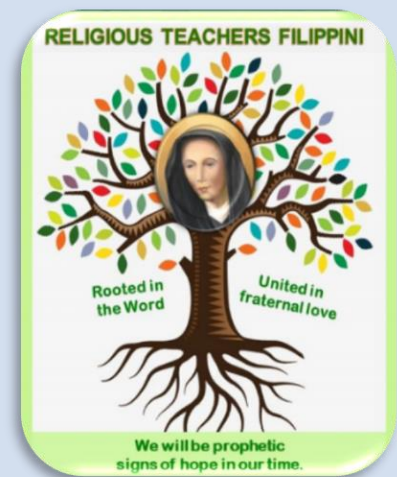


Pontifical Institute
Religious Teachers Filippini
Communicating... No. 13
Generalate
July – September 2022



Dear Sisters,

The intense re-study of Saint Lucy's life from September 2021-22, received a positive and enthusiastic response from its inception. After reading the reports from each entity, they confirmed that our Maestre entered Saint Lucy's Jubilee Year further immersed in her spirit. How good that we benefitted from this rich experience! The contents of this letter come from you, each entity, since I am extracting small clips of your study from the *many* pages of inspiring responses you submitted. May we be enriched by the thoughts that come from our sisters around the world.

Sacred Heart Province, Italy: *Concrete ways and strategies to carry on the Apostolate today more fruitfully and concretely:*

- Return to the sources so that our Institute may rediscover the freshness and greatness of the spirituality of our original charism as a gift of the Holy Spirit to our Founders;
- Commit to transmitting fervor, joy, life, and serenity to the people we meet daily, in imitation of our Founders who were always supported by faith and God's help;
- Be aware that it is not the extent of one's actions that gives glory to God, but the love with which they are realized, committing oneself above all to carrying out the Word of God unconditionally and setting a good example;
- Welcome joyfully and kindly the people who frequent our environments. Use this as an opportunity to evangelize and transmit closeness, reflecting the generosity, inclusion, and respect, typical of our Founders.
- Imitate the missionary zeal of Saint Lucy for every creature starting from the teachers with whom we share most of the day, seeing the best in everyone and everything.
- Take the risk of opening our homes or securing homes for the poor, migrants, and homeless people, with the help of volunteers.
- Participate more in parish life. Do not make the school an isolated reality, especially in this synodal period.
- Give more space and confidence to young people who make proposals and support them in implementing them.

Province of Saint Lucy, United States: *What message would Lucy give us today to keep her spirit alive?*

- Live a simple life in community through our Gospel witness and observe more fully the *Constitutions and Rules* of our Institute.
 - ✓ Have a love for one another.
 - ✓ Be prayerful and face challenges with trust.
 - ✓ Be charitable and patient with all we meet.
 - ✓ Lucy's inner strength was God's gift to her, and it is ours, also.
 - ✓ Use your God-given talents to spread His Word.
 - ✓ Do not fear; we are doing the Lord's work and He is with us."
 - ✓ Don't have undue worry about the future.
 - ✓ Get rid of what is superfluous.
 - ✓ Appreciate all that has been given us.
 - ✓ Refrain from complaining.
 - ✓ Be careful in the friendships you cultivate.
 - ✓ Forgive past hurts.
 - ✓ Practice self-denial.
 - ✓ Be detached from places, things, opinions...
 - ✓ Cultivate a spirit of joy.
 - ✓ Lucy's message is the same today as it was in her time:
"LOVE GOD! LOVE GOD!"
- Lucy's message to us today is to live the evangelical counsels so completely as to liberate ourselves from all things, to allow ourselves to be possessed by God. We are to trust God at all times. Lucy never stopped in her desire to serve. She asks us to keep this same spirit alive.
- Questions Saint Lucy might ask each of us personally:
 - ✓ Are you a true follower of Jesus Christ?
 - ✓ Is Jesus first in your life? If not, who or what is it?
 - ✓ Although it may look different, are you living with the same passion as when you first began your religious life?
 - ✓ Since your lives are relatively comfortable, in what ways do you make sacrifices that should be a part of your life?
 - ✓ Do you utilize the sacraments as a means of spiritual growth or do you take them for granted?

