



SHRINE SOUNDINGS Jubilee Family Shrine & Retreat Center

Schoenstatt Movement, 27762 County Rd 27, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085 www.SchoenstattMN.com 507.794.7727

CELEBRATING SCHOENSTATT'S 100TH!

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.

May Schoenstatt's "little consecration prayer" ring from heart and home shrine around the entire world! May our Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen, and Victress of Schoenstatt continue for the next 100 years to fulfill her six promises: "Then it will please me to dwell in your midst {in the entire network of shrines} and dispense gifts and graces in abundance. Then from here I will draw youthful hearts to myself and educate them to become useful instruments in my hand." This is, provided all Schoenstatters try to realize more each day the six requests of the Queen of Heaven: "Prove first by your deeds that you really love me; work on your self-education, sanctify your life, fulfill your duties faithfully and conscientiously, pray fervently, and diligently bring me contributions to the capital of grace."

Although this winter's weather has caused some of our monthly meetings to cancel or be postponed, there is plenty of life to share! Up in the Northland we know spring is on its way. With a "late" Ash Wednesday Easter is celebrated on April 20th so take time to plan your Centennial Lent. I often go back to the advice of Father Kentenich: *We should pray more fervently, frequently and simply.* The Holy Father has pointed out that we should live more simple, love all, and pray for our enemies. Father Kentenich taught and lived even in the concentration camp: From the little we have, we

still give. We want to be poor in material things and objects, in order to have more room to be filled spiritually with the elements of life that go into eternity.

Our monthly resolution on the colored slips of paper is a great vehicle to discover input, along with strength in numbers. Doing it together, one for all and all for one! As true Schoenstatters we need to LIVE our COVENANT with a daily apostolic deed, a contribution to Our Lady's capital of grace. This will help create saints, as only saints can renew our world...

Let's check into some "contributions to the capital of grace" that are going on in the Midwest:

1) The group in Ida Grove, Iowa, emailed about an Epiphany Home Shrine Blessing *Crawl* on January 11, as weather did not allow this on January 6th. They took the emailed ceremony, added a meal, and did it in parts at each member's home.

2) In working through the book: *Becoming A Shrine, Be Sacred to Him*, the couples in Victoria want to recognize and accept the daily "jewels" given by God for the development of their heart shrines for Oct 18, 2014.

3) Despite radiation treatments Phil Sweet is not a person who stays idle. After cheering on two performing members of her mothers' group for their Thursday Morning Concert performances at the Bloomington Art Centre, she schedules a "flowers with MTA greetings distribution" at the Edina Care Center.

4) A newly formed couples group in Stillwater wants to begin their day saying a morning offering prayer together as a couple.

5) The Filipino Group went big for their monthly resolution: Tell 10 persons about Schoenstatt.

Wishing you a blessed Lent and glorious Easter Season from our Jubilee Family Shrine, *Sister M Jessica*

Featured Schoenstatters Dedicate Their Home Shrines

Since this newsletter is catching up on the life and news from last fall, the following families will be our featured Schoenstatters. In the awesome presence of the Father Eye Symbol for the Original Shrine all was dedicated under the loving glance of the Heavenly Father.



Dale & Mary Reak dedicated their home shrine on the special occasion of her birthday to **Our Lady of Sorrows, Our Lady of Joys**, on October 9, 2013, in Eagan, MN. Long time family friend, Father Dan Haugan officiated.



Shirley Skorczewski dedicated her home shrine in Waseca, MN, to the **Mother of Good Counsel**, on October 11, 2013. This was formerly the patron feast of the Original Shrine, being the Maternity of the Blessed Mother. Afterwards, her Mom dedicated her shrine --



Florine Skorczewski named her home shrine: **Queen of the Most Holy Rosary**. Father Gregory Leif officiated for this Mother-Daughter Team. Their home with the duo home shrines was the ending note for their mother's group, as all six dedicated their homes during the 50th Anniversary Year of the Proclamation of Home Shrines.



