

Love Serving

St John 13v.14 Now that I your lord and teacher have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.

St. Matthew 20v.26-28. ...whoever would be great among you must be your servant and whoever would be first among you must be your slave; even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Social hierarchy was important in Roman and Jewish culture as it is in so many parts of the world today. Promotion, qualifications, financial status can enable someone to leave behind routine tasks once part of normal life. Jesus took on himself the form of a servant, his life at the disposal of those who needed Him. No task was below his dignity. (St. Matthew uses the word for a servant, diakonos and the word for a slave, doulos. A slave was in life long service.)

*Yet cheerful He
To suffering goes
That he his foes
From death might free.*

Service without resentment, cheerful service.
At what points in my life do I struggle to serve cheerfully?

Silence or music

Intercession

Let us pray with thanksgiving for those in our society who undertake essential menial tasks: cleaning streets or toilets, maintaining sewers, sorting garbage, others who are carers supporting the elderly or handicapped. May they know their work is valued on earth as it is in heaven.

The Lord's Prayer.