# National Newsletter Schoenstatt Australia



June 18 2024

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# 1. Covenant Day Message

Walking Together, Loving the Church

Dear Schoenstatt Family and Friends,

Greetings and blessings for this Covenant Day – 18<sup>th</sup> June. Since our last Covenant Day, we have celebrated and commemorated the Feast of Mary's Visitation to Elizabeth (31<sup>st</sup> May), The Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi Sunday – 2<sup>nd</sup> June), The Sacred Heart of Jesus (7<sup>th</sup> June) and The Immaculate Heart of Mary (8<sup>th</sup> June).

All these solemnities are very much at the centre of our faith. They are also very much a part of the life of our Blessed Mother and her Son. They exemplify for us that if we give ourselves completely to the Mother of God, she leads us to her Son, and through her Son to the Holy Spirit and to the Heavenly Father – to the Triune God.

Father Kentenich believed that love for Mary leads us to a profound and warm love for Jesus Christ.

During the October Week, 16–20 October 1950, Father Kentenich said:

"Our Blessed Mother's relationship to Christ is the soul of her soul. If I belong to her, if I accept the objective order of being, my love for Mary, my intimacy with her, must be related to Christ.

That is to say, the vast Christ-river flows more strongly in the Mother of God than in any other created being. In her we find the strongest current, which must take hold of me.

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My love for Mary must be related to Christ through and through, and if it is not related to Christ, it has not taken its bearings from the objective order of being.

Everything depends on whether, through the Blessed Mother, we come in an outstanding way into the river bearing us to Christ. It is obvious, through Christ we come to the Father in the Holy Spirit.

......You cannot imagine any created being who possesses such a burning love for our Lord as the Mother of God. That is why my love for God's Mother must in the first place be related to Christ, it must lead to a fervent love for Christ and being gripped by love for Christ.

unless my love for Mary develops in this way, something is lacking.

So how can we describe the instrumental character of my bonding to Mary, my love for Mary? I think I would have to put it this way: It must be a love for Mary that leads to a vital and vitalising bonding with Christ. ....

What does that mean? My whole personality must be re-vitalised through clinging to the living Christ. What does our love for Mary give us? A far-reaching knowledge of Christ.

There is nothing that gives our love for Christ so much warmth as deep love for Mary. ....

When you study our Lady, you are confronted with a far-reaching knowledge of Christ. Perhaps you will now understand a classic statement better:

The way via the Mother of God is the easiest, surest and shortest way to a deep intimacy with Christ and being gripped by God."

(From: Christ my Life- selected texts from Fr. J. Kentenich)

O Triune God, be eternally praised for all the great things you have done for us:

For giving Schoenstatt a Mother and for immersing us, through her, deeply into Christ.

We praise you because Mary's life has given us the norm for our daily living and brought the splendour of Christ the Sun so humanly near to us.

#### For this month

During this coming month we ask our Heavenly Mother to bless each of us and our families.

Through our Covenant of Love may we continue to walk together as a Schoenstatt family, centred on Our Mother Thrice Admirable, and through her, with the Blessed Trinity.

We ask her to take special care of those in our own families and the Schoenstatt Family, who are struggling at this time with illness or in any other ways.

May each of you receive many blessings and graces from our Shrines on this Covenant Day and throughout the coming month.

Shirley Hall

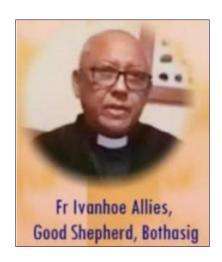
## 2. Tribute to Fr Ivanhoe Allies

Fr. Ivanhoe ministered to our Schoenstatt family in Australia from 2000 – 2007 and contributed much as he helped us grow in our Schoenstatt spirituality as well as personally supporting individuals and groups in NSW, VIC, WA and QLD.

We missed him very much when he was transferred to Nigeria. Later he was incardinated into the Cape Town Diocese in South Africa.

Only last year he gave a much-appreciated input at our National Conference by means of a video. We all enjoyed seeing and hearing from him once more. His sudden passing on May 13 was a shock to all of us. Masses have been said for him at Mulgoa, in Perth and in Melbourne.

Below is a tribute from Monica and Ralph Perez from the family branch in Perth.



"I know that the day will come When my sight of this earth shall be lost, And life will take its leave in silence, Drawing the last curtain over my eyes."

