



SHRINE SOUNDINGS Jubilee Family Shrine & Retreat Center



The Power of a Mother

As I was walking down the driveway to mail my Mother's Day card, spring is bursting in the budding of the maple trees with pelicans, hawks, robins, cardinals, and wrens singing. Father Kentenich was filled with love and dedication for the Blessed Virgin Mary. He told us:

"What a wonderfully beautiful sound the *Ecce ancilla Domini*, Behold the handmaid of the Lord, has when uttered by the Mother of God! She wants to serve, to be a handmaid. Eve rebels against this. She wants to go her own way and govern herself. But wherever Eve appears today, ruin continues.

It is quite different with Mary. Her whole being urges her on to serve. Her whole being is simply personified readiness to serve. Unfortunately the world today no longer knows that the reign of the girl, of the woman, is to be found in service.

At the great moment of the Annunciation, Mary spoke her humble *Behold the Handmaid of the Lord* and she never withdrew it. She served selflessly from the first to the last moment of her life. In order to serve she hastened over the mountains. She wanted to serve at the marriage in Cana. Her quiet life at Nazareth was

loving service and self-surrender. She served her Child, her royal Child, the Eternal God. She did not ask what her heart desired, she did not serve herself. She, the great Queen served the great God as the little, simple handmaid. Thus her life was a royal service and we want to share in this royal service.

We serve our Queen and with her and through her we serve the Eternal God. We then know that it does not matter what we do, but how we do it, with which attitude, with what love. Our royal service must be a loving service. We serve one another, we love one another. How many opportunities we have each day to offer loving service! How many people are waiting for a small act of help, a happy glance, a friendly word, kind understanding! For that, all we need is keen eyes and a loving heart. We should serve. If we do not serve the Eternal, we serve self. If our lives are not a royal service, we will not have carried out our Queen's mission.

The Mother of God wants to go in us all over the world today in order to serve. Each day we offer ourselves to the service of the King through *our little consecration prayer*. We offer ourselves completely: our eyes to shine with quiet happiness, our mouths to speak words of love, our hands to help, our feet to walk the ways of serving love, our hearts to love and surrender themselves, and our souls with all their faculties for the service of Christ the great King." *Sign of Light for the World, 1950*

Wishing you each a summer filled with blessings, joy and safety from Our Mother Thrice Admirable from her Shrine on the shores of Lake Sleepy Eye, *Sister M Jessica*

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.

Featured Schoenstatter: Eva Hoblit



This is the first profile of one of our Schoenstatt Family in the Midwest. We'd like to publish more in future Shrine Soundings.

Eva Hoblit celebrated her 92nd birthday on February 16! She joined the Schoenstatt Movement in 1974. They named their group *The Caretakers*, as most of these ten

professional women served in the nursing profession. Hazel Heim, one of the head nurses at St. Mary's Hospital who became their leader, met Sister M Juliana when she came to St. Mary's Hospital for her internship. Hazel then introduced Sister Juliana to Florence (Willie is how everyone called her) Wiltout and Betty McClain, two other head department nurses, to form a Schoenstatt group in Minneapolis. Willie then asked Eva Hoblit to join. Next came Bea Heinz who worked in the office of the same hospital and her sister Frances. Eva Hogan who was also a nurse and her sister Florence (a top-notch secretary in a company) also joined the group. The first 8 ladies sealed their covenant of love in 1976. Father Dieter Haas officiated at their dedication and also at their home shrine dedications. Donna Liebhan and Marie Luetmer who joined in the 1980s, made theirs later. The Caretakers donated the St. Michael Statue for the shrine and the flagpole to the Center in Sleepy Eye.

Eva has been making rosaries since 1985, from 800-1000/year. At present she doesn't make that many because of a problem with her eyesight, but her nephew's wife took over. The Caretakers are members of the Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign which Hazel Heim coordinated until she was called to eternity on October 22, 2008, at age 99. Eva lives at Eldercare Nursing Home since March, 2002; Marie Luetmer now resides at St. Theresa Nursing Home in New Hope, MN; and Eva Hogan, the youngest member, lives in Fargo, ND.

To give you an idea of how apostolic and persistent Eva is, she personally got Sister Jessica scheduled to give Schoenstatt Introductions at her Eldercare 2nd floor, as well as the neighboring assisted living on May 18 & 19th. And if she hadn't had a cold, she would have come to the Sweetheart Dinner Dance. She has a big heart and a very grateful attitude for all the MTA has done for her – if you need cheering up, go visit Eva! -Alicia Hernandez

Covenants Sealed from Wilson, WI



On Saturday, April 9, 2011, 17 covenants were sealed in the Jubilee Family Shrine from eager hearts in the Wilson, WI, area. Father Kevin Louis accepted their covenants, prepared via the Covenant DVD eight meeting series at the initiative of Laurie Schmitt. Christine Risler, Greg & Laura Buchal, Joe & Laurie Schmitt and children wrote beautiful prayers in giving their hearts to the MTA.

