



Lent 2010

Dear sisters and brothers,

Last year many of us gathered at the Tampa Convention Center for the second of the three Living Eucharist conferences in our diocese. For the past two years our attention has been on the Eucharist celebrated through the Liturgy of the Word (**Gathered**) and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (**Nourished**). This initiative has had many wonderful effects in the life of our local Church. The Spirit is at work among us.

In these challenging times in which we presently live, we know that our deepest faith and our deepest trust can only be placed in God. God touches our lives most intimately and we touch God most closely in the celebration of the Eucharist, the Mass. At the end of each Mass we are dismissed and sent forth in love to go into the world to share this Good News of our faith.

This year, on April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>, we will gather once again at the Tampa Convention Center for our third conference of the Living Eucharist initiative: **Sent**. In order to prepare ourselves for this event, and our future parish and diocesan initiatives after the conference, I have prepared the attached *Supplement* to my 2007 *Pastoral Letter* that you received in the beginning of our Living Eucharist journey.

“As such, I charge each parish in the Diocese of St. Petersburg to embrace or renew its commitment to work for greater mercy and justice in our communities and the world. Every parish must be ready to assist those who wish to serve in these ministries. In addition, the parish must promote these ministries among the faithful since these ministries manifest one of the basic reasons that parishes exist.” (*Supplement*, pg. 8) It is my hope that each of you will read it and discern in what areas your personal and communal gifts and talents can best put into practice the teachings of our faith.

Finally, I pray that we, the Church of St. Petersburg through this multi-year initiative, come to a deeper understanding and experience of Eucharist.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Lynch', written in a cursive style.

Most Reverend Robert N. Lynch  
Bishop of St. Petersburg