



June 18 2025

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1. Covenant Day Message

United in the Covenant - Pilgrims of Hope

Dear Schoenstatt Family and Friends,

Welcome to our Covenant Day – the 18th of June. Last Sunday, our Covenant Sunday, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. This is a celebration that can be a mystery to many, and we may need to pray for the Wisdom to gradually deepen our understanding of the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three persons in one God – and give thanks and praise for this deep mystery.

On Pentecost Sunday (May 27, 1945), Father Kentenich spoke about this mystery and how we may come to a fervent love for the Trinity through Mary.

He said:

“What is the goal, the ultimate and final goal of our education? It is not love for Mary. Love for Mary is only a partial goal, a means to the end, but a means to which we must adhere always and completely. You know how it is with our hearts.

I can say a million times, “I love you.” However, by merely saying in a superficial way “I love you,” the whole wealth will not be transmitted to future generations.

Please come to understand why I am so afraid that we might forget the Blessed Mother..... But the final goal is the mystery of Redemption and the mystery of the Trinity. (...)

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As members of Schoenstatt, we are devoted to the Most Holy Trinity, the Final and Ultimate, the most Universal there is. We are devoted to the mysteries of Redemption.

In order to safely and permanently reach this goal, we allow no one to surpass us in our devotion to Mary.

We go to the Blessed Mother with greatest simplicity and fervour, not to remain with her, but to ascend through her completely to our Lord and to the Triune God. (...)

Seeing this great goal could make us tremble. Hence, the Holy Spirit has to come and continue and complete the miracle of the Holy Night. Did He do that? Today on the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity he showed us how great the ideal is. (...)

Servus Mariae nunquam peribit (a servant of Mary will never perish). As long as we belong to the Blessed Mother, you may rest assured, we will definitely grow in a fervent love for our Lord and for the Trinity. (...)

The educators may only say that they have fulfilled their task if those entrusted to them have been drawn into the entire mystery of Redemption and the Trinity.

The danger is great that we proceed too quickly. A [good] educator will say: Easy does it. Slowly but surely.

People accuse us of being one-sided, of having only the Blessed Mother. If we only were one-sided!

But it has to be an organic one-sidedness; that is to say, from the Blessed Mother we not only draw lines to our own lives, but also to the life of our Lord, to the Heavenly Father, and to the Holy Spirit.

J. Kentenich

Conference for Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary
May 27, 1945

(From: "In Covenant with the Blessed Trinity",
Pp126-127)



2. Important Remembrance Days

In the coming weeks we celebrate two days of remembrance which are important in our Schoenstatt Family history.

June 29 Feast of Saints Peter & Paul.



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

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)



Priestly Ordination of Father Kentenich, 8 July 1910

On Friday, July 8, 1910, Joseph Kentenich was ordained in the house chapel of the Pallottine Limburg Mission House together with seven other young men.

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 held in St. Cunibert's Church and afterwards his family gathered to celebrate.

Over 50 years later, in 1962, Father Kentenich 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.

(Adapted from: "Brushstrokes of a Father", Volume 1, Fr. Jonathan Niehaus)



3 Marian Pilgrimage at Mulgoa

Our Lady was the focal point of all celebrations that took place at Mt Schoenstatt on Sunday, 18 May as part of Schoenstatt's annual Marian Pilgrimage. In line with the Church's 2025 Jubilee Year, the motto of this year's pilgrimage was, "With Mary – Pilgrims of Hope!".

An estimated 900 people braved the cool temperatures and threatening clouds to participate in Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, concelebrated by Rev Fr Pawel Barszczewski OP, as well as deacons Rev Jerome D'Rozario and Rev Wilfredo Limjap, and seminarians from the Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Sydney.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation was also available to all pilgrims during the morning, prior to the start of Holy Mass. Many took the opportunity to go to confession as part of the necessary requirements to obtain a plenary indulgence when visiting the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa; one of the three nominated pilgrimage sites within the Diocese of Parramatta as part of the Jubilee Year.



The annual highlight of our Marian Pilgrimage each year is the sending out of coordinators for the Schoenstatt Pilgrim Mother Apostolate and this year eight new coordinators were named and presented with their Pilgrim Mother Shrines. These will now travel from home to home, so that the Blessed Mother can bring the light, hope and graces of Jesus, into the lives of those who receive her.



Hundreds of existing coordinators also attended the celebration to renew their annual commitment and to be sent out once again to their existing circles.

Bishop Long was visibly surprised and expressed joy at the sheer number of those, part of the wider Schoenstatt community, sharing in the same love and devotion to the Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt.

The several food stalls offering various cuisines ensured that pilgrims were well replenished with lunch in time for the afternoon program, which featured a Eucharistic procession starting in the valley.

Pilgrims followed behind the Blessed Sacrament, praying and meditating upon the Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary.

Alternatively, those who were unable to take part in the procession were given the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, which was also very well attended.

The procession culminated at the Shrine for a devotion and Benediction during which the final highlight of the day took place, the sealing of the Covenant of Love by 15 candidates.

C.f. following article.



Picture below: Eight new Coordinators received their new Pilgrim Mothers Shrines blessed and presented to them by Bishop Vincent Long.



