

# MORNING MEDITATION

Saturday, First Week of Lent

**Purpose is the flame that transforms our potential into a radiant reality.**

## Deuteronomy 26:16-19

Obeying God's law is what makes us the "People of God". Moses tells his people that they are a people of the covenant, that they have an "agreement" with God and that God has an "agreement with them. Therefore, they must learn to "listen" to God's voice and remain faithful just as God is faithful.

**Learn to walk in God's ways! You are a people sacred to the Lord.**

## Psalm 119

**Happy the person whose way is blameless,  
who walks in the law of the Lord.  
Happy are they, who observe his decrees,  
who seek him with all their heart.**

## Mathew 5:43-48

Mathew continues to bring us very high ideals that Jesus placed before his disciples. Your spirituality must rise above that of the scribes and Pharisees. Your life must be more virtuous than the pagans and do more than the pagans do.

**Learn to lead noble and virtuous lives. Let your character reflect virtue.**

Your love will prove that you are "sons of the heavenly Father". The heavenly Father is impartial to those who love him and to those who do not love him.

**Let your love embrace all people – even those who do not love you!**

Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect! To be perfect is to be what God made you to be, do what God wants you to do and fulfill the plan, "the will" God has for you.

**Listen and keep searching for God's will for you! Be and become discerning people!**

**Saint of the Day, March 15 - St. Louise de Marillac and 11 other saints are remembered this day.**

St. Louise de Marillac was born on August 12, 1591, at Le Meux in France. As a young woman, Louise married a man with a bright future ahead of him. They were both happy in the marriage, but soon her husband developed a chronic illness which worsened over time. After several years, he died.

In 1625, Louise moved to a parish near Paris, and Father Vincent de Paul became her spiritual advisor. As their relationship continued, he realized that Louise could be very helpful in directing his Ladies of Charity who cared for the sick, poor and neglected in his parish community. Louise trained his volunteers and organized their work.

In 1634 Father Vincent and Louise co-founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. Louise herself professed vows and became Mother Superior. Many women joined her. Mother Louise traveled all over France, placing her sisters in hospitals, orphanages, and other institutions. She encouraged her sisters to treat the poor as if they were serving Christ himself. When she died in 1660, she had established 40 convents. Today, the Sisters of Charity can be found all over the world. St. Louise de Marillac was canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1934.

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