, Kathy Staley:

"Please continue to remind your churches how important their donations are and that we truly appreciate their serving others through their generosity to RACAP. Every day, we are a blessing to the community."

St Matthew's Congregation...Your support and very generous contributions to RACAP are making a difference in people's lives...THANK YOU!

RACAP Month in Review

February 2025 Results

Total # of Families Assisted: 70

Total # of People Assisted: 175

Total # of Pantry Orders: 52

Total # of People Fed: 125

Estimated cost of food given: \$8,455.00

"Thank you for helping us help others."

Hospitality Notes

By Melissa Mudge

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.

Another **Fat Tuesday** to fill us up and make us happy. Thanks to everyone for donations of food, prep time, cooking, serving, eating, fellowship, and cleaning up. Good job everyone!

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.
- ◆ 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 Hands* when you enter the kitchen to prepare any kind of snacks, feasts, and yes, even coffee. Thanks.

Give it – To Go

Take another look. There are bins located by the windows in the Parish Hall. Please add to the collection so we can make new give away bags for those who travel this earth with us, but just need help sometimes.

Bin 1 is for toiletry articles – shampoo, deodorant, lotion, toothpaste. Regular size, but not too big to carry around.

Bin 2 is for sturdy shoes in good shape, fit for a person whose mode of transportation is mainly walking. Also clean, new packs of black socks for adults.

Bin 3 is for sweatshirts and jackets especially with hoods and coats. Outerwear will be taken regularly to Haven for Hope.

Once toiletry articles are collected, more give away bags can be assembled.

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

- ◆ **March 29—Our Lady of the Lake University Baseball Double Header Day at Missions Baseball Academy.** Everyone is invited to come out and root for the Saints against the visiting Louisiana Christian University Wildcats. Our Hospitality Teams will serve sandwiches and other good things between the games. Sandwich prep day will be Friday, March 28. More Information/sign-up sheet available soon.
- ◆ **April 2—National Reconciliation Day.** This day urges us to repair our damaged relationships caused by misunderstandings, unintended words or actions, and simply an unforgiven mistake. (<https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/national-day/national-reconciliation-day-april-2>).
- ◆ **April 9—Remembering Deitrich Bonhoeffer.** A pastor, author, and anti-Nazi dissident, Bonhoeffer laid down his life for Christ when the Nazis forbade him to speak in public against their atrocities. He said, “Grace is free but not cheap; the cost is nothing less than everything.”
- ◆ **April 13—Palm Sunday.**
- ◆ **April 20—Easter Sunday.** Flowering of the Cross at both worship services. Easter egg hunt and Finger Food luncheon after the 10:00 service. More information coming soon.
- ◆ **April 29—Remembering Catherine of Siena, 1380.** Known for her profound holiness, mystical experiences, and influential role as a reformer and political activist. “Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.” is likely her most famous quote.

Hosts Needed For St. Matthew’s Dining Out

By Kathy Ercoline

St. Matthew’s Dining Out group meets at a local restaurant on the **last Thursday of the month** for food, fellowship, and fun. Thank you to those who have agreed to host our Thursday Night Dinner Group. **We still need hosts for July and August.** **Please sign up in Creasy Hall** if you are willing to be a **host**. The sign-up sheet is on the table by the window in the entry, across from the receptionist’s desk.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HOSTING THE DINING OUT:

1. secure a restaurant for the meal by the 10th of the month
2. notify the church office as soon as a restaurant is secured ****
3. take reservations
4. call the restaurant the day before to give them the final reservation count

***The dining out information which includes the name/address of the restaurant, and the contact information of the host should be sent to the church office as soon as the restaurant is secured. Notices will be put in the church bulletin and eblasts will be sent out.

Our next dining out is March 27, 6:30. (Shang-Hai Chinese Restaurant; 2935 Pat Booker Rd, #130, Universal City). Diane Woods and Terry May are hosts. Please see them for information and to RSVP. Thank you and Bon appetite’.



Happenings Around The Diocese

The Good, The True, and The Beautiful: April 25-27 at Camp Capers. Creativity and Spiritual Retreat featuring esteemed musicians Terri Hendrix and Lloyd Maines. You are invited by The Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, Bishop Diocesan, to attend this highly anticipated retreat, offering a spiritual and nurturing environment to deepen your faith and build relationships.

Cursillo #296: May 1-4 at Mustang Island Conference Center.

Spiritual Retreats in Recovery #123: May 2-5 at Camp Capers. At Spiritual Retreats in Recovery, consolidated and dedicated group meetings, on-site services, topical spiritual insight, and pastoral care are provided. Ample time is set aside for break-out workshops and individual exploration. All friends in recovery are welcome – here we seek a *spiritual solution* to our *spiritual malady*. Although grounded in Episcopal liturgy, this is not a specifically denominational event, and no church affiliation is required

Meditative Yoga Retreat: May 9-11 at Mustang Island Conference Center. Escape to your island home for a weekend centered on the healing, rejuvenating, life-giving practices of yoga, meditation, and contemplative Christian prayer. This retreat is open to all, no matter your yoga or meditation experience.

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

The **DEADLINE** to submit Missive articles is the 15th of the month. Any late articles will be in the next month's issue.



From the Blog

Ugandan Student Scholarship Opportunity: Help send a child to school and change a life

During the 121st Council last month, Bishop Read invited the diocese to continue the 25-year relationship with the Nebbi Diocese in the Church of Uganda by helping to support students in Uganda. A life-changing donation of \$315 will help defray the cost of tuition, uniforms and supplies for one student. The goal is to fund 33 clergy children and 24 merit scholars for the school year. The deadline to donate is April 15. Contact [Catherine Markette](#) with questions or for more information. Click [here](#) to donate.

