

### LET US PRAY

*O glorious St. Lucy who from your heavenly home continue to recognize our needs, bestow your love and mercy upon us who ask your powerful intercession.*

*During your life time you did not hesitate to help the poor, heal the sick, and open your most sensitive heart to alleviate their miseries.*

*Do not let us leave you without having obtained the graces for which we asked.*

*Continue to show us that you are a most loving mother to all who come to you and confide in your holy protection.*

AMEN

### FOR FUTHER REFLECTION

Basile, Giacinta- Calabrese, Geraldine, MPF, ***Forever Yes, The Story of Lucy Filippini***, Philadelphia, 1979.

O'Kane, Sr. Barbara, MPF, ***Living Like Lucy***, Morristown, NJ, 2016.

Religious Teachers Filippini, [www.filippiniusa.org](http://www.filippiniusa.org).

# EMPOWERING THE MISSION GO AND TEACH



## A Message to Parents/Guardians,

In an effort to promote the charism of St. Lucy Filippini in our school we would like to ask you to join with us in this endeavor.

What is a charism?

A charism is a gift of grace. It was St. Paul who introduced the term into religious language where it came to mean a gift of grace, as in Romans 5:15-16 and Ephesians 2:4-10 (Jones, 1968).

*The charisms are for every Catholic, not just for people who are part of a religious movement or order. Charisms are like tools in the hands of a mechanic; they help to make the good work that we are doing more effective. As the laity, we must call for the Holy Spirit to fill us ever more and to use us to effectively bring the Gospel into the world. God will use us through the charism as He needs us. We need to ACT on them out in the world. (Relit; The Heart of Evangelization, p. 73)*

**EMPOWERING THE MISSION** is an initiative of the Religious Teachers Filippini that established the SPIRIT of the Founders had and continues to have its SOURCE in a CHARISM - the charism of St. Lucy Filippini and Cardinal Barbarigo. Thus, like other religious groups, the religious foundation began with a group who shared a common spirit flowing from the original charism of the founder. This spirit rooted in the charism is a particular grace that enabled them to LIVE a COMMON LIFE and to attempt a COMMON TASK/S.

## CHECKLIST

1. How does the truth that God is present in every person and in every circumstance determine your behavior ?
2. How do you reverence and respect each person regardless of race, color, religion or mental aptitude?
3. How are you aware of and open to the needs of each moment?
4. Why do you believe discipline is gentle but firm?
5. How are you more interested in what is good for the others in the family then in what is easier or better for you?
6. How do you instill in your children the need for prayer in their lives and an awareness of God's presence?
7. How do you demonstrate a keen sense of your own dignity as a person made in God's likeness?
8. Are you a person of faith? a person of prayer?
9. How do you open your hearts and eyes and those of your children to the needs of the poor; to the homeless; to the issues which affect life?
10. How convinced are you that each person has a unique call to build God's kingdom?
11. How do you open your eyes to see and appreciate your own goodness and the goodness of others especially your children?
12. How do you spread the mission of Jesus in your family? to others?
13. Do you address the others especially your children in a kind and gentle manner?
14. Are your words carefully chosen?
15. How do you encourage your children to be critical thinkers; to ask questions; to search?
16. How do you give your children a sense of Church?
17. How do you share your love and respect for the pope, the elected officials and lawful authority?
18. Do you worship as family on Sunday?
19. Do you say the rosary as a family?
20. Do you read the Bible?
21. Do you dress modestly?

## CHARISM OF ST. LUCY FILIPPINI

**ADAPTED FROM THE WORDS OF ST. LUCY FILIPPINI  
AND  
THE INSTRUCTIONS OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE  
1717**

Choose One. Reflect. How do I live this? What can I do to improve? Take action.

1. When a work is of God, that same God is bound to maintain it. Do I trust that God will take care of a situation?
2. Give contributions and deny no-one.
3. The spirit of a Kingdom person must be free from self-interest, especially greediness.
4. Outstanding characteristics of a Kingdom person should be peacefulness and flexibility.
5. We must be of one heart and mind; avoid all jealousies, rivalries, resentments and antipathies.
6. Refrain from uncivil, discourteous and vulgar speech.
7. Instill in others the Spirit of God.
8. There is no place in our lives for ridicule, slander or sarcasm.
9. Any good presented in a rough or unkind manner would appear unpleasant and repugnant.
10. Do not use crude, unruly, unsociable manner, but rather use a gracious, affable and courteous manner with every one especially your children.
11. Outstanding qualities of good parents are peacefulness and flexibility.
12. Be patient with teenagers and adults.
13. Pray for your children.

- C** IS FOR HER *COURTESY* AND *COMPASSION* TOWARD ALL.  
**H** IS FOR HER *HOSPITALITY* FOR ALL WERE WELCOMED.  
**A** IS FOR HER *APPRECIATION* OF EACH PERSON'S GIFTS.  
**R** IS FOR HER DEEP *RELATIONSHIP* WITH JESUS.  
**I** IS FOR HER *INGENUITY* AND *INTEGRITY* IN FACE OF DIFFICULTY.  
**S** IS FOR HER LOVE FOR THE *SCRIPTURES*.  
**M** IS FOR HER KEEN SENSE OF *MISSION*.

