

MAY 2022 – SECOND STATION OF NINE MONTHLY (CAMINO -NOVENA) MEDITATIVE SHORT WALKS

The full 'Camino Walk' throughout Mt Schoenstatt will take place on Sunday 4th December, 2022. To build spiritual appreciation and understanding for that journey a focus is placed monthly on one spiritual site, involving a short walk and meditation as well as an object in the Shrine. For May, the second station is the '**Joseph Engling Stone**'.

AT THE SHRINE: We pray: Accept O Lord, my entire freedom my memory, my understanding, my entire will and my whole heart. You have given everything to me; I give everything back to you without reserve; do with it what you will. Give me but one thing: your grace, your love, your fruitfulness – your grace, that I may joyfully submit to your wish and will; your love that I may always believe, know and sometimes feel that I am loved as the apple of your eye; your fruitfulness that in you and our Lady I may become genuinely fruitful for our common task. Then I am more than rich, and will want nothing more. Amen (H'Wards, p.174 - Fr. Kentenich –Koblenz, October 1941)

WALK TO THE JOSEPH ENGLING STONE TO THE LEFT OF THE SHRINE: We read - "Schoenstatt stands and falls with people who really strive for holiness and who bring this striving for holiness into connection with our Shrine" (J. Kentenich). **Joseph Engling, (Photo 1)** a hero student, consecrated his life to the Blessed Mother during the founding era of the Schoenstatt Work. He participated as a soldier in World War I and during this time he aspired to selflessly serve his comrades. He died in 1918 close to Cambrai in France. The process for his beatification began on May 1, 1948. In his home town of Ermland and in the dioceses of Cambrai and Lille in northern France, **he is known as the "saint of unity"**. Many youth in Europe, North and South America, Africa and Australia have got to know him through the many memorial stones, youth hostel names and the World Youth Days in Cologne and Sydney. **Joseph Engling's 'way of life'** has become, and can still become, a prototype for the path of holiness for young people. A Joseph Engling Memorial Stone (**Photo 2**) such as we have here before us today is placed near many shrines in the world to remind and inspire all to become a witness, like Joseph, by his transformation in Christ through Mary.



'**Photo 3**' shows pilgrims from Australia in the 2000 Jubilee Year, at the cemetery in Cambrai, France where Joseph, as a young soldier, having found some potatoes in a field and being somewhat hungry decided to cook them 'hiding behind' these gravestones. '**Photo 4**' shows a memorial plaque, at the foot of the aforementioned stone, to **Fr. Boes**, whose story follows and who was greatly influenced by **Joseph's love for Schoenstatt** to work with the boys and family branches here in Mulgoa..

FR. CARL BOES - Schoenstatt Father: (Photo 5). Fr. Boes came to Australia in 1957, and Pallotine history of the Kimberley WA, gives us some clues as to the early life of this newly ordained priest. He was sent to Wyndham and Kununurra as Parish Priest and often did relief postings in Halls Creek and Derby as well as keeping in touch with the administration mission in Beagle Bay. He remained there until 1964. His life as a submarine commander in WW11 probably prepared him well to cope with the lonely and harsh life of the Kimberley, particularly the reality that in some places the presbyteries were no more than tin sheds.

Fr Boes and Fr. Evans (The first actual Australian Schoenstatt Father) joined the Community of the Schoenstatt Fathers which was founded in 1965. In 1967, Fr. Boes became assistant priest to Fr. Archbold at Mt Druitt, Sydney. Along with the Schoenstatt Sisters, he worked tirelessly towards the building up of the Schoenstatt Movement: working with the Schoenstatt Families, Boys and Young Men, annually taking the boys away on camp (boating trips were much enjoyed) and he regularly had formation days and camps at the Joseph Engling Centre which was built in 1973. Fr. Boes also travelled annually to the Schoenstatt Family in Perth and whenever possible, also to Toowoomba. He kept in close contact with those entrusted to his care, phoning families and young people on special days such as birthdays or anniversaries. Formation days and Family weekends at Mount Schoenstatt were important times when he could help lead members of the movement to a deeper understanding of our Schoenstatt Mission in Australia to be 'One heart in the Father for the Family of God'. He has been sadly missed since God called him home in 2005. The **fifth photo** above shows **Fr Boes on the 10th Anniversary of the Armadale Schoenstatt Shrine (WA) in 2001** blessing the "**Father Eye Symbol**" prior to its installation in that Shrine.

