

REFLECTION

January 18, 2026

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 49.3, 5-6

God delivers a powerful message to Isaiah: "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I reveal my glory." These words highlight both identity and mission. The Servant belongs to God and exists to make God's glory evident in the world.

The servant's mission is challenging, but God provides reassurance by stating, "It is too little...to restore the tribes of Jacob." This signifies that God's purpose exceeds human expectations; consequently, the Servant is not only sent to Israel but is also made "a light to the nations," ensuring God's salvation reaches the ends of the earth. This passage finds its ultimate meaning in Jesus Christ, the true Servant. Initially, Jesus comes to the people of Israel, but His redemptive work extends to all humanity. Therefore, God's promise is fulfilled in Him as salvation transcends race, culture, and borders. God desires everyone to know His mercy and love.

Through baptism, we share in Christ's mission. Therefore, we are called to serve others and reflect God's glory, not through power or success, but with faithfulness, humility, and love. At times, we may feel small, insignificant, or overlooked. However, God often accomplishes great things through seemingly minor events. Being a light to the nations does not require remarkable actions; it starts with simple ones: choosing forgiveness over bitterness, truth over compromise, and compassion over inaction. We are invited to be bearers of God's light wherever we are, whether at home, at work, or in our parish.