The opening lines of the poem 'Last Curtain' by poet, playwright, philosopher Rabindranath Tagore. Fr Ivanhoe's favourite poet at work. Fr Ivanhoe knew this day would come, as it must for all of us, the day when sight of this earth shall be lost.

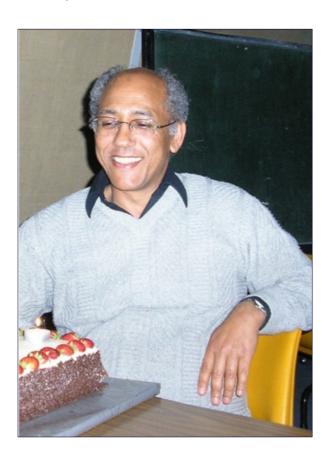
God had the place, that placed Jesus promised us. He went ahead to prepare for us in His father's mansion (John 14:3). For Fr Ivanhoe that place was ready ... but our hearts were not.

With sadness and shock we mourn – from Germany to Nigeria, from South Africa to Australia, New Zealand and India.

Yet the stars will still watch by night; And the sun will still rise like before.

The hours will still heave like the sea waves, casting up pleasure and pains' (Tagore)

We mourn - though we know that life heaves on like the waves ... for now yet our hearts hurt, and we mourn, for now we are allowed to mourn.



Ralph first met Fr Ivanhoe on a work stint in Sydney in 2000 although we live in Perth. One weekend he decided to visit the Schoenstatt shrine in Mulgoa, NSW. They were introduced, enjoyed wonderful conversation and dialogue – he came home with much admiration for the Schoenstatt Father he was blessed to have met.

Fr Ivanhoe called our home one day to thank me for an article I had submitted to our WA Schoenstatt newsletter. "Ah, Miss Corden-Lloyd English language and Miss Corden-Lloyd grammar" he said with what became a familiar twinkle in his voice, "I recognised the style via my older brother" he continued. That call was my introduction to Fr Ivanhoe.

(Miss Corden-Lloyd taught English at Wittebome High School Wynberg, Cape Province, where both his older brother and I attended).

#### **Formation in Perth**

From the year 2000 to 2007 Fr Ivanhoe visited Perth, from September to mid-October, to lead the Movement in formation – this included a family branch live-in retreat weekend – an event that became the highlight of our formation year.

Both parents and children alike warmed around him. Fr Ivanhoe would bring with him a spark that would reignite our fires, our commitment to once again do ordinary things extraordinary well, a spark and vitality and a wonderful warm sense of love for life.

We would all crowd around him like eager children wishing to learn. We discovered how much he loved his family, how much he loved his work, how he loved his fellow man and how dearly he loved Schoenstatt. We debated with him as easily as we sang hymns and songs of praise and thanks to God and to the Blessed Mother together.

We also got to know that Fr Ivanhoe bore the people of Africa closest in his heart.

#### A linguist and polymath

Father was a linguist - he was at home with the German language as he was with English and Afrikaans, with Spanish as he was with Latin, and the odd click of the tongue, with Xhosa.

He was a polymath, a great thinker, a renaissance person one may say – comfortable in the fields of faith, science and art. But his education and guidance to us in Schoenstatt teaching was where he surpassed, beyond being a linguist or a polymath – he was foremost a father figure, and a priest in the line of Melchizedek.

#### Receiving questions with respect

At one family branch retreat I remember a question being put to Fr Ivanhoe – what is your definition of 'community' father? His reply was as simple as it was profound. 'Making room for one more, then one more, then room for one more'. But what stood out most of all was that her simple question to him received the same dignity and respect and warmth, equal to him discussing Canon Law with a fellow priest or debating the subject of autocrats, magnates and oligarchy with a fellow PHD student. The same respect and the same utmost regard.

#### Fr Ivanhoe's impact

A member of our family branch always speaks of the impact Fr Ivanhoe made on him.

He relates: "I watched as Father distributed the Body of Christ at Mass, each action was deliberate and slow to each communicant, unrushed and with intention, so as to say, 'be aware and present as you receive the sacred body' with each utter of 'Body of Christ'.

Father was not one who divides, he was one who made room for one more, then one more, and then yet one more, to build the loving family of God. Culture or creed bore no division, there was always room in his heart for one more.

