

Living God, the prophets faithfully served you, fearlessly speaking your truth. Grant us courage to follow their example, and witness to your truth, so that we might live lives worthy of your calling. 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**



The Anglican Parish of Saint Mark, Remuera

A Community of Faith for 174 years

11 July 2021 - Sixth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 am Said Eucharist

9.30 am Choral Eucharist

THIS WEEK - School holidays

Tuesday 12 July 5pm Choirs NZ; 6pm Remuera Lions
Wednesday 13 July 9.30 am Probus; 6pm Toastmasters
10.00am **Holy Communion (BCP 1928)**, Kinder Chapel
Followed by morning tea in the Parish Centre.

NEXT SUNDAY

18 July 8.00 am Said Eucharist
9.30 am Eucharist with Hymns *-please note no Sunday School on 18th or 25th July.*
5.00 pm Choral Evensong

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

COVID-19. Following the near miss in Wellington a fortnight ago, please:

- Keep scanning the QR code as you enter the church.
- Refrain from shaking hands (but keep being friendly to everyone!)
- Consider taking the bread alone at Communion if you have not been vaccinated and are in a vulnerable category with respect to COVID-19.

Parish Directory

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

Listen to Prophets. The prophets of the Bible – from Moses through to John Baptist – were the mouthpieces of God. They spoke the truth to people of all sorts, regardless of rank and despite the real danger that their message put them in. To some extent they were protected from harm – in an age when God-fearing was more common - because their holiness was so obvious that even the rich and powerful thought twice about harming them. Herod Antipas, for example, was quite reluctant to do away with John the Baptist, despite the prophet being a real thorn in his side. Indeed, Mark tells us that although John's preaching perplexed Herod, he 'liked to listen to [John]' and even protected him. Surprisingly, the prophet who dressed in animal skins and lived on locusts and wild honey became a source of fascination for a king who enjoyed every privilege in life and suffered some of John's strongest criticism. What is it that attracted Herod Antipas to John? We can only guess, but I bet the reason has something to do with the innate beauty there is in someone speaking the truth. In the murky world of first century politics in which Herod moved (it is still pretty opaque), John's message stood out in stark relief as something simple, elegant and timeless. Herod Antipas, however, was a tragic character. His hubris – his pride and misplaced self-confidence - led him to make a promise that would trap him into killing John. By so doing he not only did great injustice to John the Baptist, but injury to himself as he rejected the truth that God was endeavouring to give him. Had Herod heeded John's message and set his life in order, the events reported in the New Testament might have played out very differently.

The Organ Console Refurbishment Campaign has reached its target of \$87,000!

There have been donations of every scale to this campaign. Many have been substantial. All have been from parishioners, except for the latest donation from the Dilworth Trust which has bridged the gap to our target. Thank you to all who have contributed their money and their time to this project so far, with especial thanks to Sylvia Rosevear who has managed this campaign with great diligence and flair.