



Schoenstatt of Indiana

Nothing without You, Nothing without Us!

Newsletter



Volume 12, Issue 1

P.O. Box 145, Delphi, IN 46923

January 2019

Saint Nicholas Comes to Town



On December 2nd, Saint Nicholas and his helper made a special visit to approximately 275 young Catholic children attending catechism classes at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in West Lafayette. Good old St. Nick, played by Joshua Borchert and his helper, Kirsten Borchert, gave each of the children a golden, chocolate-filled coin to teach them to remember to give alms to the poor during the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

New Year's Resolutions

There is something wonderful about turning the corner on a New Year. It is as if our Lord is saying, "Okay. I'm giving you a whole New Year...a clean slate...an opportunity to begin again. What would you like to do with it?" If we are wise, we will ask for his help in deciding what things we should put in place in the New Year and which things we might need to lovingly retire from our life.

This year, I would like to invite you to add a deeper commitment to our Mother Thrice Admirable to

your list of New Year resolutions. There are so many ways to grow in our Covenant of Love with our dear Mother Thrice Admirable.

Here are just a few ideas you might want to prayerfully consider:

- ✓ Attend the monthly Schoenstatt Holy Hour at St. Tom's the third Tuesday of every month at 7 pm and listen to Father Cassian's marvelous homilies on how to better live our Covenant.
- ✓ Learn what it means to make a Covenant of Love with our Blessed Mother and/or how to establish a home shrine by attending upcoming sessions offered by Janine Reklaitis and Rosemary Speaker. More to come.
- ✓ Learn how to join or start a Schoenstatt singles', couples', men's, women's or mothers' group to help you to continue to grow in every day sanctity by contacting Janine Reklaitis at jrek27@gmail.com.
- ✓ Offer your time and talent as a full or auxiliary member of the Board of Directors by contacting Carole DiFabio at csdmi@aol.com.
- ✓ Invite our Pilgrim Mother to visit your home through the traveling shrine. Simply contact Suzanne Gardiner at suzannemarieg@gmail.com.



✓ Pray the Rosary every day! "The Rosary is the weapon for these times."

Padre Pio

Like Father, Dare to Give Yourself to the Church!

To make your tax-deductible donation, write a check to Schoenstatt of IN, Inc., and mail it to P.O. Box 145, Delphi, IN 46923.

President's Corner

Just a Little Yes!

Watch for a new development below ☺
Dear Schoenstatt Family and Friends,

A very blessed New Year to you and yours from the Schoenstatt of Indiana Board. May we each open our hearts to the guidance and wishes of our Blessed Mother in 2019. She has quite a mission for the world and Schoenstatt is a part of it – to renew the world in Christ through Mary. In our Covenant of Love, our Mother Thrice Admirable takes us with her into the Heart of her Son. As the Mother of God, celebrated January 1st, she is always ready to lead us by way of the Holy Spirit to walk as children trusting in the Father's Divine Providence, right to the center of the Trinity.

This Trust in Divine Providence is one of Schoenstatt's basic building blocks. Father Joseph Kentenich, our founder, would discern God's Will and the way to go forward by these signs: 1) the voice of the times we are in; 2) the voice of the soul; 3) the voice of the order of being* (who one is in a specific family and community, with a specific personality and talents, etc....) (page 20, *200 Questions about Schoenstatt*).

To aid in the task of discernment, Father Kentenich relied much on the "law of the open door" with trust that God would close any door that would lead the movement astray. Such has been the method used by the Schoenstatt Board since its beginning in 2005. Door after door has opened: we were given land, were incorporated, received tax exempt status, purchased more land, had the land consecrated by Bishop Higi, offered days of reflection and events, had our Stations of the Cross dedicated by Bishop Doherty, bought yet more land, made plans for a big center and a Schoenstatt shrine, made plans for a smaller Phase 1 and the NEW DEVELOPMENT – just this past January 8th, we met with Doug Zimpher, Rob Galbraith and Justin Sorber at Keystone Architecture in downtown Lafayette to begin in earnest the design and promotion of a Schoenstatt Welcome Center for our Wayside Shrine land in Delphi, Indiana.

Each of these phases has required "just a little yes" from many who love our Blessed Mother. Each "little yes" prompts the response of a great yes from



Doug Zimpher, Rob Galbraith and Justin Sorber of Keystone Architecture of Lafayette meet with Schoenstatt Board Members, Carole DiFabio, Julie Haskell and Suzanne Gardiner, to discuss plans for a Welcome Center at the Wayside Shrine in Delphi, IN

our Jesus, Lord and Savior, who expands the results beyond what we ever imagined if we are moving in His Will.

We hope that in this year of 2019 you will consider giving your "little yes" to our Mother as we pray for Hearts, Funds and a Schoenstatt Daughter Shrine: 1) Hearts open to letting our mother deeper into our lives through a Covenant of Love and/or a Home Shrine; 2) Funds – that you will suggest a donor to us or a person capable of heading a capital campaign fund or donate funds yourself by sending a check or epay through your bank to Schoenstatt of Indiana, Inc, PO Box 145, Delphi, IN 46923; 3) Daughter Shrine – prayers, prayers and more prayers until our campaign is up and running.



We owe a debt of gratitude to Eileen Thompson who said "a little yes" and has taken over the editing of this newsletter. We appreciate her "order of being" ☺ that brings her love and talents to us at this time.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and please be watching for the "little yes" that our Mother Thrice Admirable is asking of you.

With joy and in our Covenant,
Carole DiFabio, President

Queen of New Beginnings

By Carole DiFabio



embraced by us all.

