

## **Bishop John Noonan Development of the Vision**

On December 16, 2010, Most Reverend John Noonan was installed 5<sup>th</sup> bishop of the Diocese of Orlando. Since that time, Bishop Noonan has traveled from parish to parish and school to school, visiting with the many beautiful and holy people that comprise the Body of Christ in Central Florida. He has toured the churches, met with students from preschool to university, and observed the ministries that serve the impoverished, the disabled, the farmworkers, the prisoners and all who are thirsting for God.

He has learned about the Diocese of Orlando, the 93 parishes and missions, the 37 schools, the 400,000 registered Catholics, the 25 Associations of the Faithful. He has joyfully learned about you, the faithful who serve God by your vocation to holiness. Whether ordained, religious or lay ministry, you have shown Bishop Noonan the beautiful tapestry of demographics, the wide range of ministries and the many gifts you share to witness your hope and faith in Jesus Christ.

Bishop Noonan also learned about the challenges the Catholic Church is facing. The statistics show that many people who are confirmed will not continue to practice their faith in the years following. How does the Catholic Church in Central Florida reach more people with the message of salvation offered by Jesus Christ? How do we minister to families, youth, college students, seniors, adults, the hungry, and the disengaged?

Bishop Noonan is asking each of us to focus on the Mission of the Catholic Church:

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:19-20).

And the Mission of the Diocese of Orlando:

You are the light of the world. Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify our heavenly Father (Matthew 5:14,16).