## Fr. David L. Toups Installed as Seminary's 13th Rector

More than 350 people were present as Fr. David L. Toups, was officially installed as the 13<sup>th</sup> rector of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary. Among the concelebrants in this Mass of the Holy Spirit were the seven bishops of the state of Florida.

In his homily, Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski said, "God doesn't necessarily call the qualified, but through this institution and the leadership of Fr. Toups, God will qualify those who are called." He continued, "Fr. Toups, if these men entrusted to you will be heralds of new evangelization, then that faith must be professed, celebrated and prayed in this seminary community."

As the service continued, Fr. Toups made a Profession of Faith and took an Oath of Fidelity to adhere "will and intellect" to the teaching of the Catholic Church. When asked about his new role as the leader and "spiritual father" to the seminary community, he replied, " Tonight the bishops have officially installed me as rector/president of this great institution, a responsibility I do not take lightly. My reliance will be on the Holy Spirit and the support and prayers of our bishops, priests, faculty and staff, that I might be filled with wisdom, courage and discernment in order to be the 'spiritual father' and good shepherd I have been called to be."

The evening concluded with a cocktail reception. In addition to family, faculty and staff, many of Fr. Toups lifelong friends and former parishioners traveled across the state to share the occasion with him.