



SSS Grapevine

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Orlando Diocese Life in the Eucharist Team Presents at Saint Vincent de Paul, Holiday, Florida

By Diana McGinty, Orlando Diocese LITE Team

Twenty-three members of the Orlando Diocese's Life in the Eucharist team, led by Father George Dunne SSS, presented the 2-day program to approximately 45 attendees from the Saint Vincent de Paul parish in Holiday, Florida, and surrounding parishes on March 13 and 14. Plans for the Lenten weekend began in early December 2025 with an invitation from Father Dominic Long, SSS, and Christine DeLieto, Parish Manager at St. Vincent de Paul.



All LITE attendees with the Team

The Orlando team was overwhelmed by the warm welcome we received upon our Friday afternoon arrival as we began setting up for the weekend. St. Vincent de Paul hosts the most fabulous Friday Night Lenten meal of any Catholic parish! When Chef Mark Brose shared that they would be serving over 200 guests for their Lenten meal, we were all in total

amazement! Team members are still talking about the delicious meals we were served throughout the weekend by Chef Mark and his culinary team.



Mission: Washing of the Feet

Over the years, our Orlando team and Father Bill Fickel, retired pastor of St. Vincent de Paul, along with parish members, have become close family friends, as we have shared in many activities.

The weekend was dynamic, filled with high energy during each opportunity for roundtable discussions, breaks, and meals together. Friday evening opened with a welcome and overview of the weekend. It included a tribute to the founder of the Life in the Eucharist program, Father Bob Rousseau SSS, the creative mind behind LITEs, who poured his genius into the program's success. We honored Father Bob with a moment of silence

as he passed away this past year after a battle with cancer. Friday ended with the “Eucharist as Nourishment” topic closing, blessed bread and wine, broken and shared with the sign of peace.

Saturday’s sessions began with a bountiful breakfast buffet at 7:30 am. Each of the five topics included songs, prayers, teaching, saint stories, witnesses, roundtable discussions, and activities, followed by a wrap-up by Father George Dunne. The Friday-Saturday program ended with the scheduled 4:00 pm Saturday evening Mass; all attendees and Orlando team members sat together in the sanctuary for the celebration of Eucharist. It was a beautiful 24 hours together as One Body in Christ!



Reconciliation: Prayer Around the Altar

Feedback from attendees was extremely positive over the 2 days, and according to the completed surveys, 100 percent would recommend the program to others. As usual, the witnesses and the saint stories were highlights for many, as team members shared their personal stories and explained why they connected with a particular saint related to their topic. All who completed the survey “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that the presentations by the speakers were challenging and thought-provoking, and helped deepen their understanding of the Eucharist.

A special thanks to Father Dominic, Father Bill, Father Lito, Christine, and Chef Mark for their unending hospitality and logistical assistance, which made for a very successful weekend.