

Schoenstatt of Indiana Rosary Campaign Newsletter

Vol. 3
Issue 3

Honoring our Mother Thrice Admirable and her husband, Joseph, on this May 1st, 2010 for Saint Joseph the Worker, First Saturday Marian Devotions and the beginning of the Month of Mary

Please print this and put a copy in your shrine bag to share with those who have no computer.



Priestly and free – he loves me!

Schoenstatt theme for the Year for Priests

100th anniversary of Father Kentenich's ordination, July 8th, 2010

see the last article on being a free and priestly people and allowing Mary to educate us

Continued Easter blessings to you all as we enter the month of May. It is a month to truly rejoice in the love and guidance our dearest Mother offers us. May we continue to be open to her efforts to educate us and bring us more deeply into the Holy Trinity. With Pentecost around the corner, may we especially allow the Holy Spirit to dwell within us, purify us and change us into instruments wanting only to do the will of the Father, in imitation of our Jesus. May we become little Jesus' and little Mary's and thus bring a greater glory and joy to the Blessed Trinity.

Since there was no April newsletter last month's celebration of Divine Mercy will be mentioned in our dear President's column and Sally Faderan will have an Easter reflection for us. Our May 22nd Day of Recollection will be mentioned, as well as ideas about creating a home shrine. Enjoy and pass this on.

Please continue to pray for Father Langsch's complete recovery and for one of our Board Members, Nan Ross, who had brain surgery over a week ago and who is responsible for our lovely flyers. Email me if you would like more details or have comments. In the Joy of Easter, Carole DiFabio csdmi@aol.com or 765-538-2979

SIMPLY SCHOENSTATT...from Janine - President

*"If you trust the way God shows
Whether up or down it goes
It will lead you **to God's mercy**
Riding on, yes, riding on!..."* from Sister Emilie's Song

Dear and faithful friends,

How striking are the similarities between the Divine Mercy Devotion, which we celebrated this past month, with its refrain "Jesus, I trust in you" and our Schoenstatt spirituality with its emphasis on confidence and trust in Divine Providence. I remember vividly that Father Gerold Langsch made that comparison in a retreat last July. Of course, today it is all the more vivid because of Sunday's (April 11th) feast of Divine Mercy. This same type of refrain was echoed by Sister Ann Astell in the little prayer booklet which she prepared for that occasion: *"In troubled times, you tell us, "Child, be confident. Father leads!" Teach us childlike trust in the Heavenly Father, whose divine providence watches over every detail of our lives..."* Just as the "signature" phrase '**Jesus, I trust in you**' is totally timeless, so is our Schoenstatt childlike trust in Divine Providence! We need to keep this in mind as we go about our daily duties always and evermore.

AND NOW IT IS SPRINGTIME and the "Alleluias" are once again in the forefront. We board members are energized and ready to go on several fronts.

We will be improving our web-site soon, with more pictures and information. Check it out and let us know your ideas for making it more interesting and useful:

www.schoenstattindiana.org

Plans are underway for our annual Spring-Cleanup at the Wayside Shrine in Delphi. As always, we will be enhancing the grounds with new flowers and shrubs. Stop by, make a pilgrimage, in early May to pray and enjoy the peaceful setting. It is located just north of State route 25 on Hwy 421.

ANNOUNCING AGAIN: Our Day of Recollection on Saturday, May 22nd on the topic "Our Mutual Covenant of Love." Father Gerold Langsch and Sister Ann Astell will be in town to lead this event! They will be giving talks on this stimulating topic, with themes that will be appropriate for anyone new to Schoenstatt or for those more seasoned. So, please underline that date on your calendar and continue your personal preparations. SEE ATTACHMENT for schedule. As mentioned earlier there will be an opportunity that weekend for Home Shrine Dedications as well. See guidelines in the SCHOENSTATT TIDBITS section

In conclusion, let's all continue to strive together. If we cooperate even in a tiny, feeble way to the Capital of Grace, Our Blessed Mother will aid us and do the rest.

In Jesus and Mary, Janine

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MAY 22nd will be our Spring Day of Recollection

at St. Lawrence – Thank you, Father Dan.

9am-3pm including Holy Mass

with Father Langsch and Sister Ann Astell.

