

Bearing Fruit

I do hope you had the opportunity over the Christmas period for some rest and to celebrate the birth of God's son into our world. It was great to see so many people join us at St John's at one or more of our services and events over the festive period. I have had some amazing feedback and all was made possible through a great team effort.

With 2017 under way, I am really excited about all the opportunities that we have to make a real difference together this year. Through prayer and working in partnership with God and each other we can make a difference in our communities, and grow in faith and love. We want to also see people

coming to know God, and in turn helping to make him known.

We want to encourage everyone in their faith and in growing a deeper and stronger prayer life. Prayer of course includes thanksgiving and praise, and grows beyond just 'asking for things' into a less fragmented and more continuous connection as we seek to remain constantly in God's presence.

Look out for our upcoming **Day of Prayer**, when there will be opportunities for you to take part wherever you are that day, and/or in Church.

With 'remaining' or 'abiding' with God in mind, I commend the following verse to you from the words of Jesus

as our **verse of the year**:

'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

(John 15v5 NIV)

New Year Prayer

Here's a prayer to help you on your way:

Lord Jesus, I come to you at the start of this brand new year with a desire to move forward and grow in you. I'm eager to press on toward the mark of knowing you, loving you, serving you, and making your name known in this coming year.

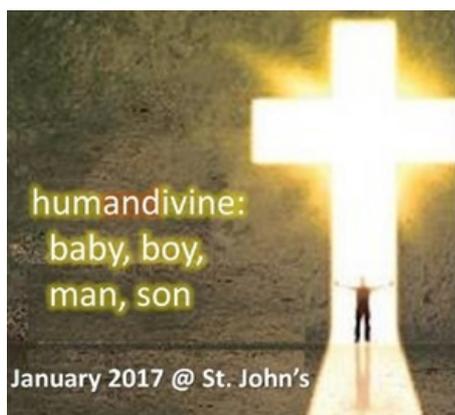
I don't ask for cheap grace, because I know it cost you, your life. You gave everything for me, so I could have a new beginning—every day of

every year. Thank you for your undeserved favour and unlimited mercy—and your grace, that keeps on giving. Thank you for making me your child. Forgive me for ignoring your voice at times, for pursuing my own pleasures, and for letting my priorities slip. Your promise is like gold to me: your offer of forgiveness, your unfailing compassion, and your new mercies daily. Thank you and lead me on. Amen.

In God's love & blessings,
Alan

January's Theme 'Humandivine'

During January we are looking at the human and the divine nature of Jesus Christ in four stages of his life.



Uxbridge Choral Society

*Rossini:
Stabat Mater and
more*

28th January 2017
7.30pm

Venue:
Bishopshalt School

Tickets £12
(under 12's £6)

*available from any
choir member or on
the door*

Other News in Brief

£482 was raised for The Children's Society at our Christingle Services

The RAFA Band are returning to St John's for an evening concert on May 6th. More details coming soon!

St John's Hillingdon

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