



# Schoenstatt of Indiana Rosary Campaign Newsletter

Year of the  
shrine current



*Nothing without you, nothing without us!*



*Volume 5 Issue 3 March 25, 2012 The Annunciation*

## "Build family shrines of life and love!"

- ◆ Continued Lenten blessings to you all on this Fifth Sunday of Lent, with the Solemnity of the Annunciation of our Lord being celebrated tomorrow. This newsletter is dedicated to our Mother who is the model, guide and educator of our Schoenstatt community; and to Sally, Don and Mary Faderan as we honor Sally's passing on this date a year ago.
- ◆ Welcome to two new Schoenstatt Board Members: Jenny Bay of West Lafayette, and Greg Ortner of Lafayette. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us.
- ◆ Welcome home to several members of Schoenstatt who traveled to the Maria Stein Center in Ohio to participate in a retreat given by Father Gerold Langsch. Congratulations to the Ohio Schoenstatt group who will soon have a daughter shrine built exactly like the Original Shrine in Vallendar, Germany. We, in Indiana continue to work toward this same goal.
- ◆ Thank you to all the coordinators of the various traveling MTA shrines. We invite you especially to join in our Schoenstatt Day of Recollection. Find in this issue a special prayer just for you.
- ◆ Find in this 3rd issue a reading by Sally Faderan from a back issue, a new witness column, a novena to our Lady of the Annunciation, and a schedule of upcoming events. We hope you can join us for some of these.

### COVENANTS OF LOVE and HOME SHRINES

If you are interested in finding out more about either of these, please plan to attend 4 informative sessions, offered in 3 different locations.

- ◆ **First Site:** St. Joseph Delphi on Mondays of April 16 through May 7<sup>th</sup> 7:00 to 8:00 PM: Contact Suzanne Gardiner (765) 564 2942
- ◆ **Second Option Site:** Greater Lafayette Area: Thursdays starting April 12th, 7-8pm. Contact Carole DiFabio for more information (765) 538
- ◆ **Third Option Site:** West Lafayette in the Church of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays, April 17 through May 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Contact Rosemary Speaker (765) 463 7510 or Nancy and Jerry Johnston (765) 586 3321

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 12th** Beginning of 3 options of preparations to make your Covenant of Love
- April 19th** Schoenstatt Holy Hour 7pm St. Eliz
- April 21st** Earth Day—cleaning of Wayside Shrine
- April 25th** Father Gerold/Fr Pacwa on EWTN
- May 18th** Mass and Covenants of Love at Blessed Sacrament
- May 19th** Schoenstatt Day of Recollection Mass, Talks, Covenants of Love



## PRAYER FOR USE BY COORDINATORS

*Dear Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt,*

*Today you wish to begin your pilgrimage from the Shrine to the homes of those longing for you and your special gifts of grace.*

*I thank you for having chosen me in a special way to help you in your great mission for our Church and world. I wish to be an apostle and invite many to accept you into their homes. I want to inspire them to open their hearts to you, our Mother and Educator. I want to encourage them to trust in your powerful intercession and to pray the Rosary before your image. In this way, I wish to help you in the moral and religious renewal of the world from Schoenstatt. Mother, use me as your instrument. Protect me, transform me, and send me. I am ready. I know and believe that you are the Great Missionary, you will work miracles.*

*(prayer used at a retreat for coordinators at the Confidentia Shrine in Lamar, Texas)*



### Just a little “yes”

a witness by Carole DiFabio  
March 25, 2012

On this day of our Mother Mary’s “yes”, her “let it be done to me as you say”, I would like to give my own witness on her behalf as she manifests herself in our Schoenstatt movement. I would also like to dedicate this witness to Sally Faderan who celebrates her one year anniversary of passing into eternity. Sally, many times, said “yes” to our Mother.

As editor of this newsletter, I try to avoid the word “I” :-)) throughout it. Always, at the end of the newsletter, there is a request for people to share how Mary has influenced their lives through Schoenstatt, but today it seemed that I would write and today I would openly use the word “I”. It was only as I typed out the title just now that I realized the connection of “just a little yes” to this day of the Annunciation – this joyful day that changed the world.

I cannot share the entire journey here, but I do want to share the visible fruits that I see and have experienced in great abundance....joy! Joy, joy and more joy! My little “yes” to the question posed to me by Ann Vescio back in 1998 as she had to move to another state, started a journey of amazing graces. Her question was something like “**Would you like our Mother Mary to visit your family in your home every few weeks? I will be moving and need someone to take my place and receive the traveling Mother Thrice Admirable shrine.**”

Now that was an easy “yes”....who could say no to a visit from our Mother? It does require being responsible enough to pick her up and drop her off on the scheduled days, to call the next person to receive her, to put her in a place of honor, and to pray with her, but, really, those are not reasons for saying no, especially when the peace, joy and love of our Mother accompany this visit. It is a week of visitation to cherish. How I wish everyone would say “yes” and experience this first hand. These graces are not always felt, but through faith, they are very real and one’s life will gradually change for the better under her motherly care and protection.