Mater Christi Region – Medstead, England: *How does Saint Lucy continue to inspire us?*

- In imitation of Saint Lucy, we aim to develop a deep personal relationship with God through private prayer, communal prayer, the sacraments, meditation of Scripture, spiritual reading, Eucharistic adoration, retreats, and ongoing study of Church documents.
- We strive to imitate Saint Lucy in her spirit of joy, her virtues of self-sacrifice, of trusting and not complaining in times of difficulty and suffering, of practicing an

attitude of gratitude, and prudence, all under the umbrella of love, compassion, and forgiveness, especially toward those with whom we live.

- Like Lucy, we freely choose to observe the evangelical counsels in a common lifestyle. Therefore, we give importance to communal prayer, communal meals, and quality time together.
- In living our poverty, chastity, and obedience, we try to be conscious of the proper use of resources and to avoid waste. In our interactions with others, we aim to willingly give of our time and talents. We strive to make responsible choices concerning technology, and in a positive manner, we accept leadership directives that are given for the good of all. With God's grace, we aim to carry her spirit of joy and peace.

Vice-Province - Mater Divinae Gratiae, Brazil: *What does Saint Lucy ask of each of us personally?*

- Saint Lucy asks us to read the signs of the times and the current needs of the people and to participate more actively in the life of the Church. (pastoral and catechesis, etc.)
- The mortifications most recommended are the spiritual ones and those of your own will; that the Maestre be prudent, and that they follow the sick sisters with prayer.
- Saint Lucy asks us to commit to a continuous prayer that does not distance us from God, even in our daily affairs.
- We are invited to thank God for the gift of our charism and for having given us our Founders, Cardinal Marcantonio Barbarigo and Saint Lucy Filippini, as well as the example of their lives, and the good example of the sisters who preceded us, in living the spiritual heritage inherited from them.
- To walk together with our brothers and sisters who suffer most from poverty and that we not confuse the comfortable with the necessary.

Misericordia Region - Eritrea: *How is Saint Lucy's spirit alive in us today?*

- Throughout this year, we thanked God for this special time because Saint Lucy's spirit became more alive in us through our study of her life. We offered this year of service in thanksgiving to her.
- Every local house made an extra effort to spread Saint Lucy's charism and fulfilling her dream to make God known and loved with greater enthusiasm by staying in the villages for two or three days sharing Saint Lucy's life using different materials for both the youth and their parents. The sisters returned full of joy because of their attentive listening. After this animation, many people from the villages come to our place on pilgrimage.
- Imitating Saint Lucy's love of the Eucharist, we have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament twice a week with the lay volunteers who surround us and invite our previous teachers monthly for talks on Saint Lucy.
- The sisters are visiting families, especially the sick, the elderly, and those in prison.

Queen of Peace Region, India: *The Holy Spirit is the giver and interpreter of Charisms. Where might the Holy Spirit be leading us today?*

- We are being transformed day by day through the power of the Spirit to attain the fullness of Christ...
- Today the Holy Spirit is prompting us to seek the lost ones, e.g. Those who are addicted to drugs, those who committed crimes, the downtrodden, the poor, etc. We must touch them with the love of Christ, show them our concern and kindness, and bring them to the knowledge of God. When we are willing to help others, surely the Spirit of God will be with us. It is our willingness and “yes” to the Lord to move the world in crisis and to lead people to Christ.
- We must reinforce the good and build a better future.
- We, the daughters of Saint Lucy, led by the Holy Spirit, continue to carry out the plan of God by knowing the needs of the lonely, the aged, the illiterate, the widows, etc.
- Our charism is participation in the ministry of Christ the Teacher. The Holy Spirit continues to inspire us to lead the flock entrusted to us. As it says: *“Anything which is led by the Spirit will never come to an end, but it continues to spread because” it is the work of the Spirit.*”
- The Holy Spirit directs us to accept challenges and to bring about changes for the glory of God. We must leave our comfort zones and be available to the needy. Saint Lucy was also involved in social work besides the apostolate of the school. We cannot ignore social needs.
- Saint Lucy, following the example of Saint Francis de Sales, believed that we achieve more with love than with harshness. The Spirit directs us. It is our virtues that inspire and change the hearts of the young. We should be genuine, gentle, charitable, loving, and willing to sacrifice.

