

## *Our Curate writes...*

The last few months have been a time of transition and change for me and I have done lots of things for the first time and have been blessed by how much love and support I have received from the people at St. Martin's and St. Andrew's. This time of year is for me another time for fresh beginnings. Children and young people are settling into new routines of school, college and university, or have left education behind and started looking for jobs or beginning employment.

Parents too see their lives change with new school routines or packing off a child to university. Even though none of those things are happening to me, I still see it as a time

when things are getting back to normal after the summer break and psychologically I will be sharpening my pencils and writing in my notebook for the first time as we enter into the autumn after a long hot summer. I am looking forward to cosy evenings in and the start of "Strictly Come Dancing"!

New beginnings do not just happen at the start of a new year, they can happen any time. Any change in our lives can mean we need to look at things differently, to start afresh.

*"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.*

*I am about to do a new thing"*

Isaiah 43:18 NRSV

The stories in scripture show time and time again that God offers people a new beginning, another chance for new things.

So, as we begin to say goodbye to summer and to a new start in this new season, let us look forward to this new beginning with a prayer attributed to St. Teresa of Avila and St. Therese of Lisieux:

*May today there be peace within.*

*May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.*

*May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.*

*May you use those gifts that you have received  
and pass on the love that has been given to you.*



*Curate  
Reverend Liz Rowles*

*May you be confident knowing that you are a child of God.*

*Let his presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom*

*to sing, dance, praise and love.*

*It is there for each and every one of us.*

*Liz*