



## Saint Alban's at Christmas 2017



**Who We Are** - We are people, not a building. Many have English as our first language, for others it is the second or third. Many of us are European or North American, but many others are African or come from Asia, Australia and New Zealand. Some of us are here for a short time, others have been here for more than 40 years. Our church belongs to the Anglican Communion but we are from many different Christian backgrounds and this is reflected in our worship. Some of us are retired, others are not yet walking. Some of us are refugees, some are expatriates, others were born here. Some of us have families, others are here on their own. We have all found a home in this church.

For us all 2017 was a busy and a particularly happy year when after four and a half years we welcomed the Rev'd Dr Mark Barwick as our new priest- in- charge, together with Corinna, his wife, and Maddie and Elias their children. It is a tribute to our congregation that throughout the last years the attendance and giving has remained fairly stable and if anything the number and breadth of our activities has increased. However, now we are embarking on a new phase which promises much.

The installation service just before Christmas mirrored the rich diversity of our congregation and was a template for inclusiveness with African drums, a Malgache Gloria and a line up of members of the congregation offering symbols of our worship and work to Mark.

Our life as a Chaplaincy is centered on the Sunday Eucharist. We have a thriving Sunday school, an energetic caritative association which raises a sum equivalent to 8% of our income for projects in both Strasbourg and overseas, groups for Bible study and prayer and weekends away from Strasbourg for recreation, fun, study and worship.