See second attachment for the schedule and the titles of the talks

THE TRAVELING IMAGE OF OUR MOTHER THRICE ADMIRABLE

Our MTA has blessed almost all of the Lafayette parishes with her presence before the end of 2009.

In 2010 these are the places she has visited. Thank you Mother Mary

January **St. Augustine Parish**

February **St. Joseph's College**

March **St Joseph in Delphi**

April **St. Elizabeth's nursing home in Delphi**

May **St. Joseph's in Delphi for the Day of Recollection**

June -

July - **Sacred Heart in Fowler**

**Are you interested in making the
Covenant of Love
or having a HOME SHRINE dedicated?
questions? contact Janine Reklaitis at**

jrek27@gmail.com

**A DVD series is available to help you prepare
May 22nd would be a perfect day for this**

**PLEASE JOIN US
for our Schoenstatt Rosary and Benediction
on Thursday, May 20th
7pm
St. Elizabeth Chapel
prayers and meditation time**

THE EASTER SYMBOLS AND MESSAGE

Sally D. Faderan April 5, 2010

Easter Sunday is "the Great Sunday, the "feast of feasts" according to our Catechism. We prepare for it during Lent and Holy Week, and we welcome our brothers and sisters who receive the Sacraments of Christian Initiation. After the forty days of penance, sacrifices, and meditations of the suffering and Passion of Jesus, we awaken to the glorious joy of Jesus' resurrection! The more deeply the sorrow of Good Friday had gripped us, the greater the heights of rejoicing fill our hearts.

Now, it is not one of those holidays that send us waving banners and striking the band to some martial tunes and soon forget. This rejoicing is a spiritual banquet that fills our daily experience. Pope Benedict invites us to reflect on the symbols of Easter.

First, there is light. We started the Vigil in a dark church and only when the Easter candle was lighted, the church illuminated, and each one of us lighted the candles held by the people next to us, and, in a larger scale, all the churches in the world, were flooded with the pure Light Who is Jesus! When Jesus' resurrected no witness was there, perhaps because no mortal could have borne the blazing power of it all. Remember that at Jesus' Transfiguration, the apostles who were privileged to be at Mt. Tabor were dazzled by the powerful brightness that surrounded Jesus. Of course, the glory of the Father and Jesus' own glory together with the Light of the Holy Spirit made one amazingly stupendous brightness that the human eyes are not capable of looking at. Pope Benedict says that Jesus, Who is pure light, causes a new creation to be born in the midst of the old. If our hearts are on fire for love of Him we, too, can be "bright stars lighting up our time." (Pope Benedict)

The next symbol is water. Jesus baptism is described in a striking way in Pope Benedict's "Jesus of Nazarene." In

iconic images, Jesus' Baptism depicts the water as "a liquid tomb, having the form of a dark cavern, the iconographic symbol of Hades (hell). St. Cyril writes, "When he went down into the waters, he bound the 'strong man'" (that is, the devil). The Holy Father writes, "In his Baptism, he, who because of his equality with God, can take upon himself all the sins of the world and suffers through it all to the end." Baptism is not only cleansing but a new birth. We receive it, and with Christ, we descend into the sea of death so as to rise again as new creatures. Spring water is pure, sparkling, and bubbling. Through the sacraments of baptism and the Holy Eucharist, the Living Water renews us, refreshes us, fills us with Jesus' light, and helps us to be instruments that help us to animate the lukewarm and stony hearts, revive drooping spirits, and help build the kingdom of God by our words and actions.

When a mother is expecting her baby, her joyful waiting reaches its climax at her birth-giving. As the phrase goes, "Nothing good that is not wrought with pain," and so it applies to this example. When the baby is born, the parents' joy spreads to everyone they know. A basketball team who wins a championship has known the pains of hard work, of a series of successes and defeats. What is the reaction when they win the Big One? The victors let out a loud collective cheer with an uncontrolled jumping up and down. The spirit lifts the joy-filled person upwards as though levitating. To Pope Benedict, the third symbol of Easter is singing. All over the Christian world, the realization that the darkness of the past has been replaced with Jesus' glorious victory over death and sin and moves the faithful to break out in song: "**This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**" It is the song of the saved, the new song of the risen ones: **ALLELUIA!**

The message in succeeding Gospel readings during the Easter season is Jesus' appearing to his disciples and to the men on their way to Emaus. It tells us that our Risen Lord continues to assure us that He is always near us. We meet him in the sacraments. We may not know it but He is closest to us when we are in our deepest pain. He is there in the people to whom we may have given a word of good cheer, or aided with an act of charity. He knows each one of us and patiently stands waiting at the doorstep of our hearts. We pray always, adore Him fervently, and ask Him, "Lord, stay with me!"