Father Ronald Dahlheimer offered a Latin holy Mass and dedicated the home shrine of John & Kim LeBrun on October 15, 2013, at Waterville, MN. They have chosen the name **Holy Family Haven**. In their prayer and for their living shrine symbols Anna chose the bell; John chose St Joseph, Catherine chose an angel, Kim chose the Father Eye Symbol and Mary chose St Therese the Little Flower.

THANK YOU for Your Great Generosity!

All of us Schoenstatt Sisters at the Shrine and Schoenstatt on the Lake, want to thank you for your overwhelming generosity this past Christmas Season and throughout the year. The monthly donations, food, gifts, and barn sale items are great. **We couldn't do it without all of you donating!**

Blank Check Surrender



Dan & Linda Haugan from Cannon Falls, made their **Blank Check Surrender** on October 15, 2013, in their home shrine: **Sorrowful Mother of Perpetual Help and Eternal Hope**. She never *overdraws*.

Lent Made Easier!

Is there such a thing?! May this 100th anniversary of Schoenstatt's Covenant of Love point out a way:

CENTER ON JESUS & MARY!

The more we love someone, the more we focus on them in our conscious and subconscious lives. The more we believe in someone, the more self-understood we follow them. This Lent we want to center on Jesus and Mary! We want to quiet our senses and learn to go into our heart shrines. Each one of us is and must be a living shrine, inhabited by the Triune God, consecrated and surrendered unto him. How often have we read: "Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" *1 Cor 3:16*.

We want to CENTER ON JESUS AND MARY. Let us seek our covenant partners. Let us quiet our senses and look for Jesus and Mary in the depth of our souls. Centering on Jesus and Mary we want to find them in our heart and attach ourselves to them a little bit more each day of Lent!

Father Kentenich recommends to us three simple things to live in relationship with God. By centering on Jesus and Mary we learn:

1) TO LOOK with faith at the God of my soul. We want to become aware of his presence and contemplate him, look at what he speaks in me and does in me, learn to be silent, to pause from time to time. Most pastors recommend 10 to 20 minutes a day of silence. This means to turn off the radio, music, TV, movie, etc, etc, and just be silent. Use the time to look at the picture of our Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen, and Victress of Schoenstatt. Just center your thoughts and keep coming back to say: I love you, Jesus, Mary...

2) TO SPEAK with God who dwells in my heart as we center now more and more of our day on Jesus and Mary. We want to speak to Jesus and Mary throughout the day, about our concerns, our desires, our interests; pray to Jesus and Mary spontaneously, and express our childlike love to them. This Lent take the time to pull out some of your favorite prayers. Re-locate your First Communion Prayerbook. Go on the web with key prayer words. Write in your prayer journal. Make a list of all you need to pray for and offer their names before you pray the Hail Marys of your next Rosary.

3) TO MAKE SACRIFICES for the God of my heart. Without so many distractions and with an ever increasing purity of heart, do you find it easier to

CENTER ON JESUS AND MARY? Are we ready for step three this Lent? This means to prove my mature love and to become one with the suffering Christ, to offer him my contributions to Our Lady's Capital of Grace. Lovingly we want to begin each day with a fresh slate of how many sacrifices we can bring to our Eternal Love, for Jesus and Mary. This is the way we improve and grow in holiness. Father Kentenich spelled out that "Love without sacrifice is self-deceit." Jesus practiced what he preached: "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends" *John 15:13*.

Stop and think of one of your best friends. What do you like to do together? Go shopping, go to a movie, leave the freeways and go fishing, sit and chat by a fireplace, buy a cup of coffee? This Lent, use it as your

bucket list of sorts to do things with Jesus and Mary. Take your family and friends to see "The Son of God." Talk to Mary as you go shopping and invite her into your deepest concerns. Father Kentenich often prayed: "Blessed Mother, how are you going to get me out of this one?"

