

## Day2: Intercession for Scotland

### Scripture

*"It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the house of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have saved. I will make you a light to the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth" Isaiah 49:6*

### Meditation

The prophet Isaiah exhorts us to do more than be a servant of God for our own sake but to reach out to others in our nation of Scotland and be a living witness of faith.

In his address to the congregation at Bellahouston in 2008, **Pope Benedict XVI** said:

*"At this Eucharistic celebration in which the Church in Scotland gathers round the altar in union with the successor of Peter, let us affirm our faith in Christ's word and our hope, a hope that never disappoints, in his promises...Christ continues to send his disciples into the world in order to proclaim the coming of his Kingdom and to bring peace into the world, beginning house by house, family by family, town by town. I have come as a herald of that peace to you, the spiritual children of St Andrew and to confirm you in the faith of St Peter"*

As **Pope Benedict** reminded us of the inheritance of faith in our land he also warned us to be vigilant to the threats to faith and religion.

*"There are some who now seek to exclude religious belief from public discourse, to privatize it or even to paint it as a threat to equality and liberty. Yet religion is in fact a guarantee of authentic liberty and respect, leading us to look upon every person as a brother or sister. For this reason I appeal in particular to you, the lay faithful, in accordance with your baptismal calling and mission, not only to be examples of faith in public, but also to put the case for the promotion of faith's wisdom and vision in the public forum. Society today needs clear voices which propose our right to live, not in a jungle of self-destructive and arbitrary freedoms, but in a society which works for the true welfare of its citizens and offers them guidance and protection in the face of their weakness and fragility. Do not be afraid to take up this service to your brothers and sisters, and to the future of your beloved nation."*

Are we living out our call and mission as living witnesses to our faith and to the promotion of its wisdom and vision, not only for ourselves but for others and for our nation of Scotland?

### Prayer

Lord, we offer to you all our politicians and leaders in our society. May they be guided by your wisdom and vision for your people.

We offer you all people of faith in our country. May we too be guided by You to work together courageously for the promotion of justice and truth in our society.