

EMPOWERING THE MISSION

GO and TEACH



SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES



BLESSING / COMMISSIONING FOR THE OPENING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

COMMISSIONING OF TEACHERS

Leader: In 2015, Pope Francis said, *Our generation will show that it can rise to the promise found in each young person when we know how to give them space. This means that we have to create the material and spiritual conditions for their full development; to give them a solid basis on which to build their lives; to guarantee their safety and their education to be everything they can be.* Catholic Schools are communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service.

The charism of St. Lucy Filippini and Cardinal Barbarigo was the restoration of Christian family life through Christian Education, especially of women. Centuries later, the charism is more relevant than ever. The clarion call of Pope Francis in *Educating Today and Tomorrow: A Reviewing Passion (2015)*; *World Congress on Catholic Education/ Instrumentum Laboris (2014)* aligns with the educative ministry developed by St. Lucy Filippini and Cardinal Barbarigo.

Teacher: Therefore, as an individual who works with children in a Catholic school, I commit myself to furthering the values of Catholic Education through the charism of the Religious Teachers Filippini.

Through the charism of St. Lucy Filippini, I will:

- Strive to be gentle, but firm; flexible; benevolent; compassionate and always well prepared to challenge my students, respecting his/her uniqueness.
- Enjoy a personal relationship with Christ through the daily reading of Scripture.
- Follow His lead as *the Master Teacher* by studying His style and method of teaching as revealed in Scripture.
- Nurture a greater awareness of God's presence in everyone, in every event, and in everything, thus, blending human culture with the message of salvation.
- Live my state of life authentically, zealously and responsibly.
- Be enthusiastic about my sacramental life and live communion internally.
- Teach a Faith-Based curriculum and co-curriculum that is infused with the charism of St. Lucy Filippini.
- Above all, be very much aware of the awesomeness of my teaching vocation in a Catholic School of the Religious Teachers Filippini, remaining always faithful to the mission of the Catholic Church.

Teachers will hand commitment to the Leader.

BLESSING OF TEACHERS: All present extend their hands.

Leader: You are called to be bearers of the truth and wisdom as St. Lucy.

May you listen to the voice of God to guide you.

May you use your gifts and talents to open the minds and hearts of your students.

May you be gentle, but firm in your classroom.

O God, bless these teachers as they minister to Your children.

In the name of the Father... Amen.

BLESSING OF STUDENTS Teachers extend their hands.

Leader: You are called to be your best self.

May you listen to the voice of God to guide you.

May you use your gifts and talents to learn all that you can.

May your behavior be modeled after the Child Jesus.

O God, bless these students as they begin a new year.

In the name of the Father... Amen.

BLESSING FOR PARENTS All extend their hands.

Leader: You are called to guide, shelter and love your children.

May you listen to the voice of God to help you in this task.

May you realize that you are your child's first teacher.

May you collaborate and cooperate with the teachers in the education
of your children.

O God, bless these parents as they lead their children spiritually, physically
and intellectually. Give them the strength they need to accomplish this awesome
task entrusted to them.

In the name of the Father... Amen.

MONTHLY THEMES

Each month is dedicated to one of the following themes, gleaned from the Faculty Prayer Services:

September - We Journey together... building community:

Leader: Let us name and bless those with whom we journey.

All: Loving Lord, bless (Each person says his/her name.)

Leader: Let us name and bless those with whom we will journey this year.

All: Loving Lord, bless those I teach.

Leader: We will journey with faculty, staff and families.

All: Loving Lord, bless all those we encounter in our ministry.

Action: Pray this blessing daily for faculty and students. Have a faculty potluck dinner.

October/May - Mary:

Action: Attend Liturgy and recite an extra decade of the rosary daily. Refer to "St. Lucy's Love for Mary" p. 27 .

November - Compassion:

Leader: God of Compassion, You invite us to enter into the pain of another.

All: I feel the pain of (Pray for a student / faculty member who is hurting.)

Leader: God of Compassion, You wish us to bless those who bother us.

All: I pray for (Name a student / faculty member you find challenging.)

Leader: God of Compassion, You call us to rejoice with those who rejoice.

All: I am grateful for (Rejoice in a student / faculty member goodness.)

Action: Pray the above prayer daily. Collect food, money or food for the poor. Go to a soup kitchen.

December -Touching God at Christmas:

Action: Prepare or use the school or parish "Giving Tree" . Have each class buy a gift. Display a battery run Advent wreath.

January - Hospitality:

Leader: We thank You, Gracious God, for the hospitality others have shown to us.

All: We are invited to embrace each other.

Leader: We thank You, Gracious God, for the hospitality we have offered to our students, our fellow teachers and to all with whom we minister.

All: We are invited to love all we meet.

Leader: We ask You, Gracious God, for forgiveness when others have not been accepting of who we are.

All: We are asked to forgive those who offend us.

Leader: We ask You, Gracious God, for forgiveness when we have rejected another.

All: We are called to forgive ourselves.

Action: Pray the above prayer daily. Practice hospitality with students and co-workers. Have students do likewise. Celebrate the family with an Epiphany party.

February - Abandonment:

Action: Recite or sing the mantra: "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Choose a positive practice for Lent.

March - Listening:

Action: Read a verse of Scripture using Lectio Divina each day. Listen attentively to God, others and self.

April - Calling Forth God's Gifts:

Action: Have a faculty, student talent/fashion show. Find opportunities to appreciate God's gifts in your co-workers and students.

June - In Every Corner:

Action: Invite a parent, guardian, student to Church. Encourage Christian behavior and its effect on others. Remind students to be faithful to the reception of the Sacraments.

WE JOURNEY TOGETHER

Building Community

Leader: We are companions on the journey. We have been called by God to teach and guide His children in the spirit of St. Lucy Filippini and Cardinal Barbarigo. We pray that we may be worthy of such a call.

Reflective Song: *Companions on the Journey*

Landry

Leader: We Pray:

Leader: Let us name and bless those with whom we journey.

