**Ladies of Charity Reflection: 4th Week of Lent**

March 15, 2015

Louise de Marillac: Feast Day: March 15

**Opening Prayer:** Merciful God, as we journey through Lent, grant us the light to open our hearts to the needs of others, especially the Poor. Let us demonstrate our love for you by putting others first, listening before speaking, and remembering that in serving those who are Poor, we are serving You. We ask this in your Name. Amen

Louise always wanted the Ladies to remember that it was Christ that they were serving in those who are Poor. Her words: “Above all, be very gentle and courteous towards those who are Poor. You know they are our Masters and we must love them tenderly and respect them deeply.”

**Reading: John 3: 21** “But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.”

**Response**: Psalm 137:

**Plunge me into the ocean of Love.**

Hide not from my Love, O friends,

 Sink not into the sea of despair.

**Plunge me into the ocean of Love.**

 Awaken O my heart,

 That I may not drown.

**Plunge me into the ocean of Love.**

O Heart of all hearts

 Set a clear course,

That I may follow.

**Plunge me into the ocean of Love.**

**Reflection Questions:**

How conscious are you in remembering that Christ dwells in the homeless, gang members, those who beg on the street corners?

Can you relate an example of how a Poor person has revealed Christ to you?

**Closing Prayer:** Loving, compassionate God, may your light always shine before us and may we always take care of those people who are poor, weak, lonely, hopeless, ill-treated – well, everyone – with gentleness, cordiality, forbearance, and competence. Grant us this grace, dear God, and be with us in all that we do. We ask this in your name. Amen