Mother/Daughter Weekend at Shrine



The popular Mother/Daughter Weekend brought 39 to the shrine on April 15-17. Moms reflected on deepening their mother love and daughters learned the benefits of the capital of grace, as all enjoyed games and skits, sharing and praying with quality time together as the time flew by. An active scavenger hunt got everyone walking fast on Saturday afternoon, followed by a craft session, ending with Deacon Aaron Johannek blessing medals and accepting the Marian Apostles Dedication of Rachel & Hannah Flynn from Eagan. Later, benediction and night adoration began till Palm Sunday.

Pam Guggisberg with daughters Hannah, Bea and Bridget attended from Jackson, MN.



Happenings at the Center



Many events have been going on at Schoenstatt on the Lake. The Sleepy Eye Mothers group, Rings of Love, helped decorate the Easter Lambs, with Stephanie Joyce and Katie Rockers. There is a rosary at the shrine at 7:30 pm each evening in May. Bishop John LeVoir will offer Holy Mass at 5 pm on May 23 and lead the rosary that evening. Various vocation talks have been given also.

We are getting into full gear for the Summer Camps. Sister M Catherine Ditto will join Sister M Deanne again this summer. There are six sessions for girls 9 years and older starting June 13 through July 28. The high school Spanish Mission Project *La Fiesta de Maria* is from June 27 to July 1st and the Day Camp for girls aged 5-11 will be on July 15th. Camp T-shirts will be offered.

The boys have their next Father/Son Weekends on July 29-31st and November 4-6 with Father Francisco Rojas.

Sister M Antonia will be leaving Sleepy Eye on June 8th, but there is an open invitation extended to whenever she could come to help out again! Sister M Alice will be arriving on June 1st with a full list awaiting her already.

Szymanski Home Shrine Dedication



The John Szymanski family dedicated their home shrine at Alden, MN, on Holy Thursday with Father Swamy. They chose the name **Isle of Heroic Faith** for their shrine. Kathy shares that when they moved here over 30 years ago, we named it Someday Isle. As in "someday I'll ___ and someday I'll ___." We've done quite a few "Someday I'lls," many we had never planned. But God had- and has- a plan for us; and heroic faith is what we're called to have in today's world. (For a complete explanation of the symbols in their home shrine please visit Special Moments link - www.SchoenstattMn.com) But for those curious of GTH & BYB – it stands for Get to Heaven and Bring Your Brother. Everything can be brought back to that. Every word, every action, every decision, all does something to bring someone closer to Christ or farther away. So we always strive in all we say and do, in all decisions we make to GTH & BYB.



Filipino Holy Saturday Pilgrimage

On April 23, Holy Saturday, 30 Filipinos pilgrimaged to the Shrine for the 30th year! Alicia Hernandez explains: On Holy Thursday, it is our tradition to visit different churches in the area to visit Jesus and see the altar of repose. Many tried to go to 14 different churches,

walking-penitentially or driving for this so-called Visitation of the Churches. On Good Friday, the liturgy started from 12 noon to 3:00 pm. The priest gave a sermon on the Seven Last Words (like portraying Jesus suffering on the cross). In Manila, Jesus is processed in a huge wooden carriage, carried by various men who all want to carry or at least touch the carriage where the Black Nazarene is laid (Black Jesus Christ).

For us Holy Saturday is the start of Easter as church bells ring in the morning and all the children are asked to jump as Jesus is resurrected. In the evening we have processions with Blessed Mother statues. Here in the Twin Cities the Filipino community decided to come to the Marian Schoenstatt Shrine to help begin their Easter celebration by praying the rosary and stations of the cross, sharing a buffet meal, and listening to a talk by sister, ending with a prayer service. *We'd like to invite everyone to join us next year on April 7, 2012, for this wonderful pilgrimage of Easter faith.*



Father Dieter Update

Over the years many in the Schoenstatt Family from the Jubilee Family Shrine developed a special bond with Father Dieter Haas, the

Schoenstatt Father taking care of these states. Since his stroke in the fall of 2009 you continue to be spiritually connected with him.

Early this year, it became apparent that Father must be transferred to a different health care facility so he could be treated by his own doctor, Dr. Carol Brown. He was moved from Clement Manor in South Milwaukee to Virginia Health and Rehabilitation, 1451 Cleveland Ave, Waukesha, WI 53186; and according to Father Gerold Langsch, Father Dieter has made a smooth adjustment.

