

## Reflection Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Week Lent 2024

Among the many questions we have are “*What is my purpose in life!*” “*What do I want to achieve?*” and more importantly “*What does God expect of me?*” They are all interconnected and yet the question of what God expects of me must be high up on the list and one we ask more earnestly during Lent.

Despite the fact that Jesus tells his disciples that he is going up to Jerusalem to an ignominious death, they are more concerned about their position in his kingdom, not realising that Jesus’ kingdom is a spiritual one not an earthly one. God does not want us to focus on any form of self-glory or self-importance but on **service** whatever the personal cost. Jesus never focused on himself and continually asked his Father for guidance for how to serve us better and according to the Father’s will not his own. Unlike Jeremiah, Jesus did **not** seek vengeance for those who oppressed him and wanted him dead but pleaded with the Father to forgive them; the highest form of altruism!

### **Macrina Wiederkehr osb**

And the merciful one answered  
you are most like God  
when you are dressed  
in the robes of mercy.  
Mercy doesn’t judge; it loves. . .  
We are the merciful.  
We are standing at every pathway  
ready to heal what needs healing,  
ready to forgive what needs forgiving.  
Compassion is our way of life.  
Forgiveness is our pastime.  
We throw it around unconditionally  
like dew on summer grass.  
like rain on dry, parched earth.