



Vol. 3
Issue 7

**Honoring our Mother Thrice Admirable
on this feast of her birthday, September 8th, 2010**

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



“Take this picture of the Blessed Mother and give it a place of honor in your home. Then your home will become a little shrine in which the picture of grace will mediate many graces, create a holy family atmosphere, and form holy family members.”

- Father Joseph Kentenich

**A Gift of Gratitude and a Solemn Pledge – Carlos Cantú on page 2
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Devoted to Mary – Sally Faderan on page 4**

September 10th, 2010
**60th anniversary of the start of the Rosary Campaign in Brazil by
Deacon John Pozzobon.**

This gift to our Mother Thrice Admirable was multiplied from one to twenty-five traveling shrines in 1984. One of these 25 traveling MTA shrines came to the United States. Today there over 200,000 pilgrim MTA's visiting 14 million persons worldwide with the special graces from the Original Shrine in Vallendar, Germany. **Our Mother loves to come visit each family as she did her cousin Elizabeth and bring them the graces** they need. May each of us remember to thank our MTA on her birthday for the gift of these visits and, as a gift of love to her, to deepen our love and reverence for her, especially during her stay in our home. Put her in a place of honor, possibly bring her flowers, say the family rosary and trust in her love and guidance. She wants to form us into her Son, Jesus.

Happy Birthday, Mother Thrice Admirable!

**Google Schoenstatt rosary campaign - our Indiana wayside shrine is one of the pictures on the home page
Kathy Smith and family are in pictures of 2008 Journey of Love**

Order books and shrines from this site

Recommended related reading: A Hero Today Not Tomorrow (Uriburu) and Conquering All Hearts (Soros)

Recommended new reading: Brushstrokes of a Father, Vol. 1,2 (Niehaus)

September 15th, 1968
Father Kentenich died
after saying Holy Mass on the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows

In thanksgiving for Father's life, his example of holiness and fatherliness and the 13 exile years he spent in Milwaukee, Wisconsin
find below words of Pope John Paul II concerning our founder and our Schoenstatt movement
put together by Carlos Cantu from Texas for our Leadership Convention this past July.
Take special note of the profound words about the fullness of our Christian calling.
see article on next page

A Gift of Gratitude and of a Solemn Pledge.

We offer you, (Father Kentenich), our GRATITUDE for the undeserved gift that you, our great father and founder, a saint and prophet for our time, lived in our midst. Your life of genuine love and heroic suffering have become for us a holy legacy, a source of grace and blessing for all generations to come.

With grateful hearts we offer you our Solemn Pledge of loyalty to your exile heritage: to become worthy heirs of your exile legacy, discover it more fully and endeavor to realize its message for us. We want to preserve it in its purest form and give it on to future generations. Your exile legacy reveals to us a threefold message:

1. **Dilexit Ecclesiam** - He loved the Church: The realization of our founder's mission for the Church.
2. **The home shrine:** a new source of grace flowing from our founder's exile place in Wisconsin into the entire world.
3. **A new understanding** of the Father, child and community image.

We are aware that your exile legacy is a special gift from God which he entrusted to us, the Schoenstatt Family of the USA, as a holy task. It should become a blessing for the entire International Schoenstatt Family, and even for the whole world and Church. Let us now look to Rome, Sept. 20, 1985, and hear once again the words of Pope John Paul II as he addressed the members of the Apostolic Movement of Schoenstatt:

"You have come together from many nations in order to give thanks for the gift which God made to you in the person of Fr. Kentenich. Through the living remembrance of his person and his message you wanted to renew your spirit in order to live on and proclaim his spiritual legacy, in order to become a spiritual family more and more, a family which lives from the strength of the founding charism and, in this way, actualizes its mission in the service of the Church and world.

In the prayer for the commemorative year you implored for 'the grace of creative loyalty to (your) father and founder's prophetic mission.'

You are called to participate in the grace which your founder received, and to offer it to the entire Church. For the founder's charism proves to be an experience offered by the spirit which was passed on to his followers, that they might live accordingly, guard it, deepen and constantly develop it; and that in the community and for the good of the Church, who herself grows and lives from the ever new loyalty to her Founder.

If you form your lives faithfully and generously according to this covenant, you will be led to the fullness of your Christian calling.

Employ all your powers so that these high goals will increasingly become a reality!"