Father Ivanhoe stood strongly on great shoulders: shoulders of loved Schoenstatt Fathers before, e.g. Fr Ripberger, Fr Schneider, Fr Boes, Fr Evans: he stood strongly on their shoulders as a true son of our father and founder, Father Joseph Kentenich.



#### The Shrine

Fr Ivanhoe believed that the Shrine is a place of Grace – a place where Our Blessed Mother has made her abode. He lived the Covenant he made with her.

God was the God of his life – The Triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – who was, who is and shall be forever more. Holy Scripture was his daily sustenance. Father Ivanhoe told us once that his ordination card was inscribed with words – 'Speak Lord your servant is listening, you have the words of Eternal Life.' ( I Samuel 3: 9,10)

#### Thanks to Father Ivanhoe

Your earthly life has ended Father, and we mourn you, but we do know with confidence that the angels and saints were there to meet you, to Eternal Life.

We thank you Fr Ivanhoe, with all our hearts, our own family thank you: all people from the depth and width of this wide continent/country Australia thank you – from Toowoomba to Katoomba, from the hinterlands of Mulgoa to Melbourne and from far-flung Perth, resounds and reverberates a heartfelt thank you!

We extend our warmest love, prayers and sympathy to Fr Ivanhoe's family and to his friends, to the people of the Archdiocese of Cape Town, to all members of Good Shepherd Parish, Bothasig to whom he was Shepherd, to the Schoenstatt community in South Africa, to our Schoenstatt Communities in the world whose lives Father touched, and to all who knew and loved him.

#### **Farewell**

Father Kentenich once said; 'Heaven will tell of our contributions to the treasury of grace'. Fr Ivanhoe bore his asthma bravely; heaven will tell of his contributions.

God called him home in May, a special month of Mary. Rest in God's Peace Fr Ivanhoe.

Taken from Sequence - Feast of Pentecost: "Give us comfort when we die, Give us life with thee on high, Give us joys that never end."

Final commendation and farewell at Christian burial ... "Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of our brother.

May our farewell express our affection for him; may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet him again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself."

Farewell Father Ivanhoe, you will be dearly missed!

Now and then after a presentation Fr Ivanhoe, with a twinkle in his eye and laughter in his voice would say "... fluit fluit my storie is uit!!!"

The poet Tagore speaks of the new morning, when new life awakens in the God of Love. I will conclude with his words ...

'The Rise of the curtain and the new Morning and my life awakens. In its fresh surprise of love.'



# 3. Marian Pilgrimage Mulgoa

Sr. M. Rita Baysari

The Schoenstatt Marian Pilgrimage Day on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024 proved once again to be a blessed and joyful day. With the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary praying the whole week prior to the annual event for good weather, the blessed Mother really pulled through blessing for a day with beautiful blue skies and the sun shining ever so brightly!

A motivated team of volunteers were out in full force early Saturday morning with some even working until the late afternoon. It was a very joyful and positive atmosphere, with everyone helping each other wherever it was needed, even some visitors to the shrine also spontaneously pitching in. Everyone had a job to do and was kept occupied with various tasks such as setting up the stage, chairs, flags, flower decoration, preparing the shop, parking or cleaning the shrine.

Early Sunday morning the last-minute things were organised and the altar, sound system and choir were set up outside the shrine. The food stalls also reserved their places and began to prepare for the big day. Several groups of pilgrims travelling all the way from Melbourne had already arrived the previous evening and by 9:00am many more pilgrims began to arrive.

Before holy Mass Father Andrew Fornal OP (Parish Priest of St. Joseph Kingswood) and Father Jacek Buda OP availed themselves for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, of which many people gladly took advantage. Following a short pre-program prayer the Holy Mass began at 10:30am with a beautiful entrance procession with many international flags which took their place in front of the shrine.

Bernard Toutounji was Master of Ceremonies, with Deacon Charles Abela and Deacon Jerome D'Rozario, two seminarians from the Seminary of the Holy Spirit-Parramatta, and three acolytes assisted with the beautiful liturgy in which approximately 800 pilgrims took part in on the



grounds of Mount Schoenstatt, Mulgoa.

This year's Marian Pilgrimage coincided with Pentecost Sunday and the actual day of the blessing of the shrine 56 years ago. The motto of the day was: "Mary, your Shrine - Our Cenacle!"

