

Celebration of Fr. Kentenich's Centenary of Birth (1885 – 1985)

It all began in late 1984 when the Girls' Youth gathered to choose the person they felt would best represent them at the international pilgrimage celebrating Fr Kentenich's Centenary of Birth, to be held in Schoenstatt, Germany. Irene was chosen and gracefully accepted the role of representing Australia. It was then go go go for the Aussie girls as they madly fundraised to help cover the costs and did spiritual preparations for this special occasion. Sr M. Lisette searched far and wide for gem stones to adorn a crown for Our Lady, our special 100th birthday gift.



In late August Irene left for Germany accompanied by 16 fellow Aussies from Sydney. Once in Germany we were billeted with girls from all over the globe and formed a close bond with girls from Cape Town and England. There were several formal and informal events whereby girls from over thirty countries shared of their relationship with Our Lady Queen of Schoenstatt. As Aussie girls we were able to share our unique culture and the way in which the youth in Australia entered into and developed a relationship with Our Blessed Mother. (The actual talk given at the International Gathering of the Girls' Youth is attached below as a photo.)

We visited the Original Shrine and prayed at the tomb of Our Father & Founder, especially for our Girls' Branch in Australia. Going to Cambrai, France and remembering the sacrifice of the young Joseph Engling was a very moving part of our pilgrimage. So too, visiting Dachau where Fr Kentenich continued to draw strength from the Covenant of Love in all his experiences.

Visiting Rome, the Vatican and meeting the Pope in a special audience with the Schoenstatt Family was another highlight of our trip. We placed 'our crown' on the altars in all the significant places and held members of our Girls' Branch close in our thoughts and prayers.



The special 'Festwoche' (Festival Week) was a very memorable time of great celebration. Prayers, masses and songs in many languages were a rich addition to our feeling part of a united International Schoenstatt Family. As seventeen year olds we felt enormously blessed to be part of such an amazing, culturally diverse, yet one in Spirit event, sure that Fr Kentenich would have been smiling at his 100th birthday event!

Irene Adamson & Geraldine Waters

AUST. GIRLS YOUTH

INTRODUCTORY TALK:

12 SEPT '85

We the Schönstatt girls youth of Aust have travelled a great distance to participate in the centennial year celebrations here in Schönstatt. We gladly greet our father and founder Father Joseph Kentenich in this special year.

Our exterior gift we wish to present is this crown of Loyalty which holds a special place in the heart of the Australian girls. The inner meaning which is associated with the offering of this Crown is the most important aspect of the birthday gift. Father Kentenich's life long wish was to Crown Our Lady as the great pathway who leads us all into a deeper union with Jesus Christ and Our

Meaning by Father. Thus, the striving of the girls youth especially over the past year has been to constantly add to the treasury of grace so that Mary can continue to distribute her graces through Our Shrine.

She is the great sun-clothed woman who constantly bore Christ in her heart.

Father Kentenich wished to proclaim the glories of Our Lord Jesus Christ through drawing people to his Blessed Mother. Father Kentenich once said "Our nation and our country must once again become a land of Mary." We hope and pray that our efforts and commitment to the covenant of love and our constant desire to Crown Our Lady as our Mother and Queen & Victress of Schönstatt will provide great joy and pleasure for our father and founder, Father Joseph Kentenich!





The Schoenstatt 17 leave for Germany

Seventeen pilgrims, all members of the International Schoenstatt Movement, left Australia on Saturday, August 24 to attend celebrations for the centenary of the birth of the founder, Father Joseph Kentenich.

The festivities, to be held in Schoenstatt, Germany, will continue until September 15 which is the day of the founder's death.

More than 8,000 people are expected to attend.

The Australian group from New South Wales and Western Australia will be joined by Bishop Cremin of Sydney's southern region on September 14 and 15.

About 5,000 participants will then travel to Rome to



MOUNT SCHOENSTATT

continue the celebrations, the highlight of which will

be an audience with Pope John Paul II.

The Schoenstatt Movement will also celebrate in Sydney when the pilgrims return.

Anyone who is interested will be very welcome at the centenary celebrations on November 17 at the Schoenstatt Shrine, Fairlight Road, Mulgoa, NSW.



Pictured are 17 of the 27 pilgrims from New South Wales and Western Australia who left Sydney for Schoenstatt in Germany to attend celebrations for the centenary of the birth of Father Joseph Kentenich, founder of the International Schoenstatt Movement.