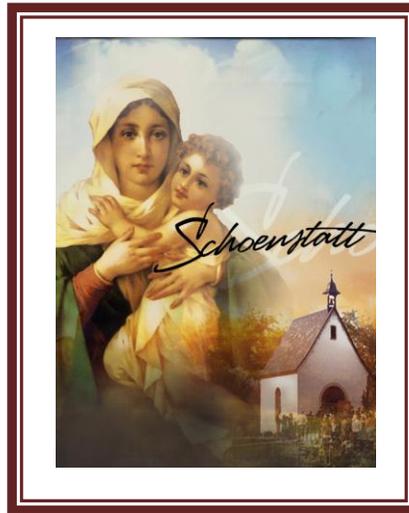
The joy of fasting – yes, you read it correctly – the JOY of FASTING as you center on JESUS AND MARY is deep! Centering on Jesus and Mary, let your longing grow to become a BETTER PERSON THIS EASTER. Take time to look at God, to speak with him, and to

make sacrifices for love of him!

CHILDREN'S CORNER: Make a game out of your Lenten sacrifices. #1 Wash Dishes. #2 Take out Trash. #3 Pick up Toys. #4 Sweep. #5 Make the bed. #6 Set the Table. Every morning a child can roll a dice and do that action that matches the number for their special sacrifice.

TEENS' CREATIVE LISTING: Give up the Snooze Button.
*Treat your body as a temple of God and focus everything you read, eat, do, etc, on being God's temple.
*Give up the radio in your car (or facebook!) in order to focus more on things around you that God created.
*Make a list of 40 people who have touched your life in one way or another. Write a letter explaining this to one each day and pray for that person on that day.

IDEAS FOR PARENTS: Refrain from comparing your children to others' children; thank God for *Your Family!*
*Pray the Rosary each day with your spouse.
*Find 15 extra minutes a day for quiet prayer to center on Jesus and Mary and their needs and concerns...
*Attend a presentation for your spiritual growth.



STATISTICS for 2013: We've all been asked: "And what do you do?"

Here are highlights from our Midwest Schoenstatt Statistics of the Happenings of 2013:

Monthly Adult Movement Groups: 42

MOTHERS: MINNESOTA

New Ulm Diocese has 3 groups 18 persons

Winona Diocese has 4 groups 35 persons

St Cloud Diocese has 3 groups 19 persons

St Paul Archdiocese has 2 groups 12 persons

MOTHERS: IOWA

Diocese of Des Moines has 2 groups 13 persons

Diocese of Sioux City has 2 groups 15 persons

MOTHERS: SOUTH DAKOTA

Diocese of Sioux Falls has 1 group 12 persons

MOTHERS: WISCONSIN

Diocese of Superior has 1 group 10 persons

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

Winona Diocese has MN group of 7 women

MOTHERS Total is 19 groups with 141 women

COUPLES: MINNESOTA

St Paul Archdiocese has 15 groups 90 couples

Diocese of New Ulm has 2 groups 9 couples

Diocese of Winona has 2 groups 9 couples

Diocese of St Cloud has 1 group with 6 couples

COUPLES: IOWA

Diocese of Des Moines has 1 group 5 couples

Diocese of Sioux City has 1 group 5 couples

COUPLES: WISCONSIN

Diocese of Superior has 1 group 12 couples

COUPLES Total is 23 groups with 136 couples

HOME VISITS and MEETINGS: Add 45 per month **RETREAT and EVENTS DAYS for 2013:**

January 6: 100+ came, 20 families and Fr Chris Shofner

January 18-20: 10 Men's Retreat by Fr Mark Niehaus

February 2: 50 Dinner Dance-adults, Holy Spirit, St Paul

March 1-3: 16 Couples Retreat and 39 for Lenten Day

March 19: 35 Faribault 1st Year of Faith Pilgrimage Day

March 30: 30 for the Filipino Holy Saturday Retreat Day

April 5-7: 46 at Mother-Daughter Weekend

May 5-6: 40 Mothers for Mother's Conference "Identities of a Mother's Heart" Fr Kasel and Sr Jessica

May 17-18: 13 for Family Retreat as 2 families canceled

July 12-14: 1,680 high school students from Midwest

attended Steubenville North Youth Conference at Mayo

Civic Center. Gawarecki Family staffs booth; Sister

Jessica spoke briefly before Bishop Quinn's blessing

October 6 Founding Day-St Michael, Pine Island:80-100

October 13 Founding Day-Epiphany, Coon Rapids: 150+

October 20 Founding Day: 175-200 with Bishop John

LeVoir at the Shrine to Open Door of Centennial Year

November 15-17: 28 for Women's Retreat +10 canceled

Travels of Father Eye Symbol for Original Shrine:

4,215 miles and visits connecting 2,347 persons in 18 days from October 2-20, 2013.