In his highly praised homily Father Andrew OP wonderfully gave a personal testimony of how the Blessed Mother has constantly guided and been personally near to him in his thirty years of priesthood. Father Andrew emphasised Mary's presence and role with the apostles in the Cenacle during the first Pentecost and noted the particular mission the Mother Thrice Admirable has in forming and educating people from the Schoenstatt shrine.

He stated: "One of the fruits of Pentecost is the Schoenstatt Movement founded by Father Joseph Kentenich ... responding to the call of the Holy Spirit to bring the Gospel of Christ to families." He invited us to remain in the upper room and pray with Mary for the coming of the Holy Spirit upon us and the church today.





Before the conclusion of the holy Mass there was the recommissioning of the Pilgrim Mother Coordinators. Four new coordinators from St Michael's parish Meadowbank, All Saints parish Liverpool and St Lukes parish Marsden were also sent out as Father Andrew entrusted the Pilgrim Mother to them for the first time. The Pilgrim Mother Apostolate is an initiative from Schoenstatt in which the blessed Mother in the form of a little wooden shrine travels around groups of families or individuals on a regular basis. Find out more about this powerful initiative here.





Next it was time for lunch. The various food stalls, coffee and cake that were available were very much appreciated. Many groups brought their own picnic rugs and chairs, so all were able to enjoy the wonderful nature, the warm sun and great company. The beautifully decorated shrine was also constantly filled with many people praying silently and bringing flowers or candles as a token of their gratitude and love for Mary.

The bells of the shrine began to ring at 1:45pm inviting all the pilgrims down the hill into the valley where the Eucharistic procession was due to start 2:00pm. Incense followed by the seminarians carrying the candles led the procession. Father Andrew carried the Eucharistic Lord in the monstrance with four canopy bearers. The rest of the pilgrims followed and proceeded back up the mountain towards the shrine. Praying and singing the pilgrims prayed the rosary during the Eucharistic procession which radiated such peace, joy and hope. Running time-parallel to the procession Father Jacek Buda OP and Father Piotr Kruk OP were available for the anointing of the sick and individual blessings at shrine. As the eucharistic procession arrived back to the main altar near the shrine the day concluded with Benediction and the blessing of all religious items that were purchased during the day.

Sr. Luisa Maria thanked everyone for their participation especially the benefactors and volunteers who contributed so much to make this day happen. A special thank you was also given to the priests for assisting in distributing the Sacraments but also the deacons, seminarians, acolytes, and choir who assisted in making the liturgies of the day so beautiful and worthy.

The following video clip of various photos of the day attempts to encapsulate the joyful and blessed atmosphere of the day. Enjoy!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBOYf9cc6V8



# 4. PMA Gathering at St Ives, NSW.

On Saturday 27 April 2024, Father Greg Chee, Parish Priest, Corpus Christi Parish, St Ives, Sister Luisa Maria Fabre, Pilgrim Mother Apostolate (PMA) Main Coordinator for NSW and PMA members; gathered in the parish hall, to meet other members and guests and hear more about the Covenant of Love.

The Pilgrim Mother Apostolate is spreading fast in St Ives and other local parishes. Currently there are seven Pilgrim Mother shrines visiting members' homes. Father Greg blessed the PM shrines and spoke briefly about his devotion to Mother Mary, influenced by the teachings of St Louis–Marie de Montfort whose feast day coincided with our celebration. Sr. Luisa Maria spoke about the Covenant of Love, the Capital of Grace and the graces received when the Pilgrim Mother visits our homes.

Sister described a covenant as a formal agreement or promise either written or oral between two or more people. God made a covenant with us when we were baptised. In Schoenstatt we make a covenant of love with Mother Mary as a deepening of our Covenant of love with God.

We were encouraged by her to reflect on our wedding vows where we agreed to be faithful in good times and bad, to love and honour each other during our lifetime.

Similarly, when we make a Covenant with our Mother Thrice Admirable, there are promises and demands on both sides. Our Lady is faithful to us in good and in bad times and she will be with us forever.

Basic elements of every covenant: special election, mutual promises and demands and the blessings of the covenant.

We are chosen by Mother Mary who needs our cooperation, to act as willing instruments for her mission. 'Nothing without you, nothing without us.' There are six promises and six demands.

