

CHANGE

Do you love change? Are you keen to adventure and try new things and places? Or do you enjoy consistency? Visiting the same beloved places year in year out? Knowing exactly where you are and what is meant to happen? I suspect many of you, like me, flip flop between the two. Sometimes a routine is comforting and sometimes you crave a bit of excitement - 'a change is as good as a rest' as they say! No matter what you feel about it, change is as inevitable as the passing of time and this time of year always seems like a particular time of transition to me. Children finish their GCSE's and A Levels. The weather warms up, sometimes a bit too much, and Summer arrives.



Change of course, can be good or bad. Sometimes it comes through success and progress from one stage to another, sometimes it happens because we're no longer able to do what we once did or it's imposed upon us by others. Often it depends how we respond to change that determines whether it's good or bad.

Last Sunday, St Mary's Liss welcomed Lizzie Sykes-Little as our new Curate. It's hard to sum up exactly what a curate is; she's trained at theological college, been ordained at Portsmouth Cathedral and now she'll spend three years or so with us, learning a bit more 'on the job' and serving the parish alongside others. Most curates will leave the community and church that they've previously belonged to and move into a new home, and a new church and community just as Lizzie has done and that's no small thing.

There's change afoot in our country too, yet another Prime Minister to name just one thing. Whatever our politics, that will impact all of us in many ways.

As a Christian, I believe that God goes before me and while it's my choice which path I chose to tread and often I have no control over many of the things that impact my journey, I can know that all will be well whatever change may come. Which helps to face it if not with joy, at least without fear. Whether you find change easy or hard, I hope you too know that as Julian of Norwich said centuries ago "All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well. For there is a force of love moving through the universe that holds us fast and will never let us go."