

Poetic Expression through Prayer

Process:

1. Project Philippine's personal prayer (see Student Documents and Activities column) onto a white board or write it on the board. Read it aloud. Have students discuss if they gain insight into Philippine's character and devotion through her writing. What makes the prayer feel so deeply personal?
2. Have students brainstorm about the writing style Philippine chose for this prayer, such as phrase repetition and cadence, alliteration, first person stance, and display the brainstormed list where the class can view (white board, butcher paper, etc.).
3. From the brainstormed ideas, have students choose one style they want to explore and practice (ex: phrase repetition).
4. Next, have students generate prayer topic ideas that are meaningful to them such as current events, personal events, travel, vocation, difficult decisions, thanksgiving, praise, etc.
5. Using the chosen poetic prayer style AND topic, have students create their own personal prayer. If students are willing, share the prayers with the larger class.
6. With student permission, mount and display written student prayers circling a copy of Philippine's prayer.