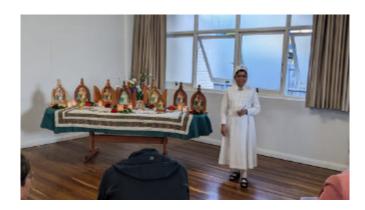


#### The promises

- 1. It will please me to dwell in your midst
- 2. And distribute gifts and graces in abundance.
- 3. From here I will draw youthful hearts to myself.
- 4. I will educate them
- 5. To be useful instruments
- 6. In my hand.

#### The demands

- Prove first by your deeds that you really love me.
- 2. Increase your striving for holiness to the highest degree.
- 3. This sanctification I demand of you.
- 4. Diligently bring me contributions to the 'Capital of Grace'.
- 5. Fulfil your duties faithfully.
- 6. Pray fervently.



#### The Capital of Grace

What is meant by the Capital of Grace? – We offer our prayers, joys and sorrows to her treasury and Our Lady distributes graces from the Shrine in return. Our role is to help her bring Christ anew to the world.

#### **Shrine Graces**

The Mother Thrice Admirable brings graces to our homes from the Shrine:

- 1. The grace of a home In her presence we feel accepted and loved.
- 2. The grace of inner transformation Our Lady teaches us to be like her.
- 3. The grace of apostolic fruitfulness or mission zeal She gives us the grace to share the message of God's love with everyone we meet.

In the St Ives Formation group there are members preparing to make their Covenant of Love with Our Lady on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July 2024.

#### **Testimonials**

After Sr. Luisa Maria's talk members shared how Our Lady works in their homes. The testimonies were inspiring.

One member spoke about Our Lady of Schoenstatt taking 'perfect care', when her son suffered a heart attack on his way to work. He was rushed to hospital, and the doctors' quick action saved his life.

Another spoke about her desire to have a second child. Seven years on, a couple of months after she joined the Pilgrim Mother Apostolate, she fell pregnant. Her baby daughter has brought so much joy to the family.



A member who has always been close to Mother Mary told us that her husband couldn't find work after he was retrenched. He finally accepted a job he did not like. Soon after the Pilgrim Mother visited their home, he got work in his field of expertise. The family is grateful to our Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt.

During afternoon tea members had the opportunity to speak with Sr. Luisa Maria and meet other members. In 2025 we look forward to celebrating 25 years of Schoenstatt in Corpus Christi Parish, St Ives.

Crystal D'Souza, PMA Coordinator, Corpus Christi Parish, St Ives.



## 5. Feasts of Sts Peter and Paul

The wooden carved statues of Saints Peter and Paul are found to the left and right of the Shrine altar, just below the image of our Mother Thrice Admirable.

#### A reminder

They are a reminder to us that Schoenstatt is an apostolic movement, and we are all called to be apostolic and to serve the Church with our unique, individual gifts and talents as did St. Peter and St. Paul.

#### **History of the statues**

The statues were placed in the Original Shrine in 1935 for the 100th anniversary of the founding of St. Vincent Pallotti's Catholic Apostolate. They also remind us that Mary is the Queen of Apostles and that the Shrine is a new Cenacle.

(Adapted from 200 questions: Fr. J. Niehaus)

#### St Paul

Fr. Kentenich, on his 73rd birthday, made the following reference to St. Paul in relation to his own mission:

"If we asked St. Paul what mission he had, he would tell us: I received the mission to proclaim the mystery of Christ to the world; Christ, the Redeemer, the Mediator, the Head of the Mystical Body. We immediately ask: What mission did I receive seventy-three years ago?"

#### Fr Kentenich

With one eye on St. Paul, I may say: It was and is my mission to proclaim the mystery of Mary to the world.

It is my task to proclaim the Blessed Mother, to make her known to our time as the permanent Helpmate of our Lord in the entire work of redemption ... [to proclaim] the Blessed Mother – deeply united with our Lord, joined in two-in-oneness – with the specific mission which she has from her Schoenstatt Shrine for today."

(J. Kentenich, Milwaukee, 16 November 1958).





# 6. Our Father's Ordination Day

We give thanks for the gift of our founder's priesthood and the fruitfulness of his priestly service over 58 years.

On Friday, July 8, 1910, eight new priests were ordained in the house chapel of the Pallottine Limburg Mission House. The youngest of these, not yet 25 years of age, was Joseph Kentenich.