Sisters, these are only samplings of the wealth of each entity’s responses. I thank you for sending so much more than what was expected of you to the Generalate. May we be challenged by the intensity of this study to grow in holiness and goodness, otherwise, this abundance will have little value. May God bless us in this endeavor.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Sister Ascenza Tizzano, MPF

Sister Ascenza Tizzano, MPF
Superior General



Mater Divinae Grazie – Vice Province, Brazil Visit of Mother General

On September 3, 2022, the Vice Province "Mater Divinae Gratiae", San Paolo, Brazil, joyfully welcomed the visit of Mother General, Sister Ascenza Tizzano, accompanied by General Councilors, Sister Mary Elizabeth Lloyd and Sister Mercy Chakkiath. Upon their arrival, greeting and meeting the sisters for the first time was heartwarming.

After enjoying their first breakfast together with the sisters, they visited the Formation House and the entire compound and gardens beautified with flowers and fruits of every kind. A high point on our grounds was the visit to our cemetery where they were captivated by the impressive monument of Mother Ninetta Ionata, founder of this Vice-Province. Also buried here are her two cousins, Mother Carolina and Sister Catherine Jonata, and the three Brazilian sisters from the Vice-Province who passed away.



On Sunday, September 4, the entire community gathered for the Eucharistic Liturgy, presided by His Excellency, Most Rev. Carlos Silva, Regional Bishop, and the sisters' chaplain Father Márcio Campos, a Cavanis religious. During the homily, Bishop Carlos stressed the importance of Consecrated Life in the Church "*...no challenge, reduction of personnel or suffering should discourage us. On the contrary, these are reasons to revive our*

commitment to continue our mission, nourishing hope for a new spring." He reminded the sisters of the words of Pope Francis: "*Look at the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, and embrace the future with hope!*" During the festive dinner that followed, the sisters singing in Portuguese and Italian added to the festivity. The novices and their one aspirant strumming their guitars blended their melodious voices both in English and Portuguese. The full table experienced a strong moment of joyful fraternity.



On the following days, in the morning hours, Mother General met personally with each sister and the young people in formation. In her interviews, she helped and encouraged everyone to continue the mission of the Brazilian Vice-Province with a spirit of faith and hope.

The sisters of the Community of Vilhena, Rondônia, came to Sao Paulo, especially to meet with Mother General and her Councilors since the schedule did not permit the air flight to Vilhena.

On September 6, Mother General and the sisters started their visits to the houses and schools of the Maestre accompanied by the Vice-Provincial Sister Maria Helena. The first visit was to the kindergarten, which is situated on the compound of the Vice Province. The children welcomed their guests with joy and festive songs. There was an extravagant exhibition of the important events in the life of Saint Lucy produced in shadow boxes and real dolls dressed according to the characters they were representing in the life of Saint Lucy. Next, very near the Vice-Provincial house, they visited the Primary and Middle Schools of the Colegio, Santa Lucia Filippini, where nearly nine hundred children attend school in two shifts. Both shifts of students sang separately in various languages the songs of Saint Lucy and Our Lady. These were indeed great moments of excitement on the part of the students, teachers, and staff. Mother General in her message reminded the students that they are privileged to study in such a safe and exclusive environment and to have sis-



ters and teachers who are very dedicated. Mother General expressed her deep appreciation for the sisters and their collaborators who planned such warm hospitality and made the day unforgettable.

In the evening of this same day, Mother General gathered all the sisters of the Vice-Province and presented the theme of this year's study on the life and works of Cardinal Marcantonio Barbarigo. Among her reminders to the sisters, she encouraged the sisters to convene weekly for Lectio Divina, meditating on the Word of God, and spoke of the value of Eucharistic Adoration. These two practices can change our hearts and also deepen the religious spirit of the Vice Province. Mother General praised the dedication of the sisters and their many great and astonishing works although so few in number.





On September 7, Brazil celebrated 200 years of its independence. The Holy Mass was celebrated by the parish priest, Father Carlos Alves Ribeiro, of Holy Cross Parish, Itabera-ba. During the homily, Father Carlos reflected on the beatitudes, emphasizing the care of the poor who are plentiful in Brazil. He also recalled the coming of the Maestre Pie Filippini to Brazil in response to the request of the first parish priest of this same parish, Father Achille Silvestri. From its foundation, the sisters have been committed to actively collaborating in the parish, pastoral care, and the Parish School, which was subsequently taken over by the *Colegio of Saint Lucy Filippini*. He expressed gratitude for the good the sisters have achieved these past sixty years.

