

Though we live in a world that dreams of ending that always seems about to give in something that will not acknowledge conclusion insists that we forever begin...

\*\*Brendan Kennelly\*\*

At the beginning of Spring we notice new shoots, new buds and new life all around us in nature. This re-emerging of life never fails to lift our hearts. We expect it and would be surprised if it did not happen. However, in other areas of our lives we are often not as hopeful about new life. As the new novices begin this stage of their journey of discernment let us believe in the power of God to make all things new, to create new life, to lift our hearts in hope as Spring does. Let us thank God for the signs of new life around us and believe in His desire for our good - 'a future full of hope'.

It is I who must begin ... Help me to believe in beginnings, to make a beginning, to be a beginning, so that I may not just grow old, but grow new each day of this wild, amazing life you call me to live with the passion of Jesus Christ.