All: Loving Lord, bless (Each person says his/her name.)

Leader: Let us name and bless those with whom we will journey this year.

All: Loving Lord, bless those I teach.

Leader: We will journey with faculty, staff and families.

All: Loving Lord, bless all those we encounter in our ministry.

Leader: God's Word: Acts 3: 43-44

Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the Apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common.

Reader: St. Lucy writes:

We must be of one heart and one mind. (Instructions of the Schools for Christian Doctrine)

Leader: We reflect:

Many good things happened because the Apostles and the Maestre were of one heart and one mind. How will I contribute to making our ministry together one which is fruitful? Feel free to share.

Join hands and sing the **Our Father**.

MARY, OUR MOTHER

Leader: Mary played an important role in St. Lucy's life. As a young child, she asked Mary to be her mother. She never tired of speaking of Mary in her ministry to the women and children.

Reflective Song:

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Landry

Reader: God's Word: Luke: 1:26-35

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him, Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give Him the throne of David, his father, and He will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God."

Reader: St. Lucy's Life: *It was St. Lucy's wish that classes begin and end with an invocation to Our Lady. St. Lucy and her pupils further honored her each day by praying the rosary together and bringing the school day to a close with a hymn to Mary. (Words to Grow and Live By)*

Leader: We reflect: How do I encourage devotion to Mary in my life and in the lives of my students?

We pray: Recite one decade of the rosary for your companions and students.

Sing:

Immaculate Mary

Gaignet

Immaculate Mary,
Your praises we sing;
You reign now in splendor
with Jesus our King.
Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria
Ave, Ave, Maria.

COMPASSION

Leader: God creates the good in us because He loves us in our brokenness. Everything we are and have is His gift to us. St. Lucy comprehended this connection between loving God and loving others. Compassion is this love in action.

Reflective Song:

You are Mine

Haas

Leader: God's Word: Romans 1: 9, 14-15

Love one another with mutual affection; and have a profound respect for each other. Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality. Bless those who persecute [you], bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Leader: St. Lucy's life:

So strong was Lucy's desire to come to the aid of the poor, she often said she would have given them all her goods if she did not have to maintain the schools. She and the Cardinal established orphanages for children who lost their parents, taught the sisters in the monastery to read their prayers, visited the sick. (Words to Grow and Live By)

We pray:

Leader: God of Compassion, You invite us to enter into the pain of another.

All: I feel the pain of (Pray of a student / faculty member who is hurting.)

Leader: God of Compassion, You wish us to bless those who bother us.

All: I pray for (Name a student / faculty member you find challenging.)

Leader: God of Compassion, You call us to rejoice with those who rejoice.

All: I am grateful for (Rejoice in the goodness of a student / faculty member.)

We pray:

Lord God, teach us that we are called to be compassionate first to ourselves and then to all we encounter. Teach us be in touch with our deepest selves so we can respond with love. Teach us that You love us despite our brokenness. Teach us that You love others despite their brokenness. Stretch us beyond ourselves. We ask this in Jesus' name.

In solidarity, we sing the prayer that Jesus taught us...**Our Father.**

TOUCHING GOD AT CHRISTMAS

Leader: To the women of Montefiascone, St. Lucy offered a Christmas Meditation that reveals the awe she felt before the God made man.

Reader: God's Word : John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without Him nothing came to be. What came to be through Him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Song: **What Child is This** **Dix**

The infant is brought to the crèche

Leader: The Christmas Mystery touched St. Lucy Filippini and she saw how we, by virtue of His birth, touch God.

Reader: St. Lucy writes:

The Monarch of the heavens concealed in the humblest of dwellings? The first-born of the Most High, swaddled on stiff hay? Can it be? Has the most high King of Glory a stable for His palace, a manger for His throne, swaddling clothes for His purple, two animals for His court? Will He who provides nourishment for a world of creatures take His at a Virgin's breast? (Words to Grow and Live By)

Quiet Reflection

All: Who are You, God, that You hide your greatness in a child that we may experience the healing touch of Your great love? I want to praise You for your goodness to me.

Leader: Pause to thank God for His many blessings. At this time blessings may be said aloud if you so choose.

Reader: St. Lucy writes:

When God touched earth, we experienced the paradox of greatness and poverty in a little child. *St. Lucy says, He lies on straw but He gives us the stars to step on; He whimpers among beasts but He allows us to converse with angels; He shivers unclothed but He drapes us in mantles of beautiful light and immortal glory. Divine, most ingenious Love! You changed the changeless God from lion to lamb, from thunderbolt to flower, from Lord of Vengeance to Prince of Peace, from King of Angels to subject and servant of men: ... and He was subject to them. (Ibid)*

Leader: St. Lucy realized that despite this great love, this goodness, we do not always respond and so we pray:

All: *Divine Infant, we beg You, penetrate the hardness of our hearts with a ray of Your loving glance. Give us eyes that weep like yours. Give us a heart to love You always-now and for all ages. So be it. (Ibid)*

Take the Infant and have each person hold Him while everyone prays for that person in silence.

Song : **Joy To The World** **Watts**

Joy to the World, the Lord is come.
Let earth receive her king
Let every heart prepare Him room
and heaven and nature sing. (3)

HOSPITALITY

Leader: Hospitality is welcoming another into our lives wholeheartedly...without reservations...without expectations...with open arms. St. Lucy Filippini demonstrated this gift whenever she encountered another. Everyone was treated with dignity whether poor or rich.

Song:

Whatsoever You Do

Jabusch

Whatsoever you do to the least of My people, that you do unto Me.
When I was hungry, you gave me to eat.
When I was thirsty, you gave me to drink. Now enter into the home of my Father.

Reader: God's Word: *Matthew 22:36-39*

Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? He said to him, You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Reader: St. Lucy Words:

Any good presented in a rough or unkind manner, will appear unpleasant and repugnant. In order not to undo by their actions what they have accomplished with words, they must couple example with teaching so what the pupils see in the person of the teachers may be proof of what they have heard from them. Father Carlo Bruni writes, Each time I met with the Servant of God I drew new fervor from her encouragement. (Words to Grow and Live By)

We pray:

Leader: We thank You, Gracious God, for the hospitality others have shown to us.

