

# Lenten Reflections

Holy Week

The Divine Intervention

**April 10, 2017**



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## Scripture

### **Isaiah 42: 1-7**

Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
my chosen one with whom I am pleased,  
Upon whom I have put my Spirit;  
he shall bring forth justice to the nations,  
Not crying out, not shouting,  
not making his voice heard in the street.  
A bruised reed he shall not break,  
and a smoldering wick he shall not quench,  
Until he establishes justice on the earth;  
the coastlands will wait for his teaching.  
Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spreads out the earth with its crops,  
Who gives breath to its people  
and spirit to those who walk on it:  
I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice,  
I have grasped you by the hand;  
I formed you, and set you

as a covenant of the people,  
a light for the nations,  
To open the eyes of the blind,  
to bring out prisoners from confinement,  
and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

Today's text contains the first of four "Suffering Servant Songs" found in the Book of Isaiah. When we look at the manner in which our Savior suffered and died, it's easy to see how the early Church identified Jesus as the suffering servant about whom Isaiah prophesied. Jesus was the One who suffered for us while, "Not crying out, not shouting out, not making His voice heard..." He was the One who humility endured the most horrible of pain and suffering for You and me.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Walter Brueggemann in his book, *The Prophetic Imagination* (Fortress Press, 1978), presented and defended the following hypothesis about prophecy: "The task of prophetic ministry is to nurture, nourish and evoke a consciousness and perception alternative to the consciousness and perception of the dominant culture around us." Following Brueggemann's logic, one would have to conclude that a prophet is essentially countercultural.

Most people wish to serve God — but in an advisory capacity only.

—Anonymous.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Precious Lord, Be with me during those times when I suffer for doing what is right and just. Help me to follow Your example. Amen.