

## A Series of Reflections: The Seal of the Company of the Daughters of Charity and the Joy of the Gospel

The images I wish to share with you in a series of reflections represents a single base with multiple changing backgrounds. The constant is a heart encompassed by flames, with the cross of the crucified Jesus as the center. Over the next several months this same image of the seal for the Daughters of Charity will be used as the foreground for a series of meditations, a journey of profound reverence towards the God I experience within and around us. What will accompany many of the subsequent images will be sections of text from the APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION **EVANGELII GAUDIUM** OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS TO THE BISHOPS, CLERGY, CONSECRATED PERSONS AND THE LAY FAITHFUL ON THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL IN TODAY'S WORLD.

As for this introductory piece, the original seal "is surrounded by the motto: The Charity of Jesus crucified urges us. The charity of Jesus Christ crucified, which animates the heart of the Daughter of Charity and sets it on fire, urges her to hasten to the relief of every type of human misery. The imprint of the traditional seal of the Company of the Daughters of Charity is still visible on fragments of sealing wax attached to letter dating from 1643, in harmony with Louise de Marillac's love of Jesus crucified, which she expressed frequently at the end of her letters."

Given to God for the Service of the Poor: Constitutions and Statutes of the daughters of Charity 2004 pg. 15



The original art used in the meditations were created digitally on an Ipad, using several different creative art and design apps. The images are composed of layers using free-form and vector drawings. The combinations are endless. This first drawing was the catalyst for those I will present in future meditations.

The motivation for me to create this particular image is the fact that the Eucharist that we proclaim as the centre of our lives as Daughters of Charity is not the Eucharistic sacrifice in a vacuum, isolated from the environment, but our Constitutions point to a path and focus when it goes on to say that this is an ' indispensable meeting each day with Christ and their brothers and sisters.' As we fully participate in the Paschal Mystery during the Eucharist, we also fully participate in our Charism as Daughters of Charity, *Caritas Christi Urget Nos*...and in this Jesus tells us to "Do This In Remembrance of Me." Let us profoundly bow to one another in an act of reverence each day. ***Who have you revered and profoundly bowed to today?***