All: We are invited to embrace each other.

Leader: We thank You, Gracious God, for the hospitality we have offered to our students, our fellow teachers and all with whom we minister.

All: We are invited to love all we meet.

Leader: We ask You, Gracious God, for forgiveness when others have not been accepting of who we are.

All: We are asked to forgive those who offend us.

Leader: We ask You, Gracious God, for forgiveness when we have rejected another.

All: We are called to forgive ourselves.

Ponder: What gifts and talents do I bring to my teaching? How do I make my students feel loved and welcomed? Share if you feel moved to do so.

Extend your hand and bless the person to the right of you.

ABANDONMENT

Leader: St. Lucy Filippini was called to the Lord on March 25, 1672. She reflected often on Jesus' sufferings especially during her last days. Let us contemplate some of Jesus' last words and see how they are echoed in St. Lucy's life.

Leader: **I THIRST**

Reader: *St. Lucy speaks, So dearly do I love You, my God, that I wish my bones were lamps, my blood the oil and my flesh the wick and that like a lighted lamp I could burn and be completely consumed in Your love. (Words to Grow and Live By)*

Response: (Sung) Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.(2)

Leader: **MY GOD. MY GOD WHY HAVE YOU ABANDONED ME.**

Reader: *St. Lucy speaks, The whole matter (support of her schools) still remains In the dark ...since this is the Lord's own business, He will take care of it. We, on our part, will do all we can, because the mercy of God will not fail those who trust Him. (Letters to Princess Altieri) Even if all people of the world persecuted me and desired my ruin, I firmly hope God will never abandon me. I am crucified with Christ. (Words to Grow and Live By)*

ACTION RESPONSE

Leader: Please come forward to receive a nail, symbol of God's love for us. As we touch it, may we trust as Lucy did that God will never abandon us when we call on Him in our need.

Response: (Sung) Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.(2)

Leader: **FATHER INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMEND MY SPIRIT .**

Reader: *St. Lucy speaks, I, Lucy Filippini, reflecting that I came into this world poor naked and miserable, desire to return to the hands of the God as I came from them. Therefore, I declare that everything I have or seem to have I place into the hands of the Sisters and my associates upon my death. (Last Will and Testament)*

Response: (Sung) Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.(2)

REFLECTION: MEDITATION ON THE ELEVENTH STATION: THE HANDS

Leader: If St. Lucy could write a letter to you about the Eleventh Station, perhaps it would sound like this.

Dear Friends,

As I looked at Jesus hanging on the cross, I focused on His hands. What had they done? These were the hands which had hugged children ... put mud on the blind man's eyes ... touched the deaf man ... prayed to the Father. These beautiful hands were placed upon the cross and nailed there. How excruciating the pain was! A pain which was both physical and psychological. .. A pain which could not help, but come from the depths of His being ... A pain which cries, "What have these hands done to merit nails?" He could only cry, "ABBA, INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMEND MY SPIRIT."

I looked at my own hands ... hands which cured the woman with the gangrenous arm ... comforted my sisters when men attacked them ... bought goods from merchants who had sold nothing ... held the cross of my Jesus as I preached in the streets. Now these hands are paralyzed by sickness. As I lie here with my schools in jeopardy, I wonder what have these hands done to merit this suffering. I can only say, "ABBA, INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMEND MY SPIRIT."

Look at your hands. What story do they tell? Are they smooth? Are they scarred? What would you change about them if you could? How much good will they continue to do? Will you accept the sufferings which will come to those hands? You have only to say, "ABBA, INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMEND MY SPIRIT." I turn to ABBA, my Father, and say:

I praise and thank you for Jesus' hands.

I praise and thank you for my hands.

I praise and thank you for my teachers' hands. Guide those hands so they may be a blessing for others.

I embrace you in Jesus! May Jesus make us His all. Live Jesus!

CLOSING SONG: Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.(2)

LISTENING

Leader: A teacher is called to be attentive to God's voice so that he/she may be attentive to the voices of her students.

Song:

Hear I am, Lord

Shutte

Hear I am Lord, Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

We pray:

Leader: You call us to listen to Your Word.

All: Open our hearts.

Leader: You call us to listen to what is deep within ourselves.

All: Open our hearts.

Leader: You call us to listen to the world around us.

All: Open our hearts.

Leader: You call us to listen to your people.

All: Open our hearts.

Leader: You call us to listen to our students.

All: Open our hearts.

Reader: God's Word: 1 Samuel 3: 1-9 *During the time young Samuel was minister to the Lord under Eli, the Word of the Lord was scarce and vision infrequent. One day Eli was asleep in his usual place. His eyes had lately grown so weak that he could not see. The lamp of God was not yet extinguished,* and Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the Lord where the ark of God was. The Lord called to Samuel, who answered, "Here I am." He ran to Eli and said, "Here I am. You called me." "I did not call you," Eli answered. "Go back to sleep." So he went back to sleep. Again the Lord called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli. "Here I am," he said. "You called me." But he answered, "I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep."*

Samuel did not yet recognize the Lord, since the Word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, for the third time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, "Here I am. You called me." Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth. So he said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, 'Speak, Lord, for Your servant is listening.'" When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the Lord came and stood there, calling out as before: Samuel, Samuel! Samuel answered, "Speak, Lord, for Your servant is listening."

Reader: St. Lucy's life: Lucy realized that in order to hear the voice of God, she had to listen for she says...*Come sweet and dear God and fill me with your love.* Only then could she listen and minister to God's people. Her biographer tells us, *St. Lucy took special care of the girls seeing in them the likeness of God.* Because she saw God's likeness in others, she would remind her teachers *to refrain from uncivil and discourteous speech but rather use a gentle affable and courteous manner with everyone.* (Words to Grow and Live By and Instructions for the Schools of Christian Doctrine)

Ponder: Is listening to God in silence a part of my life? I call my students to listen. Do they hear gentle, affirming speech? Do I listen to them with my whole being?

