



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL REGIONAL SEMINARY

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NEWS RELEASE

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VOLUNTEERS PLANT MORE THAN 800 PINE SEEDLINGS AT SPECIAL ST. VINCENT DE PAUL REGIONAL SEMINARY EVENT

“Seedlings for St. Vincent” supports Vocations, Conservation and Seminary

BOYNTON BEACH, FLORIDA – (December 19, 2007) – A group of 40 volunteers planted more than 800 Slash Pine Seedlings throughout the campus of St Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary December 16 as part of, “Seedlings for St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary,” promoting vocations to the priesthood, conservation and support for the seminary.

The event involved the Serra Club of South Palm Beach, other Serra Clubs around the state and area parish youth groups in the planting Florida native Slash Pine tree seedlings on the campus here. A \$25 donation to the seminary will result in the planting of a pine seedling at the event. The seminary has thus far raised more than \$(list amount) in support of Seedlings for St. Vincent, which was also the focus of the seminary’s annual holiday appeal.

“Despite the forecast of rain, the good Lord watched over us and enabled us to plant more than 800 seedlings,” said Fr. Louis Guerin, event chair and a member of the seminary’s resident faculty. “We beautified our campus and returned vegetation to the seminary’s environment while reflecting and being reminded that vocations, like seedlings, need to be cultivated and nourished in the vineyard of the Lord.”

The event began with Mass celebrated by Fr. Guerin followed by a continental breakfast and then the planting of the seedlings.

The Slash Pine tree is a native to Florida and normally grows on sandy, poorly drained flatwoods soils. A wide variety of wildlife benefit from the Slash Pine. Eagles nest in its crown, and the Red Cockaded Woodpecker excavates nests in older trees afflicted with red heart fungus. These trees generally grow straight and tall with a strong central leader.

Owned by the seven Catholic dioceses of the Province of Florida, the seminary has educated nearly 500 priests since its founding in 1963.

Captions: (Large Group Image) – The Volunteers pictured here from local parishes and the Serra Club of South Palm Beach planted more than 800 Florida Slash Pine seedlings December 16 at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, Boynton Beach, Florida. The special event was undertaken to promote vocations to the Catholic priesthood and religious life; support the seminary financially and enhance the campus environment.

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(Smaller Group Image) – This youth group from Our Lady Queen of Peace, Del Ray Beach, Florida, was part of the volunteer group that planted more than 800 Florida Slash Pine seedlings December 16 on the grounds of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, Boynton Beach. Ms. Minnie Garcia, a member of the seminary staff, led the group. The event helped to promote vocations to the Catholic priesthood and religious life, support the seminary financially and enhance the campus landscape.

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