COVENANTS OF LOVE:

18 Covenants of Love

16 Heart Shrine Dedications

1 Inscriptio Dedication

2 Blank Check Surrenders

2 Coronations of our MTA

HOME SHRINES: 16

PUBLICATIONS:

Shrine Soundings Newsletters: 125 printed along with 695 emailed copies 4x/year

Schoenstatt Lap Books: 50 produced; CD coming

October 18: 1,000 Sch 2014 Logo Tattoos; 500 3x5"

Father Eye Symbols & 500 photos Distributed

Christmas Cards with 2014 Schedule of Events:

720 bulk mailed and 65 via deliveries

LEADERS MEETINGS: April 4 & Aug 24 & Dec 29

Dave & Jenny Baker, Gloria & Tim Wolf, Lorie Spear, Alicia Hernandez and Sister M Jessica

Each group faithfully decides and fills out their monthly **Common Resolution** colored slips. This year the **Holy Family Statue** continued to travel from the shrine to families in the Midwest. Many groups have finalized their symbol for the **Living Shrine Gift** of the 50th Anniversary of National Shrine.

Bread Distribution to families via generosity of Pepperidge Farm on a semi-monthly basis.

Group Notes are up to date, chronicle only collected.

August 8-10: **BARN SALE** raised \$5,000 at Dave & Jenny Baker's Farm via their couples group & helpers.

We added a Family Potluck and Dance on Saturday with the Grey Eagle Becker Family Band for 150+!

Dec 31: Leaders sent letters of support with Keepsake MTAs to **Archbishops Nienstedt and Jackels**.

OUT-OF-STATE EVENTS ATTENDED 2013:

April 22-26: Meetings and discussions were held for 20 USA Movement Sisters in Waukesha, as these days included the Schoenstatt Sisters from Texas.

June 27-30: Int'l Home Shrine Congress at Waukesha, WI, with 25 delegates coming from Minnesota!

October 11-13: Chris and Mark Rockers attended the Leaders Weekend in Waukesha, WI, for the Midwest.

October 20-21: Gloria Wolf and daughters brought the Father Eye Symbol to Cor Mariae Shrine at Crete, Nebraska.

Our MTA Gives & Blesses New Life



Covenant of Love: On the Friday after Thanksgiving, November 29, 2013, **Steve & Lisa Willems** along with **Samuel, Emma, and Sophie**, from Andover, sealed their covenant of love in the Jubilee Family Shrine. They look forward to their Home Shrine celebration next.



Home Shrine: Beth Barriga had to reschedule her Home Shrine Dedication due to white-out conditions. Fr Mark Niehaus blessed the **Tower of David** on January 29, 2014, in Eagle Lake. It was a special time for family to come together.



Home Shrine: Another home shrine was dedicated in the Eagle Lake, MN, area on February 2, 2014. Father Mariano Varela, IVE, said he felt the presence of Mary as he officiated in the ceremony. Betty Radke chose the MTA's newest title as **Mystical Rose**.

Valentine Weekend for Girls Youth



Ten Schoenstatt Girls Youth enjoyed the **Valentine Weekend** at the shrine. In their busy schedule, they enjoyed a craft time of making the Gingerbread Shrines, since the minus degree wind chill temps had canceled the traditional Epiphany Party in January. Next girls weekend is scheduled October 17-19 for the Centennial Celebration.

Epiphany Parish hosts 4th Dinner Dance



Jennifer & Jim Wagner and **Greg & Basia Zebro** sat for a moment Sunday evening, February 16, at the Schoenstatt Event in Coon Rapids. 50 persons enjoyed the meal by Rhonda Dillon, DJ by Mark Meuer with various dance teachers, and door prizes. "Hopefully more can come next year once they hear how much fun we had," Michelle Boyum emailed afterwards.

