## **Teacher Consecration and Commissioning Ceremony**

**Leader:** In St. Mark's Gospel, Jesus says, "More blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!" Mary always lived out the will of the Father, and therefore, she is our model of discipleship. It is with this in mind that we come before our heavenly Father and consecrate ourselves to Mary. We want to imitate her virtue so as to become true disciples. Please kneel.

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we turn to you as we begin our new school year. You have given us Mary as a mother for us all, and a model of true discipleship. She encourages us and draws us by her example to pursue perfect charity. Mary is a model for all who live by the spirit of the Gospel. From her we learn to love you above all things, to seek and do your will, and to serve the needs of others.

Let us pray the Act of Consecration together:

All: Mary, my mother and my Queen,
I come before you today, I wish to entrust to you
my life, my family, and my vocation as your coworker in the lives of children.
I ask you to be with me as I strive to grow in holiness
and try to help others do the same.
O Mary, like the St. John the Apostle,
I wish to take you into my home
that I may learn from you how to become like your Son.
We come before you to entrust to your maternal care
our students and the families we serve.
Plead for us with your beloved Son
that he may give us in abundance the Holy Spirit,
the Spirit of truth which is the fountain of life. Amen.

**Leader:** Father, we ask you to accept this consecration and help us imitate Mary's model of discipleship. Instead of running from the Crosses in our lives, may we embrace them and offer our difficulties for those we have been called to serve.

(Individual names are called by principal/directors. The person comes forward and Father hands each faculty/staff member a blessed Crucifix. After everyone has returned to their place:

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

**Priest:** Please bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May God, who through the motherhood of the Virgin Mary dispelled the darkness of ages past, enlighten your minds with the radiance of the Sun of justice.

All: Amen

Like Mary, mother of Wisdom and Queen of Angels, may you gratefully ponder in your hearts the wonder of God's blessings and may you find in Christ and the Blessed Virgin the model of discipleship.

All: Amen

May Jesus Christ, the blessed fruit of Mary's womb, adorn you with the virtues that will make you more pleasing to Him and help you to grow into the saint you were made to be.

All: Amen

May the Holy Spirit increase in you the grace of true faith and of hope for heaven, that you may walk in the ways of the gospel and so reach your eternal home.

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All: Amen

And may the blessing of Almighty God, the + Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit descend upon and remain with you forever and ever.

All: Amen