The Annunciation we celebrate today led Mary immediately to the Visitation. She wanted to go “in haste” to visit Elizabeth, carrying within her, Jesus, our Savior. In the same way she wants to come and visit us now. My wish is that so many more would allow her to visit them in the traveling MTA shrine. I also wish that those who do allow her to enter their homes would truly believe, in faith, of her special presence among them in their daily family life. She treasures her time as your guest. Please treasure her visit as well.

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And so the Blessed Mother visited my family in our home every six weeks, year after year. Later another little “yes” was to coordinate the schedule of my group’s traveling MTA shrine since Sister Ann had too many groups to coordinate alone. Many of us reading this could find the time to do that....spend an hour every 3-6 months to type names and dates....it was not a very hard **yes**, but again, the graces showered upon me and my family were many. Our Mother is so generous.

And then I stepped a little deeper into Schoenstatt when I said “yes” to making a Covenant of Love with our Mother Thrice Admirable in 2004. This is still on the fringes of Schoenstatt...it not very scary to say “**yes, I will love you, Mother and yes, I will accept your love for me and allow you to teach me to love your Son**”. One can be as involved or uninvolved as one feels called. However, if I thought there were graces showered down with the previous little **yeses**, they were “nothing” compared to the gifts given to one when one makes the Covenant of Love: **the grace of a home; the grace of inner transformation; and the grace of apostolic zeal**. I will be forever grateful for that deepening of my previous Marian consecrations. A covenant is a mutual exchange; an exchange of lives and hearts forever....forever into eternity.

So that brings me back to **joy**! My husband and I decided to have a Schoenstatt Home Shrine dedicated in May of 2010 under the title **Mother of Our Joy**! Our Mother Mary is a constant presence in our home now in an almost tangible way. We are greatly blessed.

I have chosen to say many **yeses** since 2004 and have become deeply involved in Schoenstatt, sharing with other mothers in the Mother’s Group (Garden of Mary), working together with others on the Board of Directors, working with others in preparation for Schoenstatt Days of recollection, going on pilgrimage to the Journeys of Love in Wisconsin and Texas. In all that togetherness and work what have I experienced? but **joy and more joy**. How can that be? All these people with their different calls in life and their different view points?...how can there not be conflict and dissent and division? The only explanation I have is GRACE! God’s grace abounds as we serve our Mother Mary. The Father in Heaven approves of this great family mission of our Mother and our Founder, Father Joseph Kentenich, to form the “new person” into a “firm, free and priestly personality” and **the fruit is joy and more joy**! Any differences of opinions that have come up over these 8 years now have been ironed out with such kindness. I have never left any Schoenstatt gathering, whether it be to work, to pray or to celebrate, without a sense of **joy**. The Father has called many people into Schoenstatt, so please say another little “yes” and “come and see”. Experience the **joy** for yourself.

Many Lenten and Easter blessings to you and yours. And a special thank you to Father Kentenich, Father Gerold, Sister Corelia, Sister Ann, Sister Barbara, Sister Jessica and my own dear Garden of Mary sisters for making all these joys possible. IDEA: I think this will be the title of the witness column for any sharing you may wish to do. [csdmi@aol.com](mailto:csdmi@aol.com)



## **A Beautiful Place - our SCHOENSTATT LAND, with your help!**

Check issue #2 for even more details

Come Participate in the Annual EARTH DAY:  
PROJECT W.E.E.D. sponsored by the Wabash and  
Erie Canal Park Association and this year also by  
Schoenstatt of Indiana, Inc.

**Needed:** Volunteers needed on Earth Day 2012 to beautify / tidy up around the Canal from across IND 25 (to the north of Deer Creek) and at the Schoenstatt Wayside Shrine, the future site of the “Schoenstatt Sacred Park” (along the canal trail off Hwy 421). Free Lunch will be served at noon In the Canal Park shelter for the volunteers

**Date:** Saturday, April 21, 2012 at 9am. (Rain date, April 28)

**Meeting Place:** All volunteers are asked to report to Canal Park at 9am where instructions and team assembly will occur.

**Check for last minute cancellation by calling the CANAL HOTLINE (765) 564-6572. Join In Three Ways:**

- 1) Pre-register at [rspeaker@lion-lamb.com](mailto:rspeaker@lion-lamb.com) Give your: Name, address, telephone, cell phone, email: 2) or call Rosemary Speaker 765 414 1382: or 3) come and sign up that morning! **May God bless you a hundred fold!**

## THE CROSS: MARK OF CHRISTIANS

by Sally D. Faderan

March 2010

I remember a school Principal of a diocesan school asking a class, "What is the first thing you see in a classroom that tells you that you are in a Catholic school?" The frequent answer is, "We see a crucifix."

In this Lenten season, we cannot help but reflect on the Passion of Jesus, and the symbol of His victory over sin and death: the Cross. While reading again "God Alone" by St. Louis de Montfort, I was struck by this line: "Jesus loved the Cross from His infancy. . ." (p.96) and also that "while in His Mother's womb, He received it from His Eternal Father." From all eternity, it was the Father's plan to send His beloved Son to come to this world of ours to save us. And so, we look at the Cross as the throne from which He saved us. "Never the Cross without Jesus, or Jesus without the Cross" (de Montfort).