Close with a few moments of silence.

CALLING FORTH GOD'S GIFTS

Leader: We, as St. Lucy Filippini, are called to be educators, which is a noble and a great favor from God. Lucy often said, *What great work the Lord has been entrusted to us.* We are called to be channels that bring the Good News of Faith, peace, forgiveness, consolation and joy in our every day interaction with our students. We are called to help others to live life fully.

Song: *Prayer of St. Francis*

Temple

Make me a channel of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring Your love,
Where there is injury Your pardon, Lord. And where there is doubt, true faith in You.
Make me a channel of Your peace. Where there is despair in life, let me bring Your hope.
Where there is darkness, only light. Where there is sadness, ever joy.

Refrain: O Master, grant that we may never seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned and in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Reader: God's Word: Romans 12:6-7

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach.

Reader: About St. Lucy:

Into the form of teaching given her, Lucy breathed her own fervor, her student-centered concern, and her docility. The method reflected her simplicity, her sense of dignity, her refinement and above all her sense of mission. (Forever Yes)

We pray:

Side I: That we have the openness to adapt to the still immature minds.

Side II: That we may encourage their youthful energies, understand their defects and their restlessness.

Side I: That we may communicate to all by word and example the Christian values on which students will base their life choices.

Side II: That we may be sensitive to the unique needs of our students.

Side I: That we, like St. Lucy, may call forth the best in our students.

Side II: That we may be people of prayer so that our students may learn the power of prayer in their lives.

All: Jesus, thank You, for entrusting us with the ministry of teaching. May we follow You, the Master Teacher, and give faithful witness to Your Word.

Ponder: How am I a Christian witness? What led me to choose the teaching profession? Share if you feel inclined to do so.

Leader: Close with singing refrain of *Prayer of St. Francis.* (above)

THE BEATITUDES MATTHEW 5:3-10

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall possess the land.

Blessed are they who mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice: for they shall have their fill.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they that suffer persecution for justice' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

At the end of an ecumenical trip to Sweden, Pope Francis celebrated the feast of All Saints, November 1, 2016 ,with a Catholic Mass in Malmo stadium. *The best description of the Saints – in fact, their identity card – the pope said, is found in the beatitudes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, which begins, Blessed are the poor in spirit. New situations require new energy and a new commitment, he said, and then he offered a new list of Beatitudes for modern Christians:*

Blessed are those who remain faithful while enduring evils inflicted on them by others and forgive them from their heart.

Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalized and show them their closeness.

Blessed are those who see God in every person and strive to make others also discover Him.

Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.

Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others.

Blessed are those who pray and work for full communion between Christians.

All these are messengers of God's mercy and tenderness, Pope Francis said. Surely they will receive from him their merited reward. (Catholic News Service;11/1/16)

IN EVERY CORNER

Leader: *As for me, I long to be present in every corner of the earth to cry out everywhere and plead with all peoples of every sex, age and condition: 'Love God' O my God, make me into many Lucys' so that, multiplied, I may spread Your glory far and wide! (Words to Grow and Live By)*

Leader: (All face the East.) We face the East. One person holds a cross.

Ponder: What suffering experiences have you had in your school life and how they have had redemptive value?

All: O Lord, there have been times when I wanted to quit because I thought I had not made a difference in my students' lives. Then that phone call or note came from a past student or a parent who told me that something I did or said brought out the best in that student. Thank You for letting me experience the redemptive value of suffering.

Leader: (All face the North.) We face the North. One person holds a book.

Ponder: How has the knowledge that you have imparted to your students changed their lives?

All: O Lord, I pray that the knowledge that has flowed from my lips to my students has given them the tools to live productive lives; has expanded their thinking; has increased their Faith. Thank You for the opportunity to impart these words which can change their perspective.

Leader: (All face the South.) We face the South. One person holds a globe.

Ponder: What ripple effect have you created in one student that will have a far-reaching effect on thousands?

All: O Lord, when I consider the awesomeness of my ministry, I am overwhelmed and humbled. Teach me to realize that in educating one student I educate many. Let me always be conscious that I am the molder of that student's effect on the world. Thank You for entrusting me with this task.

Leader: (All face the West.) We face the West. One person holds a laptop.

Ponder: How have I shown my students to use technology to foster growth and learning?

All: O Lord, You have given us such wonderful tools with which to communicate and learn. Help me show my students how to use these tools responsibly: to build, not to tear down; to foster relationships, not isolation to learn, not to waste time. Thank You for allowing me to teach them the marvels of these amazing means of communication which expand their minds to the world around them.

Reflection: St. Lucy's dream was to reach all people so that they would love God. In this modern age where the world is literally at our fingertips, we can attain this goal. It is the ultimate goal of Catholic Education. Students must leave our school equipped intellectually, but far more importantly, leave our schools imbued with the knowledge that God loves them and they, in turn, love Him and His world.

Sing: *Take the Word of God*

Walker

Take the Word of God with you as you go. Take the seed of God's Word and make it grow. Go in peace to serve the world.(2) Take the love of God (2) with you as you go.

LENTEN ACTION

Focus on doing more to grow closer to Jesus rather than on what to give up. Spend time in prayer and God's Word every day. Reading one chapter of John's Gospel every day is a great place to start! If you already read the Bible daily, consider adding a daily Psalm to your regular reading. **LENTEN ACTION CAN BE MODIFIED FOR STUDENT AND/OR FAMILIES.**

IF YOU STILL WANT TO GIVE SOMETHING UP...

Give up complaining	focus on gratitude.
Give up pessimism	become an optimist.
Give up harsh judgments	think kindly thoughts.
Give up worry	trust in God.
Give up discouragement	be full of hope.
Give up bitterness	turn to forgiveness.
Give up negativism	be positive.
Give up anger	be more patient.
Give up pettiness	become mature.
Give up gloom	enjoy the beauty that is all around you.
Give up jealousy	pray for trust.
Give up gossiping	control your tongue.
Give up sin	turn to virtue
Give up giving up	hang in there!

Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in My footsteps. (Luke 9:23)

SCHOOL WIDE PROJECTS

- Learn about the poor; collect food, clothing, money for the poor and disadvantaged in the USA, the Filippini missions and victims of devastation.
- Establish pen pals with children in the Filippini mission countries.
- Display projects about St. Lucy and Cardinal Barbarigo in the hallways.
- Conduct Liturgy/Prayer Experiences for St. Lucy's special days.
- Establish commitments for teachers to minister in the spirit of St. Lucy at the beginning of the school year.
- Teach songs about St. Lucy and Cardinal Barbarigo in music class.
- Have a school-wide fair with the theme of the lives of St. Lucy/Cardinal Barbarigo through an integration of curriculum. Fair projects could be: designs for bumper stickers; original skits; songs; poems; TV programs; design for a postage stamp and/or school banners.

A Christ-centered life is primary and central influencing all decisions and every aspect of our lives. Pope Benedict XVI said, *If we let Christ into our lives, **we lose nothing**, absolutely nothing of what makes life beautiful and great. No! Only in this friendship are the doors of life opened wide. Only in this friendship is the great potential of human existence truly revealed. **Do not be afraid of Christ!** He takes nothing away and He gives you every thing. When we give ourselves to Him, we receive a hundredfold in return. Yes, open wide the doors to Christ and you will find true life.*

Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you and you with Me. (Revelation 3:20)

St. Lucy and Cardinal Barbarigo believed this with Faith in Action exemplified by their lives!

CELEBRATION OF ST. LUCY'S BIRTHDAY- JANUARY 13

Leader: Today, we thank, Lord, for the gift of St. Lucy Filippini's birth. St. Lucy lived the virtues of Faith, Hope and Love.

Song: Choose a song to St. Lucy

Video of St. Lucy

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Light the blue candle of Faith.

Reader: St. Lucy's life was one of great faith in God. She tried to spread faith in God with whomever she met. Her wish was that the entire world would believe in God.

Light the green candle of Hope.

Reader: St. Lucy was orphaned at an early age and she trusted God would walk with her throughout her life. When things were difficult and she felt she had nowhere to turn, she put her entire focus on God and trusted that He would never abandon her.

Light the red candle of Love.

Reader: How St Lucy loved God. Her prayer was that she could be in every corner of the world and beg everyone to *Love God*.

LITANY TO ST. LUCY

Response: Be our guide.

Leader:

St. Lucy,
Holy Teacher,
Saint of the Eucharist,
Lover of Mary,
Woman of Prayer,
Preacher of the Word,
Teacher of the Uneducated,
Inspiration to Women,
Missionary for Christ,
Hope of the Poor,
Healer of the Sick,
Patron of Young People,
Counselor to the Wayward,
Person of Courage,
Giver of Self,
Creative Force,

Leader: Lucy was a woman of Faith, Hope and love. Let us honor this great St. whose birthday we celebrate today by singing ***Happy Birthday***.

LITURGY FOR ST. LUCY FILIPPINI

INTRODUCTION Today, we honor St. Lucy Filippini, a woman who loved God very much and wanted everyone in the world to know and love Him also. Let us stand and sing:

SONG

She Walked in the Spirit

Calabrese

OPENING PRAYER O God, you have raised up St. Lucy Filippini in the Church as a teacher and missionary of faith and love. Grant us by her example, so completely to dedicate ourselves to the glory of the kingdom of heaven that in our following of Christ, we may be messengers of the Good News and perform works of charity to aid our brothers and sisters. Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, who is God and lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Samuel 3: 1-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Sung)

Here I Am Lord

Shutte

SECOND READING

Romans: 10:8-13

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 10:1

Alleluia (Sung)

I give praise Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although You have hidden these things from the wise and learned, You have revealed them to the childlike.

GOSPEL

Matt.18:1-6

HOMILY

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, as we gather today to honor St. Lucy Filippini we recall her role in spreading the love of God and so we present these petitions.

RESPONSE: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader I: St. Lucy said, *I would gladly give my life a thousand times so God may be perfectly known and loved by all.*

Leader: II: That we may teach everyone we meet to love God by our words and our lives, we pray to the Lord.
Response.

Leader I: St. Lucy said, *Would that all nations would come to Holy Mother Church.*

Leader II: That the Pope, Bishops and Priests may be faith-filled in their ministry to God's people, we pray to the Lord. Response.

Leader I: St. Lucy said, *The poor need to be affectionately received.*

Leader II: That we open our eyes and hearts to all people in need, we pray to the Lord. Response.

Leader I: St. Lucy said, *Would that I were many Lucys so that multiplying myself I could spread myself ceaselessly and spread your glory everywhere.*

Leader II: That the Religious Teachers Filippini may continue the ministry of St. Lucy and many women will join them to continue this ministry. Response.

Leader I: St. Lucy said: *What a great work the Lord has entrusted to us.*

Leader II: That all teachers may use their gifts and talents to enrich their students spiritually, intellectually and morally so that their students may open their minds and hearts to their teacher's words and example. Response.

Celebrant: Good and gracious God, hear our voices as we ask You to hear us and answer us through Jesus Christ Your Son...

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS Instrumental

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS Hear our prayers, O Lord, and with the bread and the wine that we now present to You, accept the offering of our lives. Through the merits of St. Lucy Filippini, may they become spiritual sacrifices pleasing to You through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

HOLY HOLY (SUNG)

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (Sung)

When we eat this bread...

AMEN (Sung)

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

OUR FATHER

LAMB OF GOD (Sung)

COMMUNION SONG:

Blest Are They

Haas

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, by the grace that comes to us from the communion of the body and blood of Your Son, grant that after the example of St. Lucy Filippini, we may love You ever more intensely, and give our life in service of the Church and building of Your kingdom. Through Christ our Lord . Amen.