On September 9, Mother General and the Councilors visited the community at Miracatu, the children and young people of the “Luciane Project,” where there are approximately eighty-five children who come daily, to learn art and crafts, personal hygiene, and a better way to live. The sisters serve them meals and snacks. These children creatively presented the life of Saint Lucy through dance, songs, and drama.



From Miracatu, the next visit was to the school in Peruibe, where the children and the teachers eagerly waited for the arrival of Mother General. It was amazing to note that every design that colored their walls spoke of Saint Lucy. The program they presented began with the children processing with flags representing the presence of the Maestre

Pie Filippini around the world. The procession ended with Saint Lucy and Our Lady of Aparecida, the Madonna who is celebrated throughout Brazil. The impressive school band played various melodious hymns. Mother General once again expressed her joy and gratitude for the intense work carried out by the sisters and teachers and encouraged the students to make use of every opportunity and to grow always with a sense of gratitude.





On the morning of September 14, Mother General and the Councilors visited the members of the “*Joy of Sharing Project*” for the elderly. Mother observed the physical exercises directed by Professor Marcos. In addition to this activity, they have moments of fraternal coexistence, prayer, dance, and crafts that help them to live their seniority with better quality and serenity.

Sister Maria Helena, Vice Provincial, filled in pockets of the day giving Mother General and the Councilors an inside view of some of the main attractions, not only of San Paulo, but beyond. A few examples included visiting the Cathedral of San Paulo, the parishes where the sisters fulfill their apostolate, the house at Penteado, and other places of importance in the immediate city. They visited Holambra, a city in the interior of São Paulo, which has been colonized by Dutch immigrants, the “City of Flowers”.



The highlight was an awaited visit to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Aparecida, the patron of Brazil. The sisters participated at Holy Mass and were invited to sit at the central altar for Mass, indeed a great privilege! After this visit, the guests had a better understanding of why the shrine of Our Lady of Aparecida is so special not only to the sisters but to the people throughout Brazil.

One of the last performances was a return visit to the kindergarten children in the compound. This time they prepared in costume two very special dances. It was a special ending to conclude all the events prepared by our schools.



Sharing daily in the Liturgy and community prayer and enjoying meals together were a very special part of the visit. In between time, getting to know the sisters and learning their history and also their interests, hobbies, and stories were a tremendous joy and when Mother and the councilors left there was an emptiness that prevailed.

The community of the Vice Province "*Mater Divinae Gratiae*" sincerely thank Mother General and the Councilors not only for their gracious presence but, above all, for the good accomplished during their visit and the moments of fraternity and joy lived together for this short time.

Sacred Heart Province, Italy **Provincial Chapter of Elections**

The "Sacred Heart" Province, Italy, had the grace to celebrate the Provincial Chapter from July 17-27, 2022, at the provincial house in Via delle Fornaci, only a few meters away from where Saint Peter gave his life to the Master with martyrdom.

Celebrating the Chapter in this jubilee year was an extraordinary and significant event. For the first time, the delegates also included delegates from Montefiascone: Sister Emanuela Vanice and Sister Giuseppina Cionco.

Two biblical icons described the difficult situation of today's consecrated life and also of the Sacred Heart Province:

- The image of the stooped woman, in the Gospel of *Luke 13.11*: The bent woman who could not get up in any way was healed by the Lord. We learn that even though recognizing the gravity of a situation, we can still hope without giving in to discouragement.
- The image of Noah in *Gen. 6: 5-12*: The Lord was so indignant at seeing wickedness and sinfulness on earth that he wanted to destroy all humanity, but the Lord didn't do it because Noah was a just man. The goodness of one person has saved all of humanity.

This Chapter had the challenging task of confirming that the Charism of our Founders is incarnated in our community life and apostolic projects. Its purpose was to open and delineate new paths that can allow each member to "rise up, to renew themselves, to convert" and to live the Gospel with the zeal and passion of Saint Lucy Filippini and the Venerable Cardinal Barbarigo.

The Chapter also had the task of choosing a new government.

With the approval of the Sacred Congregation, Sister Virginia Iamele, Provincial Superior, was postulated for a second time. The newly elected Provincial Councilors are Sister Felicia Nardiello, Sister Silvia Di Barnaba, Sister Carmelina Di Sarli, and Sister Fabiana Zevaudis.



The Chapter members departed endeavoring to make belonging to Christ shine in its members with a deeper spirituality to be lived with harmonious, welcoming, and synodal relationships.

Saint Lucy Province

350 years... and the light still shines!