4. Fruit of the Covenant of Love Information Sessions

Since the annual Marian Pilgrimage took place this year exactly on Covenant Day (May 18) those who had taken advantage of the offer in March to find out more about the Covenant of Love expressed the wish that they seal their Covenant with the Blessed Mother on this day. This turned out to be a highlight and genuine witness to the many pilgrims gathered at Mount Schoenstatt for the annual Marian Pilgrimage.

Fifteen candidates, who had been prepared through the Information Sessions, entered into the covenant of love with the Mother Thrice Admirable during the solemn devotion and Benediction following the Eucharistic Procession.

Most of the celebration took place outside the Shrine so that all could be part of this significant step.

They received a candle as a reminder of their Baptismal Covenant which Our Lady wants to help them to consciously live in daily life; they each received a medal, the sign of the Covenant they have sealed; and they signed the Covenant Book in the presence of all gathered at the Shrine. However, all candidates entered the Shrine to pray their consecration prayer. There was a reverent silence during this time as they committed themselves to walk along life's journey as Pilgrims of Hope with Mary by their side as their mother and educator, the one who will always lead them closer to Christ. The joy on their faces was apparent for all to see as they now seek to live out Mary's mission from the Shrine, revealing her presence in the world by their being and actions in their own lives.

With this wonderful fruit of the first Information Session, a second one will be offered on Sunday, 29 June at 3pm at Mt Schoenstatt. If you know of anyone who would be interested, please contact Sr M. Olivia on 0473 201 525 or email sister.m.olivia@gmail.com.



5. "We are all Schoenstatt" Campaign - Important Update

In Last year's November Newsletter, we introduced the Campaign "We are all Schoenstatt" set up by Schoenstatt's General Presidium. This article gave information but since there was no response that we are aware of to the article we have realised that we have failed to point out the importance of this campaign.

Our National Central Committee looked at the situation and as a start to providing funds for the Campaign, pilgrims to the Annual Marian Pilgrimage at Mulgoa were informed about this project and donations were collected for this purpose. The May pilgrimage at the Shrine at Mount Richon, WA, also contributed to this start fund. From these sources we will be able to send approximately Euro 700 at this stage. We thank everyone who has contributed.

With this article we want to encourage everyone's participation in this project, however large or small your contribution can be. To help us understand the background, we repeat here that the main objective of this campaign with the theme: "Embracing the origin, covenant of love for the world", is to unite the International Schoenstatt Family around the Original Shrine together with the projects which are under the responsibility of the General Presidium, namely: The independent research related to the 'Causa Kantenich' and the International Co-ordination Office of the Schoenstatt Movement.

If you are not yet familiar with the Campaign, we invite you to visit the following website: <https://schoenstatt.com/we-are-all-schoenstatt> where you can also make a donation.



Our National Website – <http://www.schoenstatt.org.au> – will also lead you to the possibility to make a donation. Please alert us if there are any difficulties in sending even the smallest amount. The General Presidium is eager to help in any way.

The General Presidium have also been true to their initial promise to be transparent and have sent us an up-to-date record of the amount received so far.

The goal for this first year of the Campaign which will finish on 18th October, 2025, is Euro 250,000 and to date Euro 42,677 have been received. From these figures given after six months, you can see we still have a long way to go to reach this year's goal.

We trust that you will realise the importance of sharing responsibility within our international Schoenstatt Family for the original Shrine and the related projects mentioned above.

Thank you for whatever you are able to manage at this time when most are doing it hard financially. Please let us know if you have any questions or ideas as to how we can support this campaign.

Sr. M. Elizabeth

On behalf of the National Central Committee.

6. 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/>



Events

- Covenant Sundays – Third Sunday of each month
11am Mulgoa, NSW; 3pm Wantirna, VIC; 3pm Mount Richon, WA
- Men at the Shrine – Second Wednesday each month 8–9pm Shrine, Mulgoa
- Shrine Time – for young adults – Fourth Sunday each month 7–8pm Shrine, Mulgoa

Links

Official Schoenstatt Website	https://www.schoenstatt.com
Schoenstatt Australian Website	https://www.schoenstatt.org.au
Our YouTube Channel	https://www.youtube.com/schoenstattaustralia
Western Australia Website	https://schoenstattwa.org.au
Schoenstatt Men Website	https://schoenstatt-men-australia.mailchimpsites.com

Videos for Covenant Days - 18th of the Month 7 - 8pm AEDT

Video for June	Pilgrimage of Hope – a new Pentecost for the Church. http://www.youtube.com/schoenstattaustralia
Video for May	Christ's Love, our Hope https://youtu.be/rZqwWBp9eW8?si=zgXyIW1sBeDB6tRL
Video for April	Jesus and Mary give us hope https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jAswD5pe-q8&t=8s
Video for March	Mary's Fiat in everyday life https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFInjQXKLLY
Video for February	The Consecration Prayer gives us hope anew each day, how our Covenant of Love invites us to hope. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGJt4KJMYXU&t=11s

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 movtooffice@schoenstatt.org.au before the beginning of each month

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