A bush with yellow flowers

Description automatically generated with low confidenceThank you to Ella and Doreen for this photo of spring crocuses, taken on one of their walks.

Thankfully this week, Selbourne Road next to the Parish Centre has been re-opened and quotes from builders for the repair work have been requested. As I type this Newsletter we are seeing and hearing of the terrible things happening in Ukraine. I know we will all be holding the people of Ukraine up to God – praying for an end to this invasion.

There is an urgency to give the world the message of Jesus. We have to be the voice of hope and peace. **16th – 20th March** – these are days of concentrated effort to tell out the good news of Jesus and give people in our community an opportunity to turn to God and find a new way of living. Look out for all the activities that will be happening and JOIN IN !

**Have you been worshipping at St. Thomas’ for 6 months, are you on our Electoral Roll?** Please have a chat to Glenys (Cole) or Mike (Kilshaw)

**SMALL GROUPS –** launch evening on Wednesday 9th March 7pm in church for all those who have said that they would like to be involved.

*Service schedule for the coming weeks:*

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| **Sunday**  **6th March**  **LENT 1** | 10.30am Service of the Word  Reading: John 1: 35 - 42  Leader: ES Preacher: YB  Theme: Being witnesses/Inviting others  6pm Prayer Gathering/Breaking of Bread SH/VB |
| **Wednesday 9th March** | 11am BCP Holy Communion  Reading: Luke 8: 4 - 15  Leader: ES Celebrant: DOB Preacher: YB |
| **Sunday**  **13th March**  **LENT 2** | 10.30am Holy Communion FOCUS ON MISSION  Theme: Being witnesses  Leader/Celebrant/Preacher: TBA  6pm Prayer Gathering |
| **Wednesday 16th March** | 11am BCP Holy Communion  Reading: Matthew 15: 21 – 28  **MISSION** |
| **Sunday**  **20th March**  **LENT 3** | **10.30am MISSION WEEK Service of the Word**  **Special guest: Pete Tomkinson – come and hear about being God’s Soldier**  **6pm Prayer Gathering/ Breaking of Bread** |
| **Wednesday 23rd March** | 11am BCP Holy Communion  Reading: Luke 11: 14 - 28  Leader: DOB Celebrant: DOB Preacher: VB |
| **Sunday**  **27th March**  **LENT 4** | 10.30am Holy Communion with Prayer for Healing  Reading: Luke 5: 12 - 16  Leader/Celebrant: ES Preacher: VB  Theme: Jesus cares  6pm Prayer Gathering/Prayer for Healing DOB/YB |
| **Wednesday 30th March** | 11am BCP Holy Communion  Reading: John 6: 1 - 14  Leader: DOB Celebrant: DOB Preacher: DOB |

Our morning and evening readings for the coming week:

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|  | **Morning Readings** | **Evening Readings** |
| Monday 7th March  *Perpetua, Felicity and companions, martyrs, 203* | Psalms 11;  Genesis 41: 25 – 45;  Galatians 3: 23 – 4: 7 | Psalm 13;  Jeremiah 4: 19 – end;  John 5: 1 - 18 |
| Tuesday 8th March  *Edward King, bishop, 1910; Felix, bishop, 647;* | Psalm 44;  Genesis 41: 46 – 42: 5;  Galatians 4: 8 – 20 | Psalm 49;  Jeremiah 5: 1 – 19;  John 5: 19 - 29 |
| Wednesday 9th March  Ember Day | Psalm 6; Genesis 42: 6 – 17; Galatians 4: 21 – 5: 1 | Psalm 28; Jeremiah 5: 20 – end; John 5: 30 - end |
| Thursday 10th March | Psalm 42; Genesis 42: 18 – 28; Galatians 5: 2 – 15 | Psalm 142: Jeremiah 6: 9 – 21; John 6: 1 - 15 |
| Friday 11th March  Ember Day | Psalm 22;  Genesis 42: 29 – end;  Galatians 5: 16 – end | Psalm 55;  Jeremiah 6: 22 – end;  John 6: 16 - 27 |
| Saturday 12th March  Ember Day | Psalm 63;  Genesis 43: 1 – 15; Galatians 6 | Psalm 118;  Jeremiah 7: 1 – 20; John 6: 27 - 40 |

**(the LORD said…) Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.**