"He's taking a little more initiative to get around (in his wheelchair) by moving his left leg," Father Gerold said recently, indicating, "He feels at home in the new home, and in that regard it's a little progress." Father Gerold went on that Father Dieter is trying to vocalize words, and at times they are very clear, but most of the time it is difficult for him to communicate with others. A new verbalization program which has been successful for stroke victims may be explored in the near future.

Since Virginia Health Care is not a Catholic facility, Masses are not celebrated there daily, but Father

Gerold is now celebrating Mass for the residents on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. Thanks to Father Dieter's presence there, a new spiritual evangelization stream has sprung forth.

Three of Father Dieter's "angels," Sandy Baum, and Laura Lee and Bill Wierzbinski, are weekly visitors. They take turns driving Father to a facility where he is receiving special treatments in an effort to reverse some of the effects of the stroke.

"He's so alert and attentive," Sandy said, indicating speech therapy might be added to Father Dieter's rehab program this September. Another "angel," Dorothy Bautz takes him the Eucharist several times a week, and others from the area are also dedicated in making weekly visits to see him. Father Dieter was recently diagnosed with a gluten intolerance, and the home is adjusting his diet to handle the situation.

A wonderful birthday celebration was held for Father Dieter at the Father House on Valentine's Day, which is his birthday. Approximately 60-70 people turned out for the event. More spring visits to the shrine are planned.

Please continue praying for a miracle for Father Dieter through the intercession of Father Kentenich (This would also help speed up the process toward Father Kentenich's canonization.) and in the meantime help him carry the Cross that God has given him. In this blessed season of Easter and May, let us intensify our contributions to the capital of grace for Father Dieter's full recovery. -Judy Harlow, Kewaskum, WI

Prayer for Father Dieter Haas

"Eternal Triune God, for love of you and your holy Church, the founder of Schoenstatt always tried to do your will, and lead many people to you. Through Mary, Mother Thrice Admirable, grant him what he requests on our behalf so that he may soon be beatified and be even more fruitful here on earth for you and your kingdom." Dearest Father Kentenich, with childlike confidence and hope, we humbly beg you to pray at the throne of our Father God for a miraculous healing of Father Dieter. Through your intercession and that of our dear Blessed Mother, we pray it is God's Will that Father Dieter will be a miracle for your cause for canonization. May Father God grant him a complete, sudden and miraculous healing.

We ask this in Jesus' name and with grateful hearts, thank you for your intercession! Amen.

Keep in Prayer: Sister Miriam's Mother was called home on March 29th. Sister arrived on time to be with her mother.

Sister M. Emilia Engel's cause for beatification: **check website for breaking news about the Curia decision.**

The Catholic Church Is Growing

Catholic Answers Report by Jimmy Akin presented some joyful statistics on the world's Catholic population. The *Annuario Pontificio* revealed that from 2007-2008: the number of Catholics worldwide rose by 19 million, for a total of 1.166 billion; and the Catholic population grew faster than the non-Catholic population. The number of bishops rose by 56; the number of priests rose from 405,178 to 409,166; and seminarians increased by 1,105. Religious women declined by 8% to 739,067. These trends are reflected here in the USA where Catholics rose by almost a million, taking our country's Catholic population to just over 68 million. –April 2010

Schoenstatt Directory of Groups

Slow but surely a Shrine Directory is being compiled of our 10 Mothers Groups and 20 formed and forming Couples Groups. If you are interested in checking out an adult group that meets monthly, or would like a copy of the directory, contact Sister Jessica at 612-618-9334.

Summer Pilgrimage to USA Shrines



On May 5, the 5th grade class from St Philip School in Litchfield, MN, and their principal, Diana McCarney and drivers came to visit Schoenstatt on the Lake.

This year, July has 5 Fridays, 5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays. This happens once every 823 years. These five weekends present a wonderful opportunity to come and visit Our Mother Thrice Admirable in the Jubilee Family Shrine. Bring along as many pilgrims as you can!

Let's not forget the virtue of modesty this summer

Clothing sends a powerful message. Let's each take the challenge to dress stylish, attractive, without wearing something that is too short, low-cut, or see through. When we respect self and don't wear what "everyone else may be wearing" we promote our Catholic lifestyle!

Schoenstatt 2014 Update



Your Covenant Our Mission emphasizes the covenant as the "essence of our Schoenstatt family" which becomes our mission, and simultaneously commits us to the key feature of our mission, that which Father Kentenich gave to the Church and world: the covenant of love. The **logo**, design by María Cecilia Avilés from Ecuador, has these points:

- The power of the shrine in all of its dimensions, represented by the shrine. This shrine has the Cross of the hero sodalists, as a symbol of their surrender and as a motivation so that we give ourselves completely to Schoenstatt as they did.
- The currents of life going out from the shrine which unite us as a family and flow throughout the world, transforming it.
- The world, representing the place where we want to live and act in the covenant to create a covenant culture in it.