Discovery Weekend November 14-15, Bishop Jones Center, San Antonio

Join the Diocese of West Texas for its first Discovery Weekend, for anyone (both lay and ordained) in the diocese to explore vocation, discernment, and God's call upon their lives. Whether this is a first step or a tenth step along your journey with discernment, this weekend is open to you! Learn more [here](#).

Ministry Spotlight

American Camp Association (ACA) Regional Award Winners
Congratulations to Rob Watson, Camps + Conferences Director, and Kevin Spaeth, Mustang Island and Conference Center Director. They were recognized for their Outstanding Service at the 2025 ACA, Texoma Conference in Dallas on Tuesday, February 18. Nicia Oakes, St. Peter's, Kerrville of Camp Honey Creek was also recognized as a Legend of Camping at the gathering.

APRIL CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 HOME 10am-3:30pm (<i>CH, C, L, VEB</i>) Eucharist 11am (<i>ARC</i>) Lenten Study 6-8pm (<i>CH</i>)	3 Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (<i>C</i>) AA Meeting 8-9pm (<i>CH</i>)	4	5
6 Worship 8 & 10am (<i>C</i>) Sunday School 9:15am (<i>L</i>)	7 Staff Meeting 9am (<i>L</i>) Prayer Meeting 12pm (<i>L</i>) AA Meeting 8-9pm (<i>CH</i>)	8 Vestry Meeting 6pm (<i>CH</i>)	9 HOME 10am-3:30pm (<i>CH, C, L, VEB</i>) Eucharist 11am (<i>ARC</i>) Lenten Study 6-8pm (<i>CH</i>)	10 Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (<i>C</i>) AA Meeting 8-9pm (<i>CH</i>)	11	12 Making Palm Crosses 10am (<i>CH</i>)
13 Palm Sunday Worship 8 & 10am (<i>C</i>) Sunday School 9:15am (<i>L</i>)	14 Staff Meeting 9am (<i>L</i>) Prayer Meeting 12pm (<i>L</i>) AA Meeting 8-9pm (<i>CH</i>)	15	16 HOME 10am-3:30pm (<i>CH, C, L, VEB</i>) Eucharist 11am (<i>ARC</i>) Lenten Study 6-8pm (<i>CH</i>)	17 Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (<i>C</i>) Maundy Thursday 7pm (<i>C</i>) AA Meeting 8-9pm (<i>CH</i>)	18 Good Friday Services to be Announced	19
20 Easter Sunday Worship 8 & 10am (<i>C</i>) Sunday School 9:15am (<i>L</i>) Easter Egg Hunt & Finger Food Bruncheon 11am (<i>CH</i>)	21 Office Closed No Staff or Prayer Meeting AA Meeting 8-9pm (<i>CH</i>)	22	23 HOME 10am-3:30pm (<i>CH, C, L, VEB</i>) Eucharist 11am (<i>ARC</i>)	24 Choir Practice 4:30-5:30pm (<i>C</i>) AA Meeting 8-9pm (<i>CH</i>)	25	26
27 Worship 8 & 10am (<i>C</i>) Sunday School 9:15am (<i>L</i>)	28 Staff Meeting 9am (<i>L</i>) Prayer Meeting 12pm (<i>L</i>) AA Meeting 8-9pm (<i>CH</i>)	29	30 HOME 10am-3:30pm (<i>CH, C, L, VEB</i>) Eucharist 11am (<i>ARC</i>)			

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

APRIL 2025 SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Ministry	April 6 Lent 5	April 13 Palm Sunday	April 20 Easter	April 27 Easter 2
Altar Guild	Tarawanda Howard Suzanne Milton	Cindy Hull Diane Woods	Pat Clarke-Kempf Diane Woods	Terry May Suzanne Milton
8 AM Reader	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Joan McClain	Max Hopkins
8 AM Greeter/Usher	Ron Dunlap	Jayne Dunlap	Suzi Hopkins	Shawn Cooksey
8 AM Coffee	Suzi Hopkins	Tarawanda Howard	Joan McClain	Jayne Dunlap
10 AM Server	Mendell Morgan	Sean Francis	Sean Keane-Dawes	Terry May
10 AM Reader	Mendell Morgan	Wayne Mudge	Janet Clere	Liz Sampson
10 AM Greeter/Usher	Suzanne Milton	Kathy Ercoline	Wayne Mudge	Arlene Stalvey
Prayers of the People	Liz Sampson	Susan Brown	Sean Keane-Dawes	Janet Clere
Newcomer Visits	Ellen Yelverton	Terry May Diane Woods	Ellen Yelverton	Terry May Diane Woods
Home Communion	No Home Communion	Janet Clere	No Home Communion	Mendell Morgan
Prayer Ministry	Mendell Morgan	Maribeth Likins	Ellen Yelverton	Mendell Morgan
10 AM Coffee	Diane Woods	Kathy Ercoline	Colleen Hubberd Maribeth Likins	Melissa Mudge
Audio Visual	Terry May	Kristina Robinson	Terry May	Wayne Mudge
Lockup/Security	Arlene Stalvey	Robert Guerrero	Janet Clere	Ellen Yelverton

“We have only one ministry;
 To serve God in every moment,
 Wherever we are,
 Whatever we are doing,
 As stewards of the gift of life itself.”

Jon Westerhoff, Autumn 2021

April Birthdays

*Because you are my help,
 I sing in the shadow of your wings.
 (Psalm 63:7)*

Arlene Stalvey	Billy Baskin
Greg Coolidge	David Tidwell
Margie Benson	Brian Crouch
Suzi Hopkins	Fr. Chuck Woehler
Alethia Dooling	Shawn Cooksey
Kyle Cooksey	Cathy Oakley

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