Greetings in this New Year of 2019. The Board of Schoenstatt of Indiana has recently crowned our Mother Thrice Admirable Queen of New Beginnings, an idea presented to Julie Haskell and quickly

What new beginnings? What does a crowning mean? Every day is a new beginning, and we want to take advantage of all the graces offered us each day, but for Schoenstatt of Indiana we have several reasons to crown her with this title:

1. A renewal of opportunities to deepen our attachment to our Blessed Mother as the one to guide us closer to her Son through the Covenant of Love and a Home Shrine dedication
2. New, concrete endeavors to move forward in building on our Shrine land
3. A new board president, Carole DiFabio
4. New members on our board who bring new and fresh perspectives. We welcome:
 - Marie and Todd Harrington, who said a “little yes” – make that a “big yes” – to being our new Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer
 - Eileen Thompson who will help with development and edit our main newsletter
 - Doc Meadows who contributes his photography skills and will update our Facebook page
 - Kirsten Borchert who will bring the voice of the young adults to our decisions
5. New groups to begin meeting in this year
6. New outreach to our Catholic schools
7. New Pilgrim Mother circles (a group among whom the Pilgrim MTA travels to visit a family for a week and bring her special graces. (Contact Suzanne Gardiner if you would like to be part of a circle).
8. And more of which are not yet aware but will welcome as the Holy Spirit inspires

What does crowning our Mother Thrice Admirable mean? It is a custom of great meaning in the Schoenstatt spirituality which accompanies a

special intention or is part of a special time of growth, both of which are applicable in 2019.

The first Schoenstatt crowning is described in point 54 of *200 Questions about Schoenstatt* by Father Jonathan Niehaus.

“The MTA was crowned Queen of Schoenstatt on December 10, 1939 as a plea that she protect Schoenstatt in those dark days of Hitler’s rule in Germany. The crown was a gift of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary, and Fr. Kentenich himself did the crowning. It was the conviction of the Schoenstatt Family that the MTA fulfilled her part of the bargain, protecting the Shrine and Original Schoenstatt from any serious damage during World War II.”

This crowning also changed the official name of our Mother Thrice Admirable and Queen of Schoenstatt. Because of so many victories through this crowning, the official name of our Mother was changed by Father Kentenich once again on June 2, 1966 to Mother Thrice Admirable Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt. Many of us with Home Shrines have also crowned our MTA in either thanksgiving for a certain grace or in petition for a special need. We are hoping to see many graces and victories from this new crowning.

Also, we want to make it known to you that you can buy this book in either paperback or on Kindle through Amazon. It can help answer any questions you may have and deepen your walk through Mary to her Son.

Speaking of New Beginnings

Hello Schoenstatt Family! Thank you for taking the time to read this first edition of the Schoenstatt of Indiana Newsletter. You may have noticed a few changes to the look and feel of this newsletter, as well as a name change. In the past, this publication was called “Schoenstatt of Indiana Pilgrim Mother Newsletter” because it was originally designed to serve the mission of the MTA Rosary Campaign.

However, the newsletter’s mission has expanded beyond the Rosary Campaign which is why the Board decided to change the name to more accurately reflect the expanded mission. We hope you like the new look, and please feel free to provide your feedback on how we can make it even better by writing me at eileen.indiana@gmail.com.

Miracle of the Holy Night Play at the Advent Cookie Express

On December 16, 2018, members of the Schoenstatt of Indiana family gathered in Newman Hall at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in West Lafayette, Indiana to recount the events of the “Miracle of the Holy Night” wherein Schoenstatt Sister of Mary, Sister Mariengard wrote a letter to the Christ Child at Christmas asking for the release of their founder, Father Kentenich, from Dachau where he was imprisoned during World War II.

Carolyn McKinnis directed the play while six of her children dramatized these events: Margaret, the narrator; Madeline, Sr. Mariengard; David, Father Kentenich; John, the prison guard; Timothy, the messenger; Joseph, the scribe. And, of course, Mother Superior was played by Schoenstatt Sister of Mary, Sister Ann Astell. After the play, participants enjoyed a cookie walk and the children received a visit and some gold coins (representing the Holy Eucharist) from Saint Nicholas played by Joshua Borchert.



Margaret narrates the story as her siblings recreate the events.



Sr. Mariengard writes a letter to the Christ child asking for the release of Fr. Kentenich from prison.



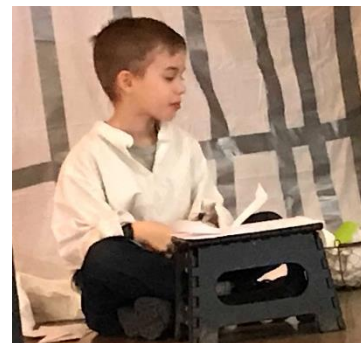
Mother Superior receives the letter from Sr. Mariengard and calls for her messenger to deliver it to Fr. Kentenich.



The messenger delivers the letter to the prison guard, whom Fr. Kentenich had befriended while in Dachau.



Fr. Kentenich receives the letter with joy and prepares his response to his wonderful Schoenstatt family on the outside.



Fr. Kentenich dictates his response to his scribe, so his handwriting could not be used to identify him as the author.



Sr. Mariengard and Mother Superior receive Fr. Kentenich's letter and read it with amazement!

My Dear Little Mariengard,

I shall grant your wish when your heart and the hearts of our entire Family has become a blossoming Garden of Mary. Thus the fulfillment of your request, for the 'miracle of the Holy Night' is placed in your hands and in the hands of all Schoenstatt children.

Lovingly,
The Christ Child