"May the Lord bless us and keep us! May the Lord let His Face shine upon us and be gracious to us! May the Lord look upon us kindly and give us peace! Amen.
(Nm. 6: 24-26)

MAY SCHOENSTATT TIDBIT - SUGGESTIONS FOR DEDICATING A HOME SHRINE

(ABBREVIATED FROM: *Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign Manual*, Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary, Rockport, Texas)

- Once a person or family has sealed the Covenant of Love, the Blessed Mother may be invited to establish herself in the home by erecting a home shrine
- Name your home shrine by reflecting on the Blessed Mother in your life and determining its mission in your home
- Obtain an image of the Bl. Mother in the size and frame of your choice. Choose a crucifix, a picture of Fr. Joseph Kentenich and other symbols that are significant to your family for your home shrine.
- Establish date and time of home shrine dedication
- Prepare spiritually by offering the Blessed Mother concrete prayers and contributions to the Capital of Grace
- Formulate your personal prayer which will be a part of the ceremony. Your prayer is very important and it should include your thoughts and desires. It is a good idea to ask your family to join in formulating this prayer.
- On the day of the Home Shrine Ceremony, prepare an altar by placing there the image of the Blessed Mother and your other symbols. This picture will be hung later in the ceremony.
- You may be asked to tell why you have invited the Blessed Mother into your home and you may choose to take her to each room, consecrating that room with a short prayer.
- Once the Blessed Mother spiritually dwells in your home, you will receive the same graces as in the Original Shrine, therefore, your Home Shrine is a special place of grace and should become the center of prayer for your family.
- Welcome the blessed Mother into your home and be open to her guidance as Mother and Educator of your family.

WHY IS MARIAN EDUCATION IMPORTANT
(for forming firm, free and priestly personalities?)

from 200 Questions About Schoenstatt p. 86

It is a fundamental principle of covenant pedagogy that, when God leads us to a concrete covenant partner, it is because that person will be a primary instrument in leading us to heaven. This is true of marriage. It also true of Mary's role in Schoenstatt and the Church.

Schoenstatt therefore emphasizes not only the importance of covenant education, but also of Marian education. The more that we come to know and love Mary, the more our soul is enabled to live in covenant. The qualities of her person – fully redeemed, Christ-imbued, listening to the voice of the Father through the action of the Holy Spirit – become more our own as we grow closer to the “blessed among women” (Lk 1,28.42)

In educational conferences in 1950, Father Kentenich pointed out various reasons why Marian education is important. Primary among them is:

“Marian devotion is not merely to be used as a principle of form, but as an outstanding forming principle of all our education”

In other words, personal relationship with Mary gives education not only a form, but a soul, a person whose heart and soul reaches out to the heart and soul of those who love her. If this happens, it leads to a quantum leap in education. The person is then educated – not in some superficial, hit-and-miss way, but in a way that reaches the depths of the whole person.

As Father Kentenich moves from this thought, he points out three further benefits of an education based on a covenant with Mary. He says, “It gives us:

1. *a personal openness for the divine and a receptivity, sensitivity and sense for the values of God*
2. *a great objective ideal which answers the great difficulties our times have in understanding the human person and living in a fully human way*
3. *the surety that we can live this ideal.”*

All in all, forming of the type of Christian needed on the “new shore of the times” is difficult, if not practically impossible in our depersonalized and secularized age without a strong Marian education.

IN THIS YEAR FOR PRIESTS

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR ALL PRIESTS,
especially those who serve us in our parishes and in Schoenstatt

AS ALWAYS

check out

podcasts at <http://schoenstattofohio.org/>

<http://www.schoenstatt.de/>

<http://schoenstattindiana.org/>

<http://www.schoenstatt-texas.org>