DIOCESE OF LINCOLN

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

June 3, 2025
Saint Charles Lawanga and Companions

To Whom It May Concern:

As St. Jerome so beautifully stated: "Ignorance of Scripture, is Ignorance of Christ." Taken another way, we could say that the more we learn about and know the Sacred Text, the more we will know and fall in love with our Savior. For this reason, I am pleased to place my full-support behind the Emmaus Institute for Biblical Studies.

The Emmaus Institute for Biblical Studies is a *de facto* private association of the Christian faithful based in the Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska. They were founded as a lay apostolate for the purposes of promoting Christian doctrine by providing opportunities for the study of Sacred Scripture. The Emmaus Institute is a 501(c)(3) and is governed by its statutes under the direction of its founder and moderator Dr. Vern Steiner. They have received my full praise and commendation.

The Emmaus Institute has been a true blessing for the Diocese of Lincoln. They provide orthodox and spiritual rich opportunities to enter more deeply into Scripture through their more formal classes on the various books of the Bible as well as their parish missions and parish events in which they provide accessible but no less deep insight into various themes present in the Word of God. The Emmaus Institute has assisted seminarians in deepening their understanding of praying with Scripture through classes they have taught at St. Gregory the Great Seminary in the Diocese of Lincoln. Vern and his staff have my utmost confidence and support.

It is my hope that other dioceses can benefit from the significant training in Scriptural theology and the deep and abiding love for our Lord that Vern and the staff of the Emmaus Institute possess.

JACOBUS D. CONLEY EPISCOPUS LINCOLNENSIS

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Rev. James D. Conley
Bishop of Lincoln

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