BLESSING

GOING FORTH

We Walk By Faith

Haugen

MAY CROWNING

St. Lucy Filippini, Lover of Jesus and Mary

Leader: Today we celebrate St. Lucy Filippini's feast day. Because of her great love for God, she wished everyone in the entire world to love Him as she did. Let us begin our prayer by singing:

Love God

Valitzsky

A woman in love with Jesus
Took up her cross every day.
She showed us the way to heaven and with her we learn to say,

Refrain: Love God, Love God!
Proclaim His love to all you see;
Love God, Love God!
Love each other and be free.

Leader: We call upon St. Lucy.

All: St. Lucy, you loved God and always found ways to show this love to others. Teach us to find God in many ways and many people.

Leader: Take a few moments of silence to ask St. Lucy to help you think and pray this mantra.
I wish that I were in every corner of the world and ask everyone to Love God.

Sing refrain: *Love God, Love God!*

Leader: We look at St. Lucy's life.

Let us see St. Lucy's life through the drawings of students from K-3. (pictures shown on screen)

Sing refrain : *Love God, Love God!*

Leader: We use St. Lucy as our model.

Let us listen to students of Grades 4-8 to hear what St. Lucy means to them. (paragraphs read by the students)

Sing refrain: *Love God, Love God!*

Leader: We imitate St. Lucy and her love for Mary.

Reader: When you love God and Jesus you also love Mary. Lucy was an orphan by the time she was 7. Her mother had died 11 months after she was born. As a little girl, she would go to the fields to pick flowers for Our Lady. She loved to make altars during the month of May. One day she asked Mary to be her mother, because her own mother had died. She promised she would tell people about her loving mother, Mary. Throughout her life she brought people to Jesus and Mary. Wherever the Religious Teachers Filippini have a school, in remembrance of St. Lucy, May altars to Mary are in each classroom.

Procession by the First Communicants with flowers to Mary's Altar as the Glorious Mystery of the Rosary, the Coronation of Mary is recited.

Crowning of Mary (Ave Maria- instrumental)

All: O Mary, we call upon you to be our mother. Inspire us as you inspired St. Lucy to love God and to show this love to everyone we meet.

Sing:

Hail Mary

Landry

MEDITATION ON ST. LUCY FILIPPINI #1

Leader: St. Lucy was a special person. She did many things in her life. Today, we are going to share five incidents about her written by Third Graders.

Child I: St. Lucy Meets Cardinal Barbarigo

St. Lucy Filippini was called by Cardinal Barbarigo so she could go to stay with the nuns and think of becoming a nun. She was sixteen years old and stayed with the nuns for four years. Then she went out into the world to help and teach. She started the Filippini Sisters.

Let us pray:

St. Lucy, you, who began the Filippini Sisters, **Response:** Pray for us.

Child II: The Girl Who Followed St. Lucy

St. Lucy went to Rome. There was a girl at the school who didn't like what St. Lucy was wearing. Then St. Lucy was talking and the girl began to think and finally said, *I like her*. The girl went wherever St. Lucy went. Every time St. Lucy went to another school the girl would cry. Later the young girl became a Filippini Sister.

Let us pray:

St. Lucy, You who love children and wanted them to love God, **Response:** Pray for us.

Child III: The Lady at the Hotel

There was once an old lady who owned a hotel. She helped the people who came there by making beds, cleaning and doing other good things like that. She was getting old and could not do all this work. St. Lucy and some other sisters came to help her and they made it look like St. Lucy and the sisters needed the work to do. They helped the lady make money and gave it to her.

Let us pray:

St. Lucy, you always made others feel special, **Response:** Pray for us.

Child IV: The Poor Boy

One day St. Lucy went to a town where she met a boy who had no clothes or food. She took him to a place so people could take care of him. Every time she went to the town where the boy was, she would check on him and take him a present.

Let us pray

St. Lucy, you loved orphans and lonely people, **Response:** Pray for us .

Child V: Lucy Cured a Woman's Arm

There was a mother whose arm was going to get cut off. St. Lucy came and cured the arm with a little help from Cardinal Barbarigo. Then after that, the doctor did not have to cut off her arm. Now, the mother could take care of her children.

Let us pray

St. Lucy, you who worked miracles for the sick, **Response:** Pray for us.

MEDITATION #2

Leader: St. Lucy was a special person. Today, we would like to share some thoughts with you about her. We have chosen some symbols to help us remember important things in her life.

Have students hold symbols as each one is described.

The Broom tells us that St. Lucy wasn't afraid to cleanup because she wanted to be helpful. She was rich and didn't have to do work, but she loved to help people, especially her aunt. She did chores without anyone asking her and kept the house clean all the time.

The Rosary tells us of St. Lucy's love for Mary. She prayed the rosary every day. She made altars to Mary and taught everyone about Mary. Because her mother died, she asked Mary to be her mother.

The Praying Hands tell us that St. Lucy was a woman of prayer. She loved to pray and would spend many hours praying. She prayed for everyone.

The Bible tells us that St. Lucy preached the Word of God to all people. She wanted all people to know about God's Word. One day some men wanted to throw pebbles as she was preaching. They listened to her words and later went back to Church.

The Heart tells us that St. Lucy was a very loving person who helped others. If someone had a problem, she listened to them. She would go to visit her students after they grew up and tried to help them be better persons. She was kind and pure of heart.

The Basket of Money for the Sisters in the Missions shows that St. Lucy was someone who was kind to the poor and needy. She did not take people for granted. Once she helped a poor boy who had no clothing. She gave the boy shelter, good food and clothing. She and the sisters helped a poor old woman clean up her motel so that the woman could make some money. One day, she bought all the things the merchants couldn't sell. She was an inspiration to everyone.

The Flag is the emblem of the Sisters of St. Lucy. St. Lucy taught other women to preach about God. Today we are taught God's Word by our teachers.

