

Romans 7.14-25, Matthew 11.5-19, 25-30

*Divine Wisdom, in your grace: **give us rest***

OR

*Divine Wisdom, give us rest, and in your grace: **hear our prayer***

When we fail to notice a rainbow's glow and offer thanks for life-giving rain ... when we fail to live in what we know to be a sustainable way, lift the burden of self-absorption from our souls, so we might heal the earth and find joy in her bounty.

*Divine Wisdom, in your grace: **give us rest***

When we don't truly hear the voices of first peoples, of those denied justice, adequate health-care, or shelter ... when we know what is needed, but are too overwhelmed to act, teach your gentle ways to our troubled souls, so we might soothe our wounded world and bring relief to exhausted medical staff, volunteers and patients, and all affected by economic hardship, disorder and confusion.

*Divine Wisdom, in your grace: **give us rest***

When we stop listening to our community, when we see the need for renewal but fall back on habit ... when we fail to support our clergy, or open our hearts to our companions, show us your humble ways, so we might be a place of acceptance - a breathing space, a dreaming space for all who come to us.

We pray, especially for Revd Sally as she takes leave from the parish – and that amid the busyness of packing up house, she will find time to relax and be at peace.

*Divine Wisdom, in your grace: **give us rest***

When we find ourselves saying the hurtful rather than the healing thing, or doing nothing at all when we might have helped, teach us your caring ways, and hear us now as we pray for those needful of love and support

Hear also, our prayers for those who have faced the dilemmas and joys of life before us, and grant us all eternal peace.

We lay before you our own cares and weariness, and whether it is now time for us to fast or feast, show us how to be gentle and humble in heart, lighten our burdens, and give rest to our souls.

*Divine Wisdom, in your grace: **give us rest***