On Saturday, September 10, 2022, Sister Patricia Pompa, Provincial Superior, welcomed everyone gathered in Saint Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh in Morristown, New Jersey, to celebrate the 350th Anniversary of the Birth of Saint Lucy Filippini with these words, *“There is an overwhelming sense of joy in the hearts of all who are present here in Saint Lucy Chapel, and of our sisters joining us via closed circuit television from Saint Joseph Hall. We, the sisters, the Associates of Saint Lucy Filippini, the Lucians, friends of the Community, and of course, our brothers in Christ, the bishops and clergy who have accepted our invitation to join us today, together we offer sincere gratitude to our Heavenly Father for the life and ministry of a 17th woman deeply committed to Jesus Christ and His Church.”*

The Eucharistic Liturgy was celebrated by the Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop Emeritus of Paterson with concelebrants, The Most Reverend Dennis Sullivan, Bishop of Camden, New Jersey, and the Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, Bishop Emeritus of Brooklyn, New York, and fourteen priests from various parishes. Our jubilant voices in songs of praise were accompanied by an organ and trumpet.

Bishop Serratelli noted that “...*True love means undivided attention on the one loved...the love that made Lucy Filippini a saint. She loved the Lord and never turned back. She focused her whole attention on loving Jesus, who lifted up on the Cross for the life of the world.... Lucy spent herself in selfless service, establishing schools throughout the Diocese. In 30 years, she founded 52 schools! Constantly gazing at Jesus, Lucy followed in his footsteps, preaching the Word of God and healing. She preached not by words alone, but by her charity, bringing hope to the poor, the abandoned, the sick, the uneducated, and sinners. Lucy carried the Cross not only in her hands but in her life. With eyes fixed on Christ Crucified, she endured sufferings from the outside, from within her own community, and the Church itself...With eyes fixed on the Lord, in her active apostolate and contemplative prayer, her love of Christ Crucified became stronger. This is how Lucy achieved the purpose for which she was born 350 years ago...a saint to inspire for over three centuries dedicated women like yourselves to respond to the Risen Lord who said, ‘Go forth into the whole world and teach all that I have taught you, making them my disciples.’ What a needed impact Lucy has even today in our secularized world, because of you!*”



This is how Lucy achieved the purpose for which she was born 350 years ago...a saint to inspire for over three centuries dedicated women like yourselves to respond to the Risen Lord who said, ‘Go forth into the whole world and teach all that I have taught you, making them my disciples.’ What a needed impact Lucy has even today in our secularized world, because of you!”

The Eucharistic banquet was followed by a festive meal and friendship enjoyed in the Mother Ninetta auditorium. To enhance the afternoon, students from Villa Victoria and Villa Walsh Academy shared their musical talents with a most appreciative audience.

The Superior General, Sister Ascenza Tizzano, summarized the sentiments of the day’s events in her greeting to Pope Francis during the memorable Papal Audience: “*For us gathered here, today’s event marks a lifetime memorable experience...Saint Lucy Filippini, a disciple of the Word, absorbed in the contemplation of the Cross, transformed into the Eucharist, faithful to the Church, a woman of her time and of our time, a light that still shines, guide us to the joyful announcement of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*”



Mater Misericordiae Region, Eritrea Temporary and Perpetual Oblation

On September 3, the Mater Misericordiae Region, Eritrea, had the joy of celebrating the Temporary Oblation of their second-year Novice, Helen Yemane, in the sisters’ chapel.

Following this, on September 4, the two junior sisters, Sister Rosa Menader and Sister Rosa Mehretabe made their Perpetual Oblation in the Cathedral of Kidane Mehret. The solemn Eucharistic Liturgy was presided over by His Excellency Archbishop Mengesteab Tesfamariam and many priests concelebrated.



The Archbishop expressed his appreciation for the wonderful works of the sisters and encouraged them to become many Lucys and to continue to spread their good works. Everyone present including the families of the sisters also expressed their gratitude to the sisters.



During the dinner that followed, the children who come for catechism lessons sang songs and performed a short drama on the life of Saint Lucy Filippini. The guests and all those present were appreciative of the inspiring performance of the children.

The sisters of the Region thanked the Lord for the gift of these young sisters and for their courage and willingness to dedicate themselves to the Lord and his people even amid the adversities and uncertainties of the times. We wish and pray for their holiness of life as they move forward to another level of their formation.