The Collage tells of some of St. Lucy's miracles. One lady was very sick and her arm was going to be cut off. St. Lucy prayed and she was cured. Another time she was in a carriage that was going off a hill. She prayed and the carriage stood still so she and another sister could get out. She loved Jesus in the Eucharist and one day part of the host from the priest went to lie on her tongue. These things happened because she loved God very much. (Collage should have pictures of the scenes described here.)

The Cross and Halo tell us that St. Lucy was a saint. She was a saint because she always prayed and read the Bible. She taught the Word of God and helped anyone in need.

SHE WALKED IN THE SPIRIT

Words by Sr. Geraldine Calabrese and the Novices

choir SHE WALKED IN THE SPIRIT THUS FREE TO ENJOY THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

solo SHE WALKED IN THE SPIRIT THUS FREE TO BECOME AND ACT AS A NEW MAN

solo SHE WALKED IN THE SPIRIT THUS FREE TO LEAVE ALL AND LOVE OTHERS DEEPLY

LOVE, PEACE, FAITH AND JOY FOR SHE WALKED IN THE SPIRIT THUS

AS GOD'S ONLY SON FOR SHE WALKED IN THE SPIRIT THUS

A RESPONSE TO GOD'S CALL FOR SHE WALKED IN THE SPIRIT THUS

FREE TO REALLY SHARE THE JOY OF HER AND THE DEPTH OF HER PRAYER

FREE TO EXPRESS THE WARMTH OF HER LOVE AND SWEET TENDERNESS

FREE TO COMBINE HER LIFE HERE ON EARTH WITH ALL THINGS DIVINE

congregation

LET'S WALK IN THE SPIRIT FOR LUCY SHOWED THE WAY LET'S

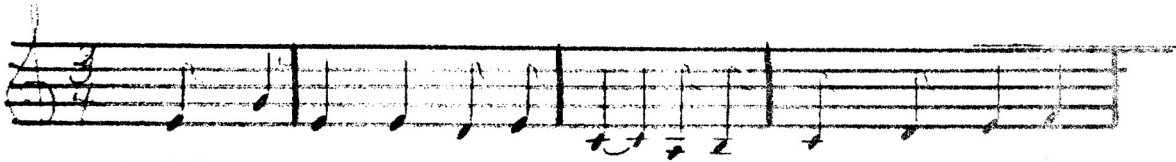
choir

1. WALK IN THE SPIRIT TO DAY YES TODAY DAY YES TO DAY EVERY DAY

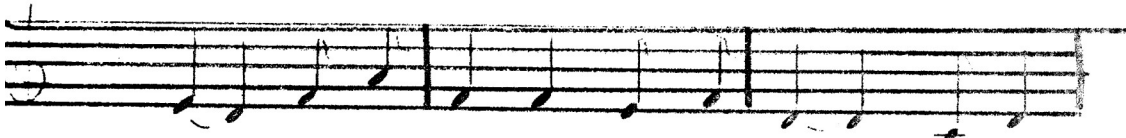
2.

Lucy - Model and Teacher

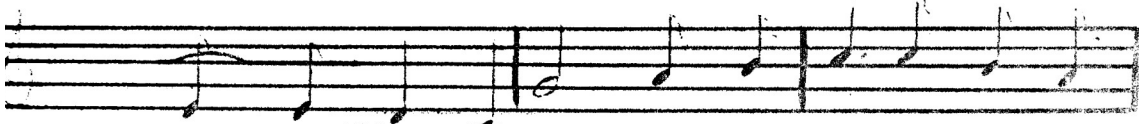
(Words adapted to the music of "Come i Fiori")



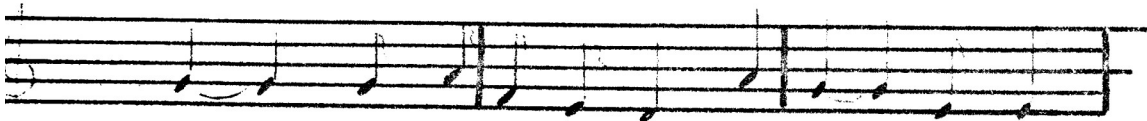
1. Saint - ly Mo - ther on this day - We your chil - dren wish to
2. Though we fal - ter on the way - Still we trust and al - ways
3. O True Mo - del of o - bedience and great Ser-a - phim of
4. Dear St. Lu - cy give un - to us Strength to scale the rug - ged



1. say - How we love to think and dwell - On the
2. pray - That you'll keep us e - ver near - To our
3. Love - Teach - er of God's lit - tle chil - dren O look
4. heights - And for God and truth and goodness To change



1. truths you loved so well. Life with - out true faith is
2. lov - ing Spouse so dear. 'Love God,' Love God was your
3. down from heav'n a - bove. Grant us all thy safe pro-
4. ease and earth's de - lights. Aid us when our foot - steps



1. drear - But 'tis joy When you are near -. Dear Saint
2. cry - We in e - cho breathe the sigh -. In our
3. tec - tion And bless all the work we do -. Keep us
4. fal - ter And our cour-age tends to wane -. Help us



