

Reflection Thursday 2nd Week Lent 2023

Continuing the theme of service Jesus adds: *Anyone who wants to be great among you must be your **servant**, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be your **slave**, just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

Unless we serve, we face the danger of seeing people wrongly

Anthony de Mello sj: *All too frequently, we see people not as they are, but as we are. So sorry! It isn't you I'm dealing with but an image in my head. The defects we see in them are mostly our own. All that you give to others, you are giving to yourself.*

In your own small way, you can be of service to people — by getting out of their way. There is the noble art of getting things done and the noble art of leaving things undone.

"If the priest comes to the modern world equipped with every conceivable talent but lacks the direct, personal experience of God, the world will simply refuse to take his God-talk seriously and will have little use for him as a priest, much as it may value him as an educator or philosopher or scientist.

"What the modern world, and in particular the younger generation, is saying to us today — **'Don't just talk, show me!'** I remember good Father Abhishiktananda telling me, some years ago, of a holy Hindu he met in the South India, who said to him, *'You missionaries will never have any impact on us unless you come to us as gurus.'* The guru is a man who doesn't merely talk about what he has read in a book. He talks from the assurance of his own religious experience."