The sisters of the Region thanked the Lord for the gift of these young sisters and for their courage and willingness to dedicate

Queen of Peace Region – India Spreading Love and Devotion to Saint Lucy Filippini

With a great desire and enthusiasm to make Saint Lucy better known, and to encourage devotion to her among the children, the Regional Community of the Regina Pacis Region, Janampet, started several initiatives.

On Sunday, August 21, the sisters went to their usual ministries in the various villages. They visited the families, prepared the people for participation in the Liturgy, stimulated the women of the Legion of Mary, and taught Catechism.



In the afternoon approximately a hundred children were gathered in the compound of Saint Lucy School. The sisters shared the life of Saint Lucy with them and stressed her love for children. Filing in procession, singing a hymn to Saint Lucy, they arrived

at the chapel of the Regional House. Each child offered a flower in front of the Relic of Saint Lucy and prayed for their intentions. Sister Lourdes Mary spoke to the children on the 350th anniversary of the birth of Saint Lucy and the grace of the Jubilee year. Animated by the sisters' instruction, the children devoutly participated in the hour of prayer. At the conclusion, they each had the privilege of kissing the



Relic of Saint Lucy and devoutly honoring her. The children were touched by the experience of this special day. After the prayer, the sisters shared light refreshments with the children.

The Munagalapalli Community also had three days of children's camp in honor of Saint Lucy. The days were filled with various activities: an hour of prayer with Saint Lucy, praise and worship, cultural programs, and games. This gave the children an opportunity to know the life of Saint Lucy and also to learn the charism of the Institute in a more vivid manner.



For the sisters who are actively involved in the village ministry, these were enjoyable and encouraging experiences. They entrust every child at the feet of our Mother Foundress, Saint Lucy Filippini, and pray she will guide and inspire them to live good Christian lives. These are among the many ways that the sisters of Regina Pacis Region are celebrating this memorable anniversary year.

Berat, Albania

Celebrating the 350th Birth Anniversary of Saint Lucy Filippini



In the month of July, the sisters in Berat, Albania, gathered the small Christian community to celebrate the 350th birth anniversary of Saint Lucy Filippini and instructed the children on how to receive

the plenary indulgence. His Excellency Francesco Lambiasi, Bishop of Rimini, presided over the Eucharistic Liturgy. The Bishop praised the Lord and expressed his appreciation for the works of the Maestre Pie Filippini and thanked Saint Lucy for the gift of her daughters who are present in the city of Berat for the past twenty-seven years.

The first priests of the Mission, Father Giuseppe and Father Osvaldo, also came and celebrated the Holy Mass in the Chapel of the sisters, passing through the Holy Door. They gratefully remembered the good done by Sister Franca Carbone and Sister Iolanda Guido and how their humble and hard work in the teaching ministry, stimulated the pastoral life of their priesthood.



In August, a group from Udine came to have a missionary experience with the sisters, which included a Christian community meeting and a celebration to receive an indulgence, meeting with teachers, meeting with families, including gypsies, and visiting the Center for the disabled. On September 5, on the feast of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, together with the group, the sisters visited the center for the abandoned

children raised by the Sisters of Mother Teresa. What a touching experience for everyone. We praise and thank the Lord for these gifts of grace to evangelize in this profound manner.



The new scholastic year began in the month of September with the blessings of the Lord extended by a priest from Vlore and under the protection of Saint Lucy. The priest encouraged the students, teachers, and parents and reminded them of their duties as they begin a new year.

On September 24, the Italian Ambassador to Albania Fabrizio Bucci visited the sisters. He gave a brief greeting to the Italian Sisters of Shkolla Ylli i Mëngjesit, who have been involved in the education of children, especially in favor of needy families, for more than twenty years.

These events that we are sharing with you are only a sampling of how we continue to keep the mission alive every day here in Berat, Albania. We thank you for your prayers and support of our mission and ask your prayers as we continue to move forward in faith.