On Sept. 9, 2004, in connection to the blessing of the Matri Ecclesiae Shrine in Rome, Pope John Paul II said:

"Schoenstatt's endeavors are particularly directed to the family as the fundamental cell of the Church, of culture and society. Following your founder's advice, you give the Cross and the picture of Mary a place of honor in your homes, so that they become 'shrines of the Church' where Mary works as Mother and Educator. So Mary continues to come to the people as the 'Pilgrim Mother of God,' that they may experience her motherly help and love."

As we reflect on the past, and as we look toward the future, it is very clear that what we are being called to do is to go forward with our Father and Founder and his mission for the Church and world. Our being here today is connected to Fr. Kentenich. The meaning of his life was to be Father.

In his REFLECTIONS, Fr. Nicolas Schwizer says: ***"Throughout his life we can see how the grace of paternity, which was given to him by God, grew and developed. He felt it and he would say that his being Father was the core of his personality and mission. God gave us a Founder whose personal charism was to radiate the face of a father. God the Father gave us a living reflection of his own paternity.***

By studying the life of Father Kentenich, we will be able to discover another essential characteristic of his personality: before men, he was and always wanted to be father; but before God, he always felt as a child, the smallest child.

The mature man is both child and father. He is like a bridge by which God wants to give Himself to us. That is the ideal which Father preached and the ideal which he embodied throughout his long life.

We have to identify ourselves with him and with his work. His exemplary life gives him the authority to be our model.....because he embodies best what Schoenstatt endeavors to accomplish: to create a new man in a new community. We must be faithful to his spirit, faithful to his principles, faithful to his mission. Only in this way will we be his genuine children who can further his work."

Thank you, Carlos, for sharing your words with us.

Please pray for the beautification of Father Kentenich as we celebrate the anniversary of his death.

*Within this experience effected by the spirit from which your Movement came into being, **the Covenant of Love** – which the founder and the first generation sealed with God's Mother in the Schoenstatt Shrine on October 18, 1914 – takes a central position.*

SIMPLY SCHOENSTATT...from Janine – President

Dear Schoenstatt Family and Friends,

These E-Newsletters sent by Carole enrich us immensely. She has a gift for using the Marian Feast Days we celebrate for educating and enlightening and broadening our horizons. Please meditate and let your hearts soar in gratitude as you read the selection she has chosen for us on this joyous feast of Our Lady's Birthday.

My task in these columns is more concrete: to keep you updated as to our current work for Our Mother and Queen. So, what's new?

AUGUST 27. On a warm and somewhat windy early evening, 37 people gathered at our Wayside Shrine in Delphi for the Rosary and Holy Mass. Sister Ann Astell introduced our celebrant Schoenstatt Father Johnson Nellissery. Father Johnson, who is originally from India, will be helping his Schoenstatt brethren in Waukesha for the next 3 to 5 years. He gave a stirring homily related to St. Monica, reminding us to be motherly by always opening our hearts wide to the needs of others. He also said that it is necessary not only to pray unceasingly but to also work unceasingly, to labor without tiring, for Our Lady.

After Mass, many of us "adjourned," in the company of Father Johnson and Sister Ann, for a delicious supper at the Stonehouse Restaurant in Delphi.

AUGUST 28. The Schoenstatt of Indiana, Inc. Board members met for their monthly meeting in Delphi. This one was also the special third annual meeting. According to our by-laws, the president and treasurer (Bill Strasburger) submit their reports summarizing the past year's (Aug. 2009- Aug. 2010) activities and financial status. Highlights for this period included:

- the October 2, 2009 Crowning of our MTA as Queen of our Hearts by our Bishop William Higi (emeritus) at St. Mary's Cathedral;
- the purchase of 2 additional acres of land in January for the future site of our Daughter shrine, guesthouse, and retreat center. (We now have about 12 acres in Delphi.)

- the dedication of 22 Covenants of Love and 4 Home Shrines during our annual Day of Recollection which was held at St. Lawrence parish in Lafayette with Father Gerold Langsch and Sr. Ann Astell as speakers.
- the participation of board members at the Leadership Convention in Waukesha from July 8-11. As you read in the last Newsletter, we were inspired and energized during this weekend and returned with the goal to add more Covenants and Home Shrines in Indiana.
- Our Lady has already been preparing the way by traveling monthly via her large image and making her home in various parishes in our area.
- the Development Committee was especially productive during the past year. Rosemary Speaker, chair, Julie Haskell, Barbara Strasburger (along with Sr. Ann and Suzanne Gardiner, when available) wrote a grant, attended grant writing workshops, met with our architect, and more recently, met with the Mayor and Canal board president to promote our plans.

On that day, August 28, we also lovingly bid "adieu" to our spiritual director Sister Ann as she departs for a year long period at Princeton University. In the meantime, we are working ever more closely with our other spiritual director Sister Barbara. As always, we keep Father Gerold informed and he regularly sends us his blessings.

NOW WE LOOK FORWARD to the *first anniversary celebration* of our Crowning of Mary as Queen of Our Hearts. Details as to the date, in October, and to the location will be emailed to you by Carole very soon.

Again, I conclude in thanksgiving to each and every one of you for your prayers and financial support. IN OUR CHILDLIKENESS, let us continue to imitate Mary Our Mother as we strive to do the will of God Our Father.

Cheerfully, your president, Janine Reklaitis

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 16th will be our Schoenstatt Holy Hour

at St. Elizabeth's Chapel at 7 pm

Please join us for reflections, quiet adoration, song, rosary and benediction.

NEXT SCHOENSTATT OF INDIANA, INC BOARD MEETING

**Saturday, September 18, 2010 9:00 a.m.
at St. Thomas Aquinas**

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DEEPLY DEVOTED TO MARY

By Sally D. Faderan

September 8 is the birthday of Mary and we especially honor her by hearing mass, receiving Holy Communion, and praying special devotions to her. As I was reading this book, "Mary and the Fathers of the Church", I was fascinated by the very early Fathers who loved her and wrote strong words in defense of her immaculate conception, her Virgin Motherhood, and even this account about how her parents, Joachim and Anna, had agonized over their sterility, and, thereby, not having a child. It came to a point when Joachim went away and bore his sense of inadequacy as Anna struggled with the stigma that in their time was attached to couples who don't bear a child. Both parents prayed hard and begged God to grant them a child. God intervened and sent an angel separately to them.

To Anna, the angel said, "*Anna! Anna! The Lord heard your prayer; you shall conceive and bear, and your offspring shall be spoken of in the whole world.*"

To Joachim the angel said, "*Joachim! Joachim! The Lord has heard your prayer. Go down from here; behold your wife, Anna, shall conceive.*"

It is said that Mary was born on the seventh month, and was named Mary. On her seventh birthday she was presented officially to the people of Israel. Attending the celebration were the priests, the scribes, the elders, and the people. The priest pronounced this blessing on Mary:

"O God of our Father, bless this child and give her a name eternally renowned among generations. . . Look upon this child and bless her with a supreme blessing which cannot be superseded."

That prayer must have rested upon Mary and we are beneficiaries of her graces, her love, and her care. Through the centuries many holy people had received the gift of extraordinary devotion to her. We, too, are beneficiaries of her blessings and graces. I chose to share about the lives of three saintly men whose love for Mary rewarded them with amazing graces. They are:

FR. JOSEPH KENTENICH:

Founder of the Schoenstatt spirituality, his love for the Blessed Mother began when his own mother, who seemed to have been in dire straits, consecrated him as a young boy before the statue of the Virgin and asked her to take care of her. He was nurtured by the Pallotine Fathers. His faith in Divine Providence and absolute trust in the power of the Blessed Mother moved him to impart these realities to the young seminarians entrusted to him soon after he became a priest. We remember him for inspiring the boys to a high standard of piety, or love for God and for Mary. They made the very first Covenant of Love to Mary in the Shrine of Schoenstatt, offering their highest ideals, their gifts, even the gift of their lives, to Mary for the conversion of the world. The primary grace that Our Lady gives in Schoenstatt is the conversion of hearts. Today replicas of that Shrine are found in the United States and every continent in the world. A great number belong to the Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign in our area and in every state of the country. The cause for Fr Kentenich's canonization is underway. Visit this website: www.schoenstatt.de for more information.

(See Sally's wonderful tributes to **ARCHBISHOP FULTON B. SHEEN** and **SAINT PADRE PIO** in the complete article as a separate attachment to this mailing.)

submitted with love for Mary, Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt on her birthday
and dedicated to our Founder Father Kentenich

by Carole DiFabio.

Contact csdmi@aol.com

with questions, corrections or articles you would like to submit