The 'Father Eye' symbol of "God's everlasting love" is a fitting symbol for both Joseph Engling and Father Carl Boes who believed so much in the everlasting love of God and our Mother in Schoenstatt for all of humankind. We return to the Shrine now for some reflection on this symbol', here at Mt Schoenstatt Mulgoa.

IN THE SHRINE: As you complete the Second Station in preparation for the full Camino, you now come before the Blessed Sacrament in the Shrine again. Quietly sit before the Lord and share with Him your heart's deepest longings.



As you open your eyes or become more aware of your surroundings, you see the picture of the Mother Thrice Admirable of Schoenstatt. Your eyes meet hers there. Sit in silence and speak to your Mother.

Looking above the picture you will see the **Father Symbol** which is a symbol of the Triune God. The Father Symbol (*or Father Eye as it is sometimes called*) reflects the **all-seeing eye of God** and reminds us that we are living in the presence of the Heavenly Father, who sees us, loves us and is personally interested in us.

The Father Eye is a symbol of **God's merciful love** and reflects the **Father's gift to us – his Son, Jesus**. Fr Kentenich often said "every gift is a task". Here it is worth **reflecting** on the gifts God has given to each of us and to our Schoenstatt Family here in Australia and what **task** this gift means for me.

The Father Eye Symbol reminds us of **The Glory of the Triune God**. We can also share in the glory of God by our **readiness** to fulfill the mission He gives to each one of us

The Father Eye Symbol reminds us that **God is Love**. Father Kentenich (as did Joseph Engling and Fr. Carl Boes) saw all that happened in his life and the life of his Schoenstatt Family, as a **Loving Plan of God**. God does **everything**: "*out of love, through love and for love.*"

Our **spiritual journey** should ultimately **lead us homewards to the Heavenly Father**. To help us on this journey we have Our Blessed Mother together with her Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

The Father Symbol is a sign of unity in our Schoenstatt Family for it *unites us*:

- ❖ With our **Blessed Mother** in and around her **Shrine**
- ❖ With our **father and founder**, Fr. Kentenich
- ❖ With our whole Schoenstatt family in the **Covenant of Love**

The Father Eye Symbol, but in different designs, is installed in many Schoenstatt Shrines throughout the world. Our Father Symbol was installed on 22nd December 1970 and was designed by Sr. M. Helen to reflect our Australian culture and heritage together with our Schoenstatt Family: **Southern Cross** - land of the Holy Spirit; **boomerangs** - reflect our first nation heritage; **The three 'towers'** - symbolize the Adoration Church, also known as the Church of the Holy Trinity, where Fr. Kentenich said his last Mass, died and is now laid to rest.

On the bottom of the Father Symbol are the words, "Dilexit Ecclesiam" – He loved the Church. These words express the way Father Kentenich lived his whole life. All during his life he served the Church that he loved and he wanted his Schoenstatt Family to also serve and love the Church. These words are now on his tombstone.

Thank you for joining us today. The 3rd Station in June focuses on the 'Father Kentenich Statue' and Fr. Evans, the first Australian Schoenstatt Father who had much to do with the Melbourne Shrine in his early days. Our meditation focus will be the picture and frame of the Mother Thrice Admirable. Go in peace. Amen.

Can't make it each month? You can follow this **'Camino Novena'** at schoenstatt.org.au or on Facebook, search: **Mt Schoenstatt Retreat Centre, Mulgoa**