

LITANY
In GRIEF:

When we are sad ... *Comfort us, O God*
When we are lost ... *Comfort us, O God*
When we are frightened ... *Comfort us, O God*
When we are lonely ... *Comfort us, O God*
When we are confused ... *Comfort us, O God*
When we don't know what to do or ask ...
Comfort us, O God.

For FORGIVENESS:

For harsh words spoken ... *We're sorry, God*
For silence that wounds ... *We're sorry, God*
For hands that hit ... *We're sorry, God*
For ears that close ... *We're sorry, God*
For gifts not shared ... *We're sorry, God*

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Anne E. Kitch (Episcopalian Priest) in
The Anglican Family Prayer Book
ISBN# 1-55126-410-2

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THE PASTORAL VISITOR
A Link Between You and Your Church Community

For PEACE and JUSTICE:

O God of earth and altar,
Bow down and hear our cry.
Our earthly rulers falter;
Our people drift and die.
The walls of gold entomb us.
The swords of scorn divide.
Take not your thunder from us,
But take away our pride!
From all that terror teaches,
From lies of tongue and pen,
From all the easy speeches
That comfort cruel men.
From sale and profanation
Of honour and the sword,
From sleep and from damnation,
Deliver us, good Lord.
G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936)
English journalist and writer.

For HEALING and WISDOM:

We cannot measure how you heal,
Or answer every sufferer's prayer,
Yet we believe your grace responds
Where faith and doubt unite to care.

The pain that will not go away,
The guilt that clings to things long past,
The fear of what the future holds
As if meant to last.

So some have come who need your help,
And some have come to make amends,
As hands which shaped and saved the world
Are present in the touch of friends.

Common Praise #292

John Bell (1949-) Iona Community

“Unity cannot exist when exclusion is allowed to occur. I was graced with this teaching years ago, when I was working as a Traditional Elder's helper. The teaching was given in the context of the sacred pipe, but its intention was to help me understand community. What brings us together cannot exist in the same time and place that keeps us apart. You. Me. Everyone. My choice is be aware of our similarities: our yearning for truth, peace, love, belonging,

welcome, grace, mercy, a god of our own understanding and at least one moment of real contact at the heart of every day. Seeing that, I am made more, included, extended and in harmony ... until that moment when I no longer see.”

*Richard Wagamese (1955-2017) Excerpted from
Embers ISBN978-1-77162-133-5*

We look to you for graceful balm,
Your medicine for our interior life.
Reach toward our old heartaches.
Help us to end what causes distress,
To release what stunts our growth
In becoming all we are meant to be.
Show us our troublesome blind spots
So we are not secretly ruled by them.
Touch the soreness of our spirit
And heal us of our inner ailments.

*Joyce Rupp, American Retreat Leader, and
Member of the Servite (Servants of Mary) community.*

This Pamphlet has been shared by: