



Vol. 3
Issue 8

**Honoring our Mother Thrice Admirable on this feast of
Our Lady of the Rosary, October 7th, 2010
and in this, our covenant month**

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



***Anniversary of our crowning Mary Queen of our Hearts. Oct 9th,
Holy Rosary 8:00 Holy Mass 8:30 St Joseph's in Delphi***

“My Queen, my Mother, I give myself entirely to you and to show my devotion to you, I consecrate to you this day my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my entire self without reserve. As I am your own, my good Mother, guard me and defend me as your property and possession. Amen

SIMPLY SCHOENSTATT...from Janine – President

Dear Schoenstatt Family and Friends,

October is finally here! It is always a spectacular month with its golden leaves and amber-colored berries. It is also another month which we dedicate to our Blessed Mother. It is no coincidence that this month is associated with many Pro-Life activities, such as Respect Life Sunday (Oct. 3) and the 40 Days for Life. Schoenstatt is so family-oriented, so focused on imitating our Mother who brings her Holy Child to us. All of this spills over naturally into our concern for the safety of the unborn and for pregnant mothers. This is an intention for which we can fast and pray with great fervor, especially as we pray the Rosary today and every day.

The month of October truly reminds me not so much of the end of summer, but of the energy of autumn. Autumn means new bulbs to be planted, copious nuts to keep the squirrels crazily busy, happy children trotting around with their bursting backpacks. Am I being too idyllic and optimistic? No! A golden autumn has brought us a golden crown. Last year, October 3 brought us the glorious crowning of Mary as Queen of our Hearts. Coronation implies a renewal. It implies an energetic recommitment to our Covenant of Love with Mary. This year, on Saturday, October 9th, once again, Bishop William Higi, our Bishop emeritus, will help us celebrate the **first anniversary** of that crowning. This will take place at St. Joseph's Church in Delphi, starting at 8:00 a.m. with a Rosary, followed by Mass at 8:30 a.m. We will also have the privilege of having Schoenstatt Father Johnson Nellisery with us. We will conclude this beautiful anniversary morning with prayers outdoors at the Wayside Shrine.

In Schoenstatt spirituality, crowns have been offered to Mary in petition and in gratitude. We remember the oft-told story of Father Kentenich and other prisoners in Dachau who were near starvation. They secretly offered Mary a crown with the title of "Bread Queen." Sure enough, soon after, food packages from families were permitted for the prisoners. Our Blessed Mother took perfect care of them!

Our needs may be just as dire... We implore her for a dying father, for an alcoholic husband, for jobs for our relatives. In these circumstances, it is fitting to offer Mary the gift of a spiritual crown. Crownings always imply confidence in her Queenship. Crownings always include an element of surrender to her: a giving of ourselves. Last year, we surrendered our hearts, along with all of our needs, to her. This year, our emphasis will be on thanksgiving. Our motivation will be our gratitude for all the blessings we have received from her.

At last year's Coronation, Sister Ann prayed a beautiful prayer after Holy Communion. This was its concluding paragraph:

"We give you our hearts, that you may be the Queen of our hearts. Accept the crown we offer you this day as a sign of our love for you, our surrender to you, and make us, in return, a living crown for our Lord, as Isaiah prophesied long ago: 'You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of your Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God' (Isaiah 62:3). Amen

(Her full meditation prayer can be found in vol. 2, issue 4 of this E-Newsletter.)

COME, Dear Family, COME AND CELEBRATE THIS JOYOUS ANNIVERSARY WITH US ON OCTOBER 9TH. HOW HAPPY JESUS WILL BE TO SEE YOU!

Cheerfully, your president, Janine Reklaitis

OCTOBER 18th, 2010 COVENANT DAY

What is October 18, 1914 and why is it considered the “first milestone”?

Event. October 14, 1914 is the founding day of Schoenstatt. On that day Fr. Kentenich and the founding generation of boys gathered in the old St. Michael’s chapel in Schoenstatt, Germany and made a covenant of love with Mary, the Mother of God. The purpose of this covenant was to offer their efforts of self-sanctification while asking Mary to make the chapel a place of grace and their “cradle of sanctity.” The talk which Fr. Kentenich gave on that day, proposing this undertaking, is now known as the “First Founding Document”

Importance for Schoenstatt. As its founding day, October 18 is considered the “first milestone” of Schoenstatt’s history. Fr. Kentenich characterized its inner meaning as “standing in divine light” or an act of heroic faith. The heroic faith he alludes to is that of faith in the invitation of Divine Providence to make this covenant of love and invite Mary to take up her abode in the Shrine. As a result, Schoenstatt has always been a movement strongly focused on faith and the renewal of the religious and moral foundations needed for faith to prosper.

Central to the charism of Schoenstatt is the means chosen on October 18: the establishment of a covenant of love with Mary, Mother of God. This covenant is not just another means to an end, but the soul of everything Schoenstatt is and does. Hence, one’s membership in Schoenstatt begins when one makes the covenant of love. Communities are constituted in the same way. (One is at the pilgrim level when a member of a Rosary Campaign Circle)

Importance for Catholic life and faith. For those who make the first milestone a part of their life through the covenant of love, there are definite benefits for the growth of Catholic life and faith:

- The covenant of love opens up a new and vibrant way to grow in the covenant which God began in the Old Testament, completed in the New Testament, and made us a part of in baptism.
- As a free, personal decision, this covenant gives a new opportunity for the faithful to consciously decide for faith in Christ and the Church and accept it as a personal commitment.
- Like all Marian consecrations it helps one grow into a deeper relationship with Mary. This love of Mary leads in turn to a deeper and more fruitful relationship with Christ and the entire Trinity.
- The accent on striving for sanctity according to one’s vocation and state in life helps us to more concretely realize the universal call to holiness which Christ makes of all his disciples. The incentive to self-education also helps give this universal call concrete shape in one’s everyday life.
- Based on an act of heroic faith, it gives us access to a charism and family in the Church which cultivates a stronger practical faith, especially faith in Divine Providence.
- Schoenstatt’s founding covenant is not just an individual act, but one with a strong community dimension, and those who make the covenant are drawn into the unique community of the Schoenstatt Family. This offers direct benefits for ones’ growth into the community dimension of the faith as belonging to the people of God.
- The concrete local attachment to the Shrine as a place of grace helps give greater firmness and flexibility to faith in unsettled times and the experience of attachment to concrete places, persons, dates and ideas helps one set down deeper roots in faith, hope and love.

Taken from 200 Questions About Schoenstatt, by Father Jonathan Niehaus (Question 168)

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

OCTOBER 9th, St. Joseph’s Delphi, Rosary and Anniversary Mass with Bishop Higi

**October 21st 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, October 16th, 2010 9:30 a.m.
at the Brooke Center in Delphi**

AS ALWAYS check out

Google Schoenstatt rosary campaign – beautiful slide show and music

Order books and shrines from this site

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

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

<http://schoenstattindiana.org/>

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

WHEN MARY CALLS

Sally D. Faderan

I was asked to share experiences of grace that Schoenstatt - that is devotion to our Mother Thrice Admirable, or MTA as we call her – has given me these past years. As I look back, I realize that God’s loving Providence and our Blessed Mother’s intercession and care have a way of orchestrating events for us to receive their guidance and to be beneficiaries of their love and care.

I first heard about Schoenstatt when I was assigned to have a beautiful lady named Suzanne Gardiner for my roommate on a pilgrimage to Our Lady of the Snows. After the activities of touring that most inspiring place, we settled in our room and got more than just acquainted with each other. We shared experiences of our devotion to Mary; she talked about her pilgrimage to Medjugorje and I talked about the prayer groups I started in 1991 whereby we take turns hosting Our Lady in our homes. Suzanne then asked me if I knew about Schoenstatt. I said no. She said she would send me a brochure about it.

Upon receiving the brochure, I called up the Schoenstatt International Center in Waukesha, WI and told them I wanted to start a prayer group. I received my MTA and got a group of families and students at Purdue who live alone. Soon I was invited by Suzanne to attend the Convention in Waukesha. She confided that she had not driven far from Indiana, and I told her I didn’t drive but added that I could navigate. I advised her to get a map for us to use on this rather uncertain trip.

With great anticipation we got ourselves on the road one bright May in 1994 and began to pray the Rosary. We had not gone far when her car broke down. Out we went and begged motorists to help us, our arms flailing in the air and calling them to help us. One Samaritan stopped and told us the car needed repair and told us where we could get help. Ever so slowly, Suzanne got the car going. The horror of it is was that those folks didn’t have the tire needed, worse, neither of us had any cash or card to pay the repair man. What to do? Pray. Here was the grace – he charged us nothing!

The trip took us 10 hours to get to Waukesha because of a series of setbacks. The spare tire had to be replaced and we were told to go to another repair shop which did the job but only by negotiating the financial aspect through phone negotiations with Suzannes husband, Dick. The “map” I hoped to use was a small bond paper with 5 lines: “Go North on 165,..Go west ...” We lost the highway and we had a lot of trouble worsened by an endless rain, and a woman who volunteered to take us to the highway but on a route that returned us where we came from. We didn’t become sour or negative, we found ourselves laughing more than I can ever remember laughing so much, perhaps because my MTA was right in front of us and Lord knows how many rounds of rosaries we had prayed! We got to Schoenstatt about 8 PM and the Welcome Program, by States’ name and representatives had gone beyond Indiana’s call. Everyone was so helpful and kind. At breakfast the next morning, We told some newfound friends the trouble we went through on the road. One said, “*Someone did not want you to come.*” Another said, “*But the Blessed Mother wants you to come here.*” Figure that out?

I have had the blessing of attending the convention – the Journey of Love- held every year in Waukesha from

1994 to 2003. One event at Blessed Sacrament Church, my parish, was when Teresa Elgomayel, a devout lady who had been receiving the MTA within her group told me to buy a Shrine of the MTA. She said that when she was awaiting surgery in a hospital she had a vision of the MTA and that she asked that our Lady help her get well. She promised to have a shrine of her in our church. She gave me a large donation for this purpose. Joyfully I gave Suzanne the good news and persuaded her pastor to have her get a Shrine also for St Joseph Church in Delphi. IN. Both churches now have an MTA Shrine in their chapel

One amazing experience was the evening I had a call from my friend, Ann Vescio, whom I had recruited to be a Schoensatt member of my prayer group. She moved to IL where she had about 5 groups also. One evening she called me to invite me to go to Medjugorje. I told her I was not ready, and that my budget for it was unable to meet the expenses. She called repeatedly for she knew it was my desire to go there. I finally gave in when she said she would fill what I lacked – she had a double occupancy reservation for every place they were going and I would be her companion. We agreed to meet at the Indianapolis airport on the day of departure.

We were on the plane for New Jersey, with great expectation for the pilgrimage abroad. When we got to New Jersey we had to check ourselves in for our connecting flight to Prague. When my turn came, they could not find my name! Two supervisors worked the computer, our companions had left to go to the gate we were supposed to go to, and I had visions of a scary stay in that place where I knew no one. I hugged the MTA whom I brought with me and prayed for help. A third supervisor punched the computer and- lo and behold! – he said, “You are listed in FIRST CLASS!” I kept asking him to put me with Ann but he insisted I go to first class. There I found myself in first class worrying about Ann.

We finally got together and had an unforgettable time. Most memorable was going up that majestic mountain that people talked about. First, it daunted me but I did go, inspired by a woman about my age and a younger one who had difficulty walking. As I approached the top of that mountain, I looked up and saw the young woman up there already, swinging her legs as she rested on a ledge. Humility has lessons we dare not forget.

Back home while talking with Rosemary Speaker, I mentioned my first class flight to Europe. She was incredulous. Somehow, it dawned on me – it was not I, it was the Mother Thrice Admirable whom I was holding, Queen of Heaven and Earth, who had to fly first class and she allowed me to fly with her! Amazing grace without measure.

As Fr. Kentenich said, “MOTHER TAKES PERFECT CARE!”

submitted with love for Mary, Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt
in thanksgiving for the graces of the most Holy Rosary and for the founding of Schoenstatt on Oct 18th
by Carole DiFabio.

Contact csdmi@aol.com

with questions, corrections or articles you would like to submit