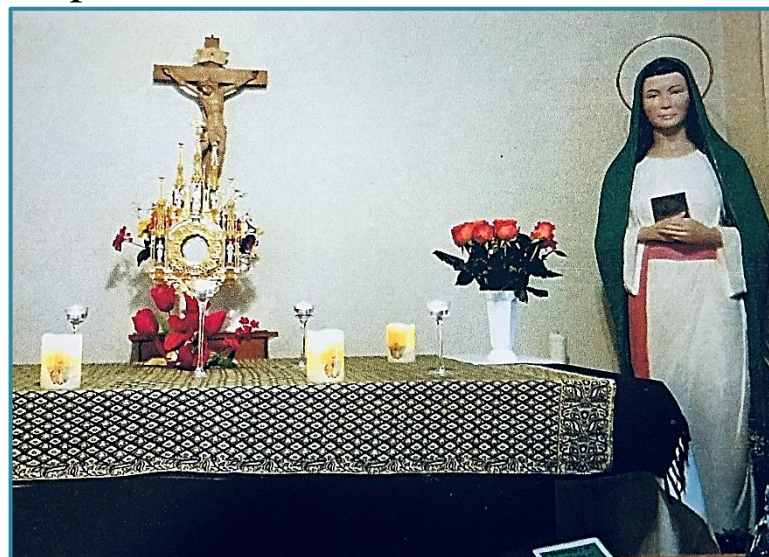
Lucian Spirituality Day, USA



The Lucian Lay Association, primarily a group that meets monthly under the direction of Sister Angela Bulla, is committed to praying for Vocations. They gathered on August 15, 2022, to celebrate the 39th Anniversary of its inception. Since 2019, because the pandemic had prohibited gatherings, sixty-five Lucians and devotees of the Virgin of Revelation welcomed the reunion. Their traditional program this year focused on the Holy Father's 2022 dedication to the Eucharist, the

Virgin of Revelation, and Saint Lucy's 350th anniversary of her birth.

The beautifully prepared program included an opening prayer service and Mass dedicated to Saint Lucy. Father Edward Kelty, their Spiritual Director who resides at Bruno's SACRI Community in Rome shared his knowledge of the Virgin of Revelation and Bruno in a very inspirational conference. The Lucians pronounced their membership recommitment at Mass after the homily. Ending the spiritual phase of the day was the endearing Crowning of our Blessed Mother and their consecration to her. Father Kelty blessed the Group with the relic of Saint Lucy and the miraculous soil of TRE FONTANE.



The enjoyable meal and camaraderie that followed were celebrated in honor of Saint Lucy. There was even a special birthday cake! In their places, everyone present found a Eucharist pin, and a special birthday candle from Saint Lucy to signify that they are to be her "light that shines" in the world today. Everyone joyfully departed more spiritually and materially enriched and all for God's honor and glory.



"Together with Lucy" Montefiascone

"O my God, grant that I may become many Lucys, so that multiplied, I may spread your glory everywhere."

Inspired by this apostolic prayer of Saint Lucy Filippini, in honor of her jubilee year, Sister Teresa Fanelli shared the idea with the women of Montefiascone to form a group "*Together with Lucy.*" Approximately thirty women responded

to her invitation with the desire to expand the glory of God, the wish of Saint Lucy. The group meets monthly to share the Word of God, the Bread of Life, and the light on our path of life. In the name of the group, Sister Teresa wrote to our Holy Father, Pope Francis, sharing the aim of the group and asking for His Apostolic Blessings upon the newly formed group, to discern good from the less good; purify their intentions; walk in synodality with the Institute and with the Church; to be able to sense that God loves us, seeks our good, and that God is our good Shepherd.

Expressing gratitude for all the services that the Holy Father renders to the Church and the world, she assured Pope Francis of the prayers of the group for his good health, holiness, and universal peace.

Sister Teresa and the women were delighted when after a five-month wait, they received this notice from the Vatican:



SEGRETERIA DI STATO

Reverend Sister Teresa,

With a courteous letter dated May 14, you informed Pope Francis of your constitution as well as of the specific aims of your group “Together with Lucy,” asking for the gift of his spiritual closeness.

The Holy Father, who welcomed the expressed desire with great satisfaction, assures a special remembrance at the Altar, recalling that “prayer is an indispensable aid for spiritual discernment. The secret of the life of the saints is familiarity and confidence with God, which grows in them and makes it easier to recognize what is pleasing to them. In fact, friendship with the Lord fills us with that profound joy that we all seek” (General Audience, 28 September 2022).

With these sentiments and invoking the protection of Saint Lucy Filippini, His Holiness heartily imparts the Apostolic Blessing, which willingly participates in every member, with the hope of always being able to walk on the path of service, solidarity, and peace, to build a better world.

*Mons. L. Roberto Cona
Assessore*