Covenant of Love DVD Series in Missouri



On the feast of **Our Lady's Birthday**, September 8, 2013, **Rose & Bill Halter** from Benton, Missouri, made their **covenant of love**, at St Denis Parish. They prepared via the Schoenstatt DVD Covenant Series. This photo is from October 2007 when they donated an MTA picture to be placed in the confessional room. Father Barone and their Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign group signed the back of picture.

MARK your CALENDARS for warmer events!

March 21-23, 2014: Father-Son Weekend begins Friday at 7 pm to Sunday at 1 pm. \$60 per person.

March 28-30, 2014: Vocation Retreat Weekend begins Friday at 7 pm to Sunday at 1 pm at no cost. Girls 15 years and older are invited to meet Sister M Emily and our five postulants who will receive their sister's dress on Saturday, September 13, 2014, in Waukesha, WI.

March 30, 2014: Families are invited to come and meet the postulants and hear from some of our sisters' family members on how to foster God's gift of vocations.

April 4-6, 2014: Mother-Daughter Weekend begins Friday at 7 pm to Sunday at 1 pm. *Register Early* as space is limited. \$60 per person.

April 19, 2014: Traditional Filipino Holy Saturday Shrine Pilgrimage to accompany Our Lady this day via the rosary, stations, talk, potluck lunch, and activities from 10 am - 3 pm.

May 4-5, 2014: 10th Annual Mothers' Conference. You may come Sunday afternoon & stay overnight. Monday begins with 8 am Mass ending at 4:30 pm. Please plan on joining us.

**Don't forget the 3rd Annual BARN SALE will be
August 7-9, 2014 from 9 am to 6 pm
Dave & Jenny Baker, 651-278-6633
1623 210th St E, Farmington MN**

**Give gently used items or collectables
Volunteers for set-up or take down are needed
All proceeds go for our Schoenstatt Mission!**

How to Obtain an Octagonal MTA Picture



If anyone is interested in obtaining an MTA picture with the original octagonal dimensions, Country Framing, Milroy, MN, makes this possible in 4 sizes. Honor our MTA and create your own family heirloom. Shop or order one at our store or call 612-618-9334.

Here and there we get a call for a nice **Kneeler**, so one can pray in your home shrine. I wanted to pass on the website from a family in Frankfort, IN: www.bearswoodshop.com 765-652-0131

"Whoever says Mary, says grace," Father Kentenich proclaimed.

Waukesha, WI, Movement Hall Progresses



Despite such a record-breaking winter, progress continues with the new hall attached to the east end of the Retreat Center toward the National Shrine. What a golden jubilee gift for our MTA and founder. The Sisters are grateful for all of your pledged support & donations!

Austin Shrine Breaks Ground March 16

The Movement in Austin, Texas, invites everyone to join them for Mass with the Ground-breaking for the *Bethlehem, Cradle of Sanctity Shrine* at 11 am on March 16, 2014. The following Dioceses and Communities are helping to unite and build via the following symbols:

Schoenstatt Family of Brownsville: Holy Spirit Symbol
Schoenstatt Family of Corpus Christi: St. Joseph Statue
Schoenstatt Family of Dallas-Ft Worth: VerSacrum Lamp
Schoenstatt Family of Houston: Father Eye Symbol
Schoenstatt Family of Laredo: Antependium "Nothing without you, nothing without us"

Schoenstatt Family of San Antonio: St. Vincent Pallotti Statue

The Dedication of this Schoenstatt Shrine, #11 in the USA, is set for Saturday, September 13, 2014 at 2:30 pm. Find a reason to be in Austin and you won't regret it!

Where will you be October 18th?

Make your plans now to come and visit the Jubilee Family Shrine during this Centennial Year. Bring along family and friends. Our Mother Thrice Admirable is waiting for you! **Save the date of Saturday, October 18, 2014, from 10 am - 4 pm.** We will renew the covenant of love on the 100th anniversary at the Jubilee Family Shrine in Sleepy Eye! Bishop John LeVoir will be with us to offer Holy Mass and all will be treated to the Schoenstatt Girls Youth Play! They have been working hard and practices are ongoing.

Jesus is risen, there is hope for you, you are no longer in the power of sin, of evil! Love has triumphed; mercy has been victorious! The mercy of God always triumphs!

-Pope Francis' 1st Easter, March 31, 2013