

## La Vera Vite Bible School – Spring 2025 Recap

The first La Vera Vite Bible School ran from **April 6 to May 30, 2025**, in **Northern Italy**, under the leadership of **Greg and Angela Jenks**, in affiliation with **Torchbearers International**. We praise the Lord for what he has done! Fourteen students from four nations, including two Italians, participated in an 8-week discipleship experience centered on the message of the **indwelling risen Christ**.

The school's roots trace back to **Major Ian Thomas**, Torchbearers' founder, and his vision for Italy. After years of preparation, prayer, and partnership—including with **Sam and Joan Fiore, Domenico and Jennifer Ripepi, Matt and Rahel Malone** and **Ebbe Beck**, —the school was launched near **Monte Baldo (Verona)**, with support from **Torchbearers Romania (Pdf)** and others.

The program included **six weeks of Bible teaching, ten days of outreach**, and a **final reflection week**. Teachers included **Greg Jenks, Paul Sartarelli, Daniel Schulte, Frank Cirone**, and **Ebbe Beck**. Outreach in **Piacenza** under the oversight of the **Ripepi family** and **Reggio Emilia** deeply impacted both students and local churches, with students leading children's and university student programs, evangelistic events, and sharing testimonies in schools and parks.

Facilities were a major challenge. The initial site in **Ferrara di Monte Baldo** while having all the requirements for housing, dining, lectures, and sport facilities was remote and isolating especially for the cold and rainy season. The outreach week, then a final week at a sunnier site in **Lumini** improved morale. Future locations will need to be more accessible and student friendly.

Key staff included **Dani and Abigail Trumpp** (Key Assistants), **Rodney Klippenstein** (Men's RA), **Abigail Walti** (Women's RA), and **Stella**, a providentially provided cook and several weekend kitchen volunteers. The small community size fostered close relationships, though students expressed a need for more personal space and independent outings.

Late publicity and limited experience affected numbers and logistics. Torchbearers Romania provided key assistance for the application and payment process. Students praised the Bible teaching, strong community, and especially the outreach. One Italian student has been accepted to **Ravencrest**, and another Italian girl from the weekend event has enrolled at **Capernwray Australia**. Several Italian churches have become aware of La Vera Vite as a valuable resource for discipling young people and warmly encouraged us.

The school laid a solid foundation for future growth. It revealed Italy's deep spiritual need and affirmed the Torchbearers model as a viable strategy for disciple-making in this context. The newly formed **La Vera Vite association** will continue building on this momentum with improved facilities, longer school terms, earlier and more personalized promotion, other teaching events, and refined mentorship and outreach plans.