

- give me the resolution to say “no” to the good
so that I will be ready to give my “yes” to the better.

give me the courage to keep living in the open-endedness of the future
without foreclosing the mysterious work of your Spirit in my haste or
fear.

give me the persistence to stay in the wilderness of unknowing
until I am ready to receive your call.

give me the strength to keep still & waiting
when all about me is pushing towards movement activity & choice.

give me the acceptance to live these days in uneventfulness,
simplicity & hiddenness,
without craving excitement, distraction or change.

give me the grace to live in the emptiness of not doing
without the rewards of achievement, fulfilment or success.

give me the wisdom to discriminate between my own impatience
to move forward
& your Spirit’s deep stirring of my spirit when the time is right .to
move.

give me the faith to trust in your obscurity,
the obedience to stay faithful to your mystery,
the courage to keep tryst with your inscrutability.

[prayer for the waiting time..Nichola Slee]

- Lord of shepherds & innkeepers,

welcomer of outsiders migrants & the energy-poor, & all who look to you for courage
inspiration help & guidance in their littleness & anxiety, from their stables, tents &
bed-sits..

help us in this coming Season of Advent to be reluctant key-holders, controllers &
custodians of people & properties, as we realise in our plenty we have precious little
of what is beyond price..

& instead to be disciple-adventurers, noticing the weakest & most vulnerable among
us in family, at work & in friendships, & in our monastic community, & to approach
them with your gentleness & warmth in offering them what the world & its’
Christmas cannot give..

the surprise & the presence of the Christ-child in our hearts. & in theirs, & our
gratitude for our companionship together in these days of expectation faith &
promise.

We make this & all our prayers through your coming Son, Christ our Lord. Amen.