#### **First Masses**

The following Sunday, July 10, in the same house chapel, Fr. Kentenich celebrated his solemn First Mass. Fr. Kolb, the provincial superior, was the assisting priest. A solemn First Mass in his home parish in Gymnich followed on July 24. The Mass was in St. Cunibert's Church and afterwards the family gathered to celebrate at the home of Hubert and Sibilla Blatzheim (siblings and cousins of his mother).

#### **Great joy for Fr Kentenich's mother**

Joseph's ordination and First Mass were a cause of great joy for his mother. After many years of sacrifice and prayer she saw him reach his goal. For the occasion she gave him an ornate 4-foot (120 cm) wooden crucifix. She had this dedication hand-carved in ornate letters on the back: "Dear Joseph! Your Mother gives you this Cross for your First Mass".

Joseph's ordination card placed a kind of headline over his life's vocation. The motto he chose was: "Unite, O my God, all minds in truth and all hearts in love!" To this he added: "Heart of Jesus, I trust in you" and "Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation"

Grant, O my God, that all minds may be united in truth and all hearts in love.

(From the back of the Mass card for his first Mass)



Over 50 years later, in 1962, he commented on the spirit in which he embarked on the priesthood. Speaking of himself in the third person he said:

Throughout his life he was inspired by a single great ideal: God and souls. For him all else was secondary. All else was resolutely ordered and subjected to this great idea of his life. Hence, he always sought to open souls for God and unite them inseparably with God. And this made it imperative for him to see to it that the soul be opened and remain open – wherever possible to its inmost depths – to God and the divine.

Fr. Kentenich understood his entire priesthood to be in the light of service to God and others:

Throughout his life he was inspired by a single great ideal: God and souls. For him all else was secondary. All else was resolutely ordered and subjected to this great idea of his life.

(From: "Brushstrokes of a Father", Volume 1)

### 7. Covenant Sundays at Mulgoa A New Approach

As we all know, our father and founder wished that we gather together as a family to renew our Covenant of Love with our MTA each month. In the letter to the Australian Schoenstatt Family for the blessing of the Shrine in Kew, Melbourne in 1952, he wrote:

"Everywhere people find their way to her Shrines. However, they do not come with empty hands; they bring rich gifts. They do not grow tired of offering to God's Mother the sacrifices of their serious efforts in self-education which cooperation with grace demands of them in everyday life. Large numbers of people offer these sacrifices especially on the 18th of each month. From these gatherings they return home enriched in spirit with new incentives and actual graces for the great work of their transformation into Christ."

After some reflection, the NSW Coordinating Team, recognised that the main reason for our family gathering on Covenant Sundays each month is to come together to give thanks for the many blessings of the Covenant in our lives and to bring our contributions to the Capital of Grace. Formation is the responsibility of the different branches of the Movement.

For the past years we have been offering some formation on Covenant Sundays through videos and discussions with participants coming in person or via a Zoom meeting.

At the wedding feast of Cara, at Our Ladys request, Our Lord transformed water into wine. (John 2)

Many, so the Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress in the Schoenstatt Strine, mittes us to Toringher our wine' as gifts of love, also known in Schoenstatts Dovenant of Love, as contributions to the 'capital of grace'.

Inturn, Mary will ask her Son to bestow an abundance of blessings on all those who visit her Shrine or pray before her picture of grace. My small offerings will be transformed into 'blessings of wine' for others.

Dear Mother Thrice Admirable, I place into the Shrine Jar my offering.

My prayers, my good deads, my gratitude, my joys, my trust in God, my witness to the faith, the troubles of my everyday life, my needs and womies, my physical and emobional suffering, my sacrifices and acts of self-denial, my conscious 'yes Father, your will be done', my efforts to educate myself to become the best I can be ...

\*\*Nathing\_without\_your, nathing\_without\_us.!\*\*

Each State has worked out how they want to celebrate the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month and this will continue to be the case.