How should we regard the Cross? How should we regard pain and suffering? We need not go far to see that suffering is all around us - sickness, the anxieties over the bad state of our economy, the threat to our safety, the disharmony in families, the disastrous earthquakes in Haiti, Okinawa, and Chile, etc.

As Bishop Fulton Sheen wrote in his book, "Life is Worth Living", our capacity for pain is greater than our capacity for pleasure. Life in this world is marked more by suffering than pleasure because true happiness is not found here - that is reserved for the life hereafter if we live by God's commandments. Fulton Sheen lists the subject of pain and suffering into three parts: 1)What pain and suffering does to us- 2)How to meet it 3) Why there is suffering

"Sickness invites us to heaven or to hell" (Franz Werfel). When we are in pain, we tend to become selfish, bitter and almost tyrannical. On the other hand, it can help us see beyond our pain, realize that we are dependent on the help of others, that we can unite our suffering with Jesus and be blessed in the process.

Bishop Sheen advises us to think about Jesus Crucified, with the Good Thief and the Bad Thief flanking him. The Bad Thief concentrated on his ego, challenging Jesus to "Save Thyself and us, too, if Thou art the Christ." The Good Thief chided the Bad Thief saying that they deserved their sentence but that Jesus had not done anything bad. So he turned to Jesus and said one simple thing, "Remember me when Thou come into Thy Kingdom." That thief, writers like to say, "stole" Paradise in an instant.

How are we to meet suffering? Bishop Sheen writes, "We do it with love. Pain without love is hell. Suffering with love is sacrifice." Parents know what loving with sacrifice means. Anyone who truly loves knows this.

One of the most meaningful ways by which to bear suffering is to read St. Paul's testimony on God's reasons for withholding healing him of the "thorn in the flesh " that was given to him. He asked God to take it away from him three times, and God's answer to him was: "**My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.**" (2 Cor.12: 7-9). This calls for us to submit to the holy will and the loving Providence of God for He knows best what is good for us. It inspires us to think that the greater our suffering, the more the graces we receive, provided that we respond to Jesus' call to "Come, follow Me."

Why is there suffering? Asked at one of His Sunday TV programs this question, Fr. Groeschel had a quick, if a bit caustic answer: "This world is NOT Disneyland!" We have to go back to God's words to our first parents when they disobeyed God. The life that would be theirs on earth was not to be the Paradise that they had lost. We are all in it for the pains, but Jesus' saving power is our hope. Eternal love is worth our sacrifices."

We look to Mary to be our model for she was, as Bishop Sheen wrote, "the Mother of Sorrows" and yet the  
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"Cause of our Joy." Our Schoenstatt motive for sacrifice is to contribute to the "Capital of Graces." It is the token with which we gain an abundance of graces. From Fulton Sheen's prolific pen comes this poem:

I slipped His fingers, I escaped His feet  
I ran and hid, for Him I feared to meet  
One day I passed Him, fettered to a Tree  
He turned His Head, looked, and beckoned me.

Neither by speed, nor strength could He prevail  
Each hand and foot was pinioned by a nail.  
He could not run and clasp me if He tried,  
But with His eye, He bade me reach His side,  
For pity's sake thought I, I'll set you free.

'Nay – hold this Cross,' He said, 'and follow Me.'  
This yoke is easy, this burden light,  
Not hard or grievous if you wear it tight'  
So I did follow Him Who could not move  
An uncaught captive in the hands of Love.

### Novena for the Annunciation of Our Lady

O Admirable Virgin! the most exalted yet the most humble among all creatures! we salute thee, in union with the respect and veneration of the angel who was sent from Heaven to hail you as full of grace and as the chosen Mother of the Author of grace. O most happy Mother, can we not join the generations yet unborn, which will call thee blessed? Can we not share in the profound feelings of humility which filled your soul, even in the moment of your glorious exaltation? O most humble, but most privileged handmaid of the Lord, since you have found grace before God, obtain for us that which we request .... May we may persevere in grace to the end of our lives and be ever docile to holy inspirations, ever ready to say with you "Be it done to me according to Your word" St. Gabriel, angel of the Annunciation, pray also for us in our present needs. Amen

**AS ALWAYS check out**

<http://schoenstattindiana.org>

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

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

<http://schoenstattindiana.org/>

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

**Google Schoenstatt rosary campaign – beautiful slide show and music**

**Order books and shrines from this site**

**Receive advice in a "phone conversation" with Father Kentenich—just click on the phone!!**

Original masthead design by Nan Ross– shrine added for this year by CSD



Submitted with love for Mary,  
our Mother Thrice Admirable  
by  
Carole DiFabio.  
If you have questions or  
corrections, please  
contact [csdmi@aol.com](mailto:csdmi@aol.com).  
Or, if you would like to tell us  
about your Schoenstatt  
experience, we'd love to hear  
from you !

