

Please pray for our church family	
Mon	Val Bowditch & Trevor
Tue	Faure & Louise Breytenbach
Wed	Ian Bridge & Jean
Thurs	Allan & Cathy Brown & family
Fri	Grace Burrett
Sat	Susana Calle Martin & family
Sun	Daphne & Donald Carter

Please Pray

We have two church members in hospital. **Dorothy and Marilyn** are both in GWH right now and we pray that they will soon be home.

Kath Zammit's son Rob had a serious fall this week and ended up in a coma as part of the healing process. He is now eating and looking forward to going home. Pray for Kath and her husband currently in Australia, feeling far from home.



**Sunday
February 19
2023
Lent -1**



How To Really Get Yourself Noticed

Turkey has been much in the news following the enormous number of deaths there, but Syria is also in a dreadful position.

No excavating machines were working there at the beginning of last week. President Assad is now allowing food and aid into rebel-held territories in Syria.

We will send your gifts to assist those so badly affected.



Services for Next Sunday			
Feb 26th Lent 1	9am	Holy Communion	Raymond Adams
	11am	Morning Praise	

Time	Service	Sermon	Readings
9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Raymond Adams	Psalm 2 Matthew 17: 1-9
11.00 am	Holy Communion		

Meetings for Prayer and the Beginning of Lent

We have two more prayer meetings in the same week. They are:

- ◆ Monday 20th February at 1.30 pm — a half hour of prayer
- ◆ Ash Wednesday 22nd February at 7.30 pm — prayer with communion and the opportunity to fast and pray.



Both meetings will be in the Quiet Room.



The Filling Station

Next Collection Thursday 23rd February
between 5.15pm and 5.45 pm.

Mary will be in touch to let you know what to bring.
New members are always welcome.

Bishop Lee Announces His Retirement

Bishop Lee has been a passionate and committed Bishop of Swindon for the last 18 years and has been a great support to our church during that period. We are sad to announce that his time as Bishop will come to an end at the end of April and we wish him a very happy retirement.

He has come through cancer and two serious falls from his bicycle in that time and has twice cycled the length of Great Britain. It was great to welcome him to St John's last November.

He takes a personal interest in the individual churches in his care. Everyone will want to know about the future. We understand that he will be replaced as Bishop as soon as his successor can be appointed.



A Great Way to Read the Bible

The titles in the "For Everyone" series look like this.

- ◆ Matthew for Everyone
- ◆ Hebrews for Everyone
- ◆ Revelation for Everyone

They cover every single book in the Bible.

They were originally designed as guides to the New Testament for people who would never normally buy or look at a Biblical commentary. That's why there isn't a bibliography, or footnotes. The series is designed to be as user-friendly as possible.



The commentaries break each book of the New

Testament into sections of between five and ten verses. Each section begins with the author's translation, before moving on to the commentary — which normally includes a story to illustrate the meaning of the text. The illustrations are so helpful and illuminating.

Tom Wright has already written 50 books, and provided his own Greek translation. But, he is a man who studies to be simple.

That was amazing enough. But John Goldingay, a British author now living in America, has done the very same thing with every single book in the Old Testament. It's exactly the same format. It has taken them both about 10 years to do. John Goldingay's wife died from multiple sclerosis in the middle of the project. Yet he finished it—and married again. He knows all about suffering and joy at a personal level and it shows.

I thoroughly recommend these books. They are great on the Kindle and very economical.

Your understanding will increase by leaps and bounds and you will thoroughly enjoy discovering new things.