However, in NSW we have agreed to trial a different approach to our celebration in the hope that we may be able to help introduce the many pilgrims to our Shrine to the Covenant of Love. In practice this means:

- 1. We will have Mass every Covenant Sunday (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month) at 11am as per usual.
- 2. Following Mass we will process together to the Shrine, carrying a Schoenstatt Flag and the Jar from the Shrine with all our contributions to the Capital of Grace.
- 3. In bringing the Jar to the Shrine, we want to emphasise that at the heart of our Covenant of Love is "nothing without you, nothing without us" that we bring Our Blessed Mother our gifts and sacrifices, and in return, we ask for her help for ourselves or for others.
- 4. At the Shrine we will renew our Covenant and then invite everyone to stay and share a meal (either BYO or a Barbeque)
- 5. We want to use the opportunity after the renewal to speak with pilgrims around the Shrine and encourage them to join in fellowship over lunch with the hope that they will slowly begin to feel 'part of the family' so to speak.

You may be asking what happens to the videos and Zoom meetings. Because these are a great help for all those who cannot physically come to the Shrine because of distance or health, we want to continue to offer the video and discussion BUT on the evening of the actual Covenant Day, the 18th of each month. That means from 7–8pm on Covenant days.

It is intended that this "new approach" will begin for the Covenant Sunday in July. We will trial it till the end of the year and then – after receiving your response to the new initiative – will make a decision whether to continue this way or not.

Sr. M. Elizabeth
On behalf of the NSW Coordinating Team.

# 8. Corpus Christi Procession Sydney

Sr. M. Elizabeth

On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, many Schoenstatt members gave witness to their love for the Blessed Eucharist when they attended the Corpus Christi Procession from Martin Place to St. Mary's Cathedral, in Sydney.

#### Walk with Christ

A "Walk with Christ". Although we were small in number, we took our place among 15,000 other Catholics from around the Sydney Archdiocese and beyond.

Several of us walked together as Schoenstatters with our MTA and Schoenstatt Flag held high.

Others joined their parishes or other organisations to which they belonged.

Some were carrying their Pilgrim Mother Shrines, others being aware of the Heart Shrines, engaged with friends at the beginning and end of the procession. It was encouraging to be part of such a powerful witness to our faith in the company of other Schoenstatt members.



#### **Archbishop Fisher's Homily**

During his homily at the final celebration in front of the Cathedral, Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP encouraged and praised the people as he said among other things:

"Today, my dear people, you have very publicly acknowledged God. Today, you have very publicly witnessed to hope and unity...



My dear people, you have just proclaimed to our city the gift of redemption in Christ Jesus.

Not through robust argument, clever rhetoric or special effects, but simply by 'Walking With Christ' whom you love.

You have formed a chavurah, a minyan, a communion, not of ten but more like ten thousand!

#### **Archbishop Fisher's Homily continued**

Like a priest calling down the Spirit upon the elements of bread and wine to change them into Christ's Body and Blood, you have exercised your priestly power as the baptised to call the Spirit down upon this city to change it into God's kingdom.

That his kingdom come, his will be done, on earth as in heaven, you brought Sydney our daily Bread, the Bread of Life.

You proclaimed that Christ lives in our city, our communities, our hearts. He has given us his all, his very Body and Blood, all his substance and reality, all his spirit and grace, so no one would be left behind. Give him your all in return!"





### 9. INFORMATION AND LINKS

#### Shrine Opening Hours

Please check the websites for updated opening times of the Shrines.

Mulgoa Shrine, NSW. Open daily: 7am - 7.30pm

Mt Richon / Armadale Shrine, WA. Open daily 7am - 7pm.

Melbourne: St. Luke's, Wantirna, Divine Mercy Chapel Opening hours: http://www.stlukeswantirna.net/



#### Links

Official Schoenstatt Website https://www.schoenstatt.com Schoenstatt Australian Website https://www.schoenstatt.org.au

https://www.youtube.com/schoenstattaustralia Our YouTube Channel

Western Australia Website https://schoenstattwa.org.au

Schoenstatt Men Website https://bit.ly/47x72n1

#### Videos for Covenant Sundays

Video for June Conversation in the Spirit

https://www.youtube.com/schoenstattaustralia

Text for May 31st May 1949 - 75 Years of Schoenstatt's Third Milestone

(no video this month - text available upon request)

Video for April A Listening Church

https://www.youtube.com/schoenstattaustralia

Video for March A humble and healing Church

https://voutu.be/4DBfVXL6GAs

Video for February An inclusive and welcoming Church

https://voutu.be/afGr5DBMcnc

The Sisters singing the consecration prayer may be viewed at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O29tXet2DQQ

#### Contributions to the Newsletter are welcome.

Please send to movtoffice@schoenstatt.org.au before the beginning of each month

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