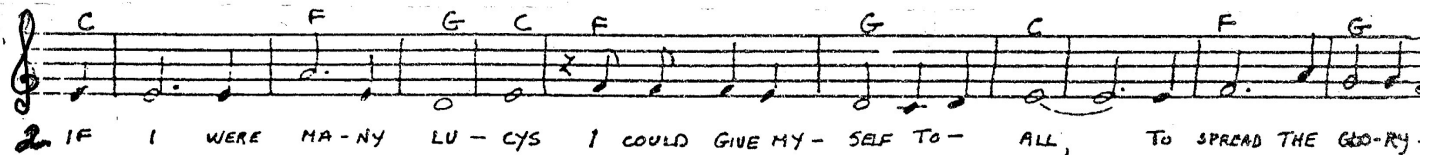
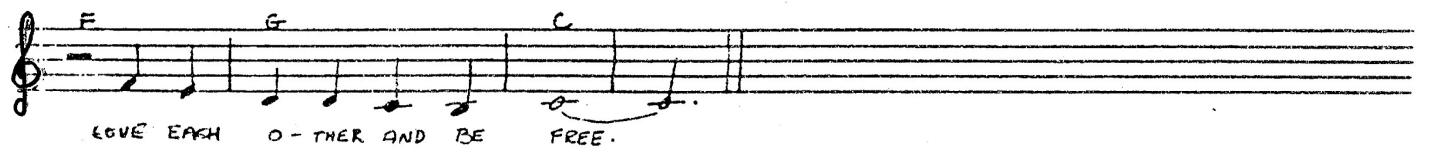
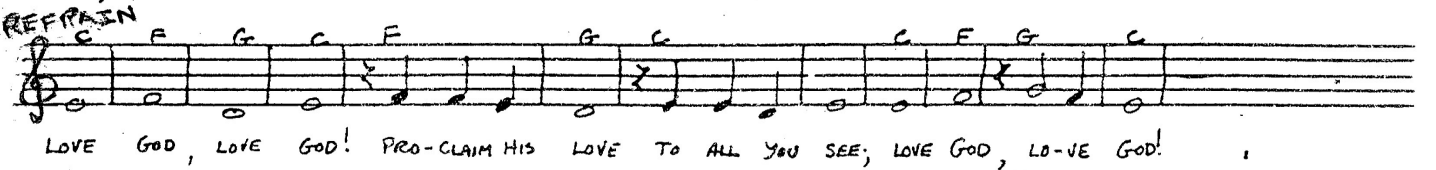
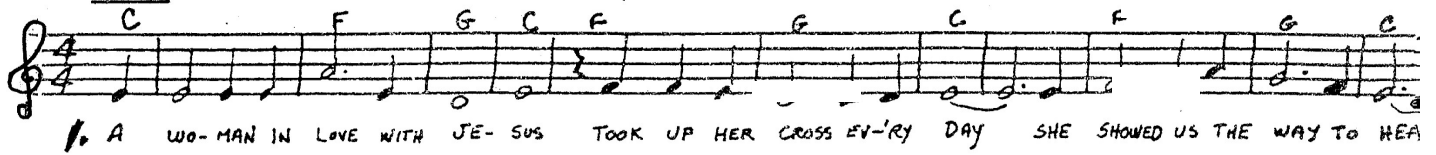
1. Lu - cy teach us all - How to fol - low His great call.
2. hearts with love on fire - Pray this love will ne - ver end.
3. e - ver close to Jes - us Loy - al and - true to you.
4. prove by word and ac - tion Wor - thy chil - dren of thy name.

(Words composed by the Young Sisters of England)

Love God

INTRO: C(4), F(4), G(4), C(7).

Mary Valitzski

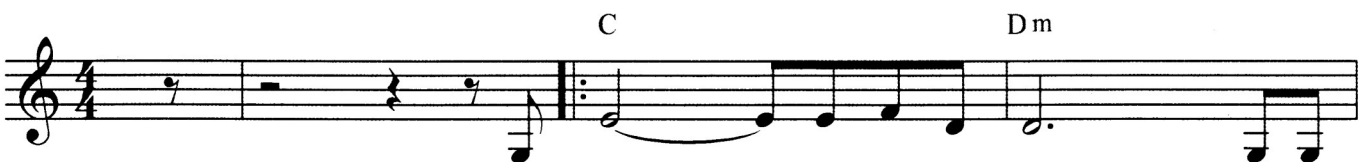


I SEEK TO PRAISE THE LORD

WORDS OF ST. LUCY FILIPPINI

Sr. Marie Roccapriore, MPF

Guitar



I seek to praise the Lord and in

4 F G 3 C Dm *Last time to Coda*



prais- ing Him I fear no en- coun- ter; I seek to praise the Lord, and in

8 F G7 C F C



prais- ing Him I fear noth- ing at all.

1 Love God!	Love God!	I'll pro- claim.	Praise
2 Yes, Lord!	Yes Lord!	I'll ex- claim,	Glo-
3 Fa- ther,	Spir- it	be ac- claimed,	Je-

12 Dm C F C



God!	Praise His	ho- ly	name.	May His	life	be	one	in	mine.	May
ry	Glo- ry	to	His							
sus,	Sa- vior,	bles- ed	name.							

16 Dm D G F G7 C *Coda*



His light in me al- ways shine! I prais- ing Him I fear noth- ing at all!

HYMN TO CARDINAL BARBARIGO

Sr. Marie Roccapriore, MPF

REFRAIN

Chanted

Guitar

Chanted

D G

Saint- ly Car- di- nal Mark An- tho- ny Bar- ba- ri- go,

3 A D G

faith- ful ser- vant and shep- herd true. We pay hom- age and sing prais- es to

6 A D Em D Em

the Lord in trib- ute now to you. *To Verses* 1 Pray for us that we, too, may learn to walk the

10 A G D Em D

path of God's Ho- ly Way. And teach us to live as you did on earth.

13 Em D A *To Refrain*

bring- ing bless- ing and joy to each day. 2 To-

17 Em D Em A G D

geth- er with Lu- cy you reached out, to serve the poor and those bear- ing strife.

20 Em D Em

O help us ex- tend more kind- ness to all, in the like- ness

23 D A *To Refrain*

of your love- filled life!

**EMPOWERING THE MISSION
EVALUATION FORM
STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

Title of Workshop: _____

Presenter/s: _____

Grade/Title: _____

Location: _____

Day, Date and Time: _____

Did this workshop meet your expectations?	Yes	Somewhat	No
Was the workshop informative?	Yes	Somewhat	No
Was the content clear and well organized?	Yes	Somewhat	No
Was the presenter well prepared?	Yes	Somewhat	No
Was your level of knowledge increased?	Yes	Somewhat	No

Overall rating of this workshop:

Excellent	Very Good	Average	Below Average	Poor
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Comments, concerns, and suggestions for future presentations:

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