Pilgrimage Prayer 2014

Dear Mother of our Lord! With great joy we start out on our pilgrimage to your shrine. Father Kentenich's faith moved you to make your home in Schoenstatt. In the shadow of this shrine a family came into being, a new spiritual movement in the Church, a charism for our time. Today we want to fill the Capital of Grace with our gifts: our gratitude and atonement, our surrender and longing. With every step we take on our pilgrim way we ask you: Enkindle in us anew the fire of love for you, for our father and for our family. Mother, give us the strength to form a covenant culture in today's world and educate us to be your true missionaries for this century. Your covenant - our mission! Amen.

What do I want to give thanks for today?

What will I place into the capital of grace today?

Which missionary or apostolic deed can I do today?

Triennium Preparation for 2014

2010-2011 – Year of our Father: Come & listen to Sister M Petra share about Father Kentenich on October 23rd

2011-2012 – Year of the Shrine: Make a pilgrimage with your family, group and friends to the Jubilee Family Shrine, 35 years of grace and help from our MTA

2012-2013 – Year of the Mission: Dedicate anew or renew and crown your home shrine

2013-2014 – Year of the Covenant of Love: Celebrate the Centennial of Schoenstatt, a gift for the Church

Reserve Founding Day – October 23, 2011

This fall, from October 3 (the 35th anniversary of our Jubilee Family Shrine) through October 2012, the Shrine at Sleepy Eye will be the focus of striving toward 2014 for the Schoenstatt Family in the USA. Plan to be with us at Sleepy Eye on Sunday from 10-4 pm. Father Randal Kasel will be offering Mass at 2 pm. Sister Petra, who goes around the globe, will share her personal experiences with Schoenstatt's Founder in Milwaukee.

Health Care Workers - Catholic Response

Schoenstatt will offer a fall workshop equipping health care workers to respond from our Catholic perspective to complex medical and bioethical issues today.

Saturday, October 22, 2011, from 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

at Schoenstatt Retreat Center at Sleepy Eye, MN.

Keynote speaker will be Bishop John LeVoir. Application is being made for CME and CEU credits. Contact Sister M Candace Fier: 507-233-5328 or cfier@dnu.org.

1-3 pm Social on Sunday, June 26, in the TC

If you live in the Twin Cities area, plan to join us for a Schoenstatt Gathering from 1-3 pm on Sunday, June 26, 2011 at Our Lady of Grace, Edina, MN. Rosary, activities, talk, & witnessing will close w/potluck bars & cookies. Come and get to know one another in our MTA!

Next Shrine Soundings deadline is Labor Day Weekend.
Schoenstatt Movement, 27762 County Rd 27, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085. Email srjessica@schsrmmary.org or call 612-618-9334 or 507-794-7727 at Retreat center.

75 registered for Mothers Conference

Mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends came together to rediscover **Total Abandonment to the Father**. Father Thomas Cook and Sister M Jessica led us on a journey towards His love, mercy, and power in our day-to-day lives: *You Are My Daughter and I Love You*.

For Monday, May 16, 2011, from 8:00 am- 4:30 pm at the beautiful Schoenstatt on the Lake Center in Sleepy Eye, 75 women gave RSVPs to Lorie Spear, conference planner from Waseca. Do reserve now for May 7, 2012!

8:00 Holy Mass – Father Thomas Cook
8:50 Coffee and Rolls
9:15 Total Abandonment to the Father
11:00 Turning Vice into Virtue – Sister M Jessica
12:00 Lunch
1:00 Reflection, Confession, Adoration, Walk
2:00 Do you hide behind your Temperament? Sister
3:15 Tea & Dessert with Q&A Time – Father Cook
4:15 Closing Blessing

Our next Women's Retreat is **November 18-20, 2011**.

Change of Schoenstatt Intl Website



Have you caught all the updates Kathy Szymanski adds (usually for the 1st and 18th of the month) to the website for our Schoenstatt Family in Minnesota, Iowa and the Dakotas? Tab it as a favorite: www.schoenstattmn.com

The new Press Office Website is www.schoenstatt.org Filled with Schoenstatt info from around the world, it also has a running clock to October 18, 2014. At press time only 1,260 days, 3 hours and 14 minutes to go!

Fr Gerold Langsch will be on EWTN Live, June 29 - 7 pm In the days preceding his interview with Fr Pacwa, a 15 part series on Schoenstatt in German will be taped.