Healing the Culture: REVIEW (Quality of Life; Suffering Well; Defining "Person")

- INTRODUCTION – Why all of this review?
    - To start synthesizing everything that we have discussed so far this year
    - To look ahead to what we will encounter next week at the House of Charity
    - Thus, to prepare ourselves for what we are going to find when we get there
- REVIEW – Quality of Life
    - DISCUSSION: What makes for a high quality of life?
    - DISCUSSION: What is the connection between success and quality of life? And *if* there is a connection, what is the connection, if any, between happiness and quality of life)?
    - DISCUSSION: Is *quality* of life the same thing as *value* of life? Why or why not?
- REVIEW – Suffering Well
    - DISCUSSION: What are examples of suffering?
    - DISCUSSION: Looking at examples of suffering, what do they seem to have in common? What is suffering? What does it mean to suffer? (from this, derive a definition of suffering)
    - DISCUSSION: So…is suffering bad? How can we make it good? (How can we suffer well, what does it even mean to suffer well?)
    - DISCUSSION: What is the connection between suffering and quality of life?
- REVIEW – What is a person?
- CONCLUSION
    - Believe it or not, the homeless people whom you will meet next week are persons, too, just like you and me
    - Believe it or not, you will see that most of them are genuinely happy
    - Starting asking yourselves now these questions, to prepare yourselves for next week:
        - Are those people suffering?
        - Do those people have a high quality of life? (According to *you*? According to *them*?) And why or why not?
        - How does our culture dehumanize homeless people?
        - What are some of the proposed solutions to the homeless problem that our culture suggests? (e.g. the tired old argument: "The Vatican should sell all of their art and give the money to the poor!")
        - What can *we* do to address the homeless problem?
            - How can we *re*-humanize those whom our culture *de*-humanizes?
            - What are some *real* ideas regarding how to fix the homeless problem?