



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL REGIONAL SEMINARY

10701 South Military Trail ~ Boynton Beach, Florida 33436-4899

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Deb Lindsay

Phone: 561-732-4424 ext. 162

Email: dlindsay@svdp.edu

St. Vincent de Paul Seminary Affirms the Pope's Call for Prayer for Vocations

The Rector/President of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, Very Rev. Alfredo I. Hernández, has invited the seminary community to respond to Pope Francis's call to pray for vocations to the ordained ministry on this World Prayer Day of Sunday, April 25, 2021. The Pope's Message for this occasion, which is always celebrated on the Fourth Sunday of Easter, bears the title: *Saint Joseph: The Dream of Vocation*. We invite our community and all those considering their future to join with St. Joseph in allowing God's dreams to become reality in them.

Fr. Hernández hopes to inspire parents and families to begin a conversation with young Catholics to consider how they may live lives of holiness as a priest or religious. These prayers have been very fruitful. This spring, 18 seminarians will be ordained as priests and just in the past two weeks, 12 men have been ordained as transitional deacons.

In his message for this day, Pope Francis discusses the joy that flows from being faithful to God's call and says, "It is the joy of simplicity, the joy experienced daily by those who care for what truly matters: faithful closeness to God and to our neighbor." The SVDP community will be praying that many may experience that "transparent joy."

St. Vincent de Paul Seminary is located in Boynton Beach, FL and is an ATS-accredited school. It currently has a student population of over 110 seminarians. Since its foundation in 1963 it has formed over 600 priests who have gone on to serve in parishes across the state, the Southeast, and parts of the Caribbean.

-End-

St. Vincent de Paul Seminary offers the following degrees; a Master of Divinity, Master of Arts (Theological Studies), and a Master of Arts (Philosophical Studies for Missionary Discipleship).