The teachers and students will be practicing some aspects of the charism of St. Lucy Filippini monthly. Parents and teachers are in partnership in the development of the spiritual life of your children. We ask you to continue at home what is being practiced in school.

### MONTHLY THEMES:

1. September-Building Community: Plan a family activity.
2. October/May-Mary, our mother: Say one decade of the rosary each night as bedtime prayer. Strive to say the rosary as a family weekly. Display Mary's statue.
3. November-Compassion: Donate clothes or food to the poor.
4. December-Christmas: Display a crèche under the Christmas tree or some prominent place. Have an Advent calendar.
5. January-Hospitality: Speak in a positive manner to each other.
6. February-Lent: Encourage children to do something positive for Lent.
7. March-Listening: Stop and listen to your children. Strive to talk with them not at them.
8. April-Calling Forth God's Gifts: Find opportunities to appreciate the gifts and talents of your children.
9. June-Evangelization: Bring someone to Sunday Liturgy. Be faithful to the reception of Eucharist and Penance.

**SAINT LUCY FILIPPINI  
CHRONOLOGICAL FACTS**

- Lucy Filippini was born and baptized in Corneto-Tarquini, Italy, on January 13, 1672.
- Her parents, Filippo Filippini and Maddalena Picchi Falzacappa, were of noble birth. Both died before Lucy was 7.
- She was the youngest of five children: two sisters died in infancy, a sister, Elizabeth, and a brother, John Francis.
- At twelve, the pastor used her gifts and talents to teach the younger children about God.
- As a young child, Lucy's love for Mary was very evident as she made altars decorated with flowers. This love would permeate Lucy's life and her ministry.
- At 16, she was introduced to Cardinal Barbarigo who counseled her in her vocation. In 1688, he placed her in the Monastery of St. Clare in Montefiascone where she discerned what path her life would take.
- At the Monastery, she helped the sisters, counseled the young girls and was noted for her piety. While there, she met Rosa Venerini, who suggested to the Cardinal that Lucy should take over the schools for girls. The decision caused her to struggle. Yet, she acquiesced to the Cardinal.
- Together with the Cardinal, St. Lucy founded schools in the Lake Bolsena area. The first school began in 1692.
- Many women joined her and the Religious Teachers Filippini were formed. A habit was patterned after the priests' cassock, designed by Cardinal Barbarigo and cut by Msgr. Berti. In 1704, the Cardinal wrote a rule for the Maestre and made Lucy the Foundress and Directress.
- The Cardinal died in 1706 at 66, leaving the schools in dire need. Lucy's business sense and creativity provided for the schools and put them on solid ground. At 35, Lucy lost a friend and benefactor.
- Pope Clement XI called her to Rome to establish schools. In 1707, she opened her first school in Rome. She founded schools in Rome, in Montefiascone and in other dioceses.
- She suffered many difficulties through the years, yet always trusted in the Lord. Before her death, Lucy did not know if the schools would survive because jealousy caused some people to discredit her. Her motto became, *If a work is of God that same God will maintain it. (Words to Grow and Live By)*
- Lucy died of cancer on March 25, 1732, as the song to Mary, "Ave Maris Stella," was being sung in the nearby cathedral in Montefiascone. She was proclaimed venerable in 1916 by Pius X, beatified in 1926 and canonized in 1930 by Pope Pius XI.

**CARDINAL MARCANTONIO BARBARIGO  
CHRONOLOGICAL FACTS**

- Cardinal Barbarigo was born and baptized on March 6, 1640, in Venice, Italy.
- Chiara and Augusto, his parents, belonged to the Venetian nobility.
- He was the first born of his five siblings.
- Marc Antonio became a lawyer and member of the Grand Council of Venice.
- Soon realizing that court life did not suit him, Marc Antonio chose to become a priest and was ordained in 1670.
- In 1675, Cardinal Gregorio Barbarigo, his uncle, asked him to come to Padua to initiate and head the Program of Christian Doctrine in the diocese.
- In 1676, Pope Innocent XI called the two Barbarigos to Rome to introduce the Program of Christian Doctrine begun in Padua.
- He was ordained Archbishop of Corfu in June 26, 1678.
- Pope Innocent XI elevated Marc Anthony to the college of Cardinals on September 2, 1686.
- October 1687, marked his appointment to the Diocese of Montefiascone.
- In Montefiascone he established a seminary, held meetings for priests to update and provide ongoing education, and established Schools of Christian Doctrine.
- He reached out to the needy by visiting the prisons, opening a convalescent home for the needy, founding a hospital for women and establishing an orphanage.
- The Cardinal met Lucy Filippini on January 21, 1688, and brought her to the Monastery of St. Clare in Montefiascone.
- The Cardinal together with Lucy Filippini started schools for poor girls in 1692.
- The Cardinal and Lucy established and directed a new community called the Maestre who would staff the Christian Schools for Girls.
- As Bishop of Montefiascone, the Cardinal, with Lucy, preached parish missions in the various towns.
- In 1695, he assisted and cared for the people of Bagnora and Cellano who were devastated by an earthquake.
- On May 26, 1706, in Montefiascone, Cardinal Marc Antonio Barbarigo, a penniless man, breathed his last.