Healing God, you are life and wholeness. Transform our brokenness by your life giving love, and deepen our faith. Through Jesus Christ our Liberator, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

THIS SUNDAY	The Auckland Girls' Choir will hold a Musical Celebration in the church
	3pm to 5pm. Entry by suggested donation of \$10.00.

THIS WEEK

Monday 28 May 9.30 Baby Sensory; 4pm Auckland Girls' Choir rehearsal

Tuesday 29 June 9.30am Communicare;

Wednesday 30 June 10.00am Holy Communion (BCP 1928), Kinder Chapel

Followed by morning tea in the Parish Centre.

Thursday 1 July 10.00am Yoga in the Lounge; 5.30 Girl Guides

Friday 2 July 5.30pm Remuera Jr Chess Club Saturday 3 July 5.00pm Anglo-Catholic Sung Mass

NEXT SUNDAY 4 July 8.00 am Holy Communion BCP

9.30 am Choral Eucharist

LOOKING FORWARD

Sunday 8 August 4 to 5pm in St Mark's Church. The Auckland branch of RSCM, of which St Mark's is a member, is hosting an hour of "sing your favourite hymns." . You — our congregation and friends — are invited to submit a couple of your favourite hymns; from these submissions about a dozen will be chosen and sung. Caveat — you must be present to hear and sing your chosen hymn(s)! Brian Millar, music director at St Mark's, will lead proceedings. So — put the date into your diary; and start thinking about *your* favourites. Requests in writing please - to music@stmarks.org.nz or hand to Brian or to the church office. Last day for requests — Sunday 1 August 2021

Donations towards Organ Console Refurbishment now stands at \$67,360 (Target \$87,000). The account to deposit your gift into is 03 0104 0109908 02. Please use 'donation' for the reference and 'organ' as the particulars. Also, if you are not on our Parish Roll, please email Diana in the Parish Office (office@stmarks.org.nz) with your contact details so we can properly thank you and send you a tax-receipt.

P	ar	ish	Dir	ect	ory
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Parish Office	Monday to Friday 9.00am until 3.00pm	09 520 2258			
Vicar	The Reverend Dr Tony Surman	021 074 1138			
Lay Minister	Trevor Brooker	021 614 227			
People's Warden	Christine Koefoed	021 682 331			
Vicar's Warden	Peter Allen	021 521 149			
Director of Music	Brian Millar	021 253 1437			
Children & Families	Anne Driver	09 849 3538			
For more information email: office@stmarks.org.nz or visit: www.stmarks.org.nz					



The Anglican Parish of Saint Mark, Remuera A Community of Faith for 174 years

27 June 2021 - Fourth Sunday after Trinity 8.00 am Said Eucharist 9.30 am Choral Eucharist

COVID-19 on the doorstep. As I write, Wellington has entered its first full day of COVID-19 alert level 2. This development is a reminder to us all to remain vigilant and exercise good sense during this ongoing pandemic. One thing we should all be doing if we have mobile phones is scanning the QR codes at the entrance of each business or public venue we enter. St Mark's Parish has its QR code at the main entrances of the Church and Hall. Please use them if you have a phone. If you do not have a mobile phone, please give your name and contact number to the welcomers as you come into the church. This information will only be used to contact you in the event of an outbreak—God forbid! Keeping safe in church. Firstly, if you have cold or flu symptoms you should not come to church, but stay home and seek medical advice. When we gather for worship there are some practices we commonly engage in that increase the risk of spreading viruses. One of these is handshaking, which traditionally occurs at the Peace and, on exiting, with the priest who has taken the service. In recent months, as the risk of community spread of COVID-19 has been very low, we have re-established handshaking. Now that we have a travel bubble with Australia and the Cook Islands—and we know that COVID-19 has breached our borders at least once—we will refrain from shaking hands and instead, 'pass the peace' verbally and/or with an elbow tap! The other part of the service where a heightened opportunity for infection exists is at Communion, when the consecrated bread and wine are shared. The risk of infection from the bread is relatively low, given that the priest alone touches it with sanitized hands but there is more risk from the chalice—even though we follow best practice, rotating and wiping the chalice between Communicants. With this being the case, I would recommend that if you haven't been fully vaccinated or you are in a vulnerable category with respect to COVID-19, you should not receive the wine at Communion. You will still be receiving the fullness of Christ in your heart if you receive the bread alone with faith and thanksgiving. Indeed, even if you are unable to receive the bread because that risk is too high for you, faith and thanksgiving in your heart will ensure that you truly receive Christ. Finally, I will remind you of the ban that there is on dipping bread into the wine. Dipping is a great way to add bugs to the wine that have been picked up from the palm—and often the finger-tips—of the dipper. If you are not in a position to sip from the chalice, simply hold it a moment, give thanks to God for Christ's saving work, then pass it back to the administrant.

Tony Surman