

## 100 Days of Prayer

### Travelling Well Together – Sustaining Ministry

#### Week 11

#### Theme for the week: Stewardship – time, talents and gifts

Stewardship - the looking after what God has given us - covers our money, our gifts and skills and our time. All precious resources that need insight and wisdom to manage well. How we use our gifts and skills needs discernment and courage as we may step out in a new ministry or new direction. Allowing others to see and benefit from what God has given us can feel daunting but ultimately life giving. Our talents are given to us for God's purposes. Our time is sometimes described as our most precious resource. How we use our time for work, rest, leisure and volunteering need careful judgement and discernment. Being good stewards of all that God has given is nuanced and contextual work, it changes as the seasons of life change and needs wisdom and wise counsel. This is true for every level of our life, our domestic lives, our church life and our life as a diocese.

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12: 4-7)*

This week, we **give thanks**...

- for all the many and varied gifts God has given his people: gifts of financial management, gifts of care and nurture, gifts of creativity and service, gifts of administration, cleaning and music, gifts of evangelism, hospitality and preaching
- for all the benefits we enjoy because of the gift and generosity of others
- for the time we do have, for moments to pause and wonder, for time to rest and restore ourselves, and for time to be purposeful

We **pray** that...

- God will give us the resources needed for the ministry to which we are called... the people, the time and the money
- God may help us to use them wisely and well, to be good stewards and build the Kingdom.

*Lord, teach me to be generous.*

*Teach me to serve you as you deserve;*

*to give and not to count the cost,*

*to fight and not to heed the wounds,*

*to toil and not to seek for rest,*

*to labour and not to ask for reward,*

*save that of knowing that I do your will.*

*Amen.*