



SHRINE SOUNDINGS Jubilee Family Shrine & Retreat Center

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ANOTHER CENTENNIAL-100 YEARS OF THE MTA PICTURE OF GRACE IN THE SHRINE!



It was Good Friday 1915 when the picture of Mary that we now call the MTA-picture arrived from Freiburg at the train station in Vallendar. **It will be exactly 100 years on April 19 that our MTA-picture was attached in the Original Shrine in Germany.**

In Milwaukee, Father Kentenich began the cycle of the Game of Love sermons on May 23, 1965, referencing to the image and person of the Blessed Mother: "On April 23 of this year [1965] in St. Peter's Basilica, the Holy Father re-crowned the picture of the Mother of Grace of Pompeii after it had been restored. As we expected on this occasion, he preached a warm and profound sermon about Mary. He drew her picture anew and re-crowned it. At the same time,

he asked the faithful to also restore the image of Mary in their hearts, to examine it, to deepen it, to embellish it, and to form their practical lives accordingly."

In meditating on the person of the Blessed Mother, Father led his listeners into the entire wealth of the "game of love sermons" fifty years ago: "It is our wish to be more deeply introduced into the school of the Blessed Mother, into the art of being a true Father child who is characterized by openness to the Father, availability to the Father, rejoicing in the Father, even in the midst of greatest sorrow, and the paschal person's faithfulness to the Father..." (May 30, 1965)

We want to become "paschal persons," children of Easter, just as the Blessed Mother was. As often as we look upon her image in our shrine and home shrines, knowing that love creates a likeness, we may trust that this special grace will be given to us.

Our MTA has become the most recognized picture of Mary worldwide. Through the traveling Pilgrim MTA Shrines, Mary brings Jesus to over a quarter of a million hearts and homes in over 100 countries! She wants to come into your heart and home also.

Let's try to take the next couple of minutes to look at the MTA picture and not let anything else bother us. We want to open our hearts to Our Mother Thrice Admirable, asking her to make us Easter and Pentecost people, noble and kind, reflecting a foretaste of heaven, here and now through living our covenant of love.

Let us walk like you through life;
let us mirror you forever,
strong and noble, meek and mild,
peace and love be our endeavor.
Walk in us through our world,
make it ready for the Lord. -Fr Kentenich, *Heavenwards*

The Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary at the Shrine want to thank all of you for your monthly support and your generosity at Easter time. We place your petitions in the jar and ask Our MTA to answer with the graces and joys you need. **Go out and Live as Easter People!** Sister M Jessica

Featured Schoenstatters: Turner Family Loves Our MTA



Don & Kendra Turner Family Members, Coon Rapids, MN, at the visit of the Father Eye Symbol for the Original Shrine.

Kendra writes: We first heard about Schoenstatt through the Kisrow family and our home school group at Epiphany Parish in Coon Rapids. Our older girls became involved with the girls group and as they grew in their knowledge and love of Schoenstatt, we couldn't help but want to know more about it ourselves. We saw them grow in their love for the Blessed Mother and strive to be modest in their dress and living out the promises of their dedications.

We were blessed to join a wonderful couples group and began our own Schoenstatt journey leading to our Home Shrine Dedication. We named our home shrine, Peace of Nazareth, as we draw on the graces of the home shrine to help our family work towards peace in our home and to carry that peace with us wherever we go and to whomever we meet. We have received many graces and peace as we have learned to rely on our MTA to guide and direct us.

We also strive to take into our hearts the motto, "Nothing without you, nothing without us." Our MTA and Schoenstatt help us to offer our lives to the capital of grace and receive grace in return. Our wish and desire for the coming years of Schoenstatt is to continue to share this knowledge and gift and to provide practical ways to help others to draw closer to holiness through the Schoenstatt way in our daily lives.



Don Turner smiles with Rhonda Dillon, Kendra's sister. Rhonda is the chef at Epiphany who works so hard to make our February Dinner Dances happen.

COME TO THE SHRINE ON MAY 13!

On Wednesday, May 13, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm ALL are invited to a **Marian Retreat Day at the Shrine**. Please come to honor our Blessed Mother and learn more about her powerful care for us. Talk, Confession, Mass, meals, rosary, gifts – all you need to crown her anew in your heart. Bring along your intentions. Suggested donation is \$20.

WAUKESHA WI CONFERENCES

Join us at the Int'l Schoenstatt Center June 25-28 for the Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign Convention; \$185. From July 23-26 is another **Exile Seminar**. A separate email will be coming shortly with the weekend schedule and motel details/prices. ❖

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

Let us know if you want to be in Philadelphia for the **8th Congress**: "Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive." There is still room on the bus leaving Waukesha on Sept 21-28. Join us for the historic event of Pope Francis 1st USA Visit: 612-618-9334 ❖

SUMMER CAMPS & BARN SALE #4

The beloved summer camps begin on May 31! Don't forget to collect & help for our **HUGE rummage sale** fund raiser: 1623 210th St E in Farmington August 13-15.

❖ Have **you** inquired for a **Schoenstatt Sister** to share at your parish for this **Year of Consecrated Life**? ❖

❖ On April 12 Pope Francis announces the coming Holy Year of Mercy for the 50th anniv. of Vatican Council II. ❖

Schoenstatt Family Evening Feb 28



Fr Dufner & Epiphany Parish hosted 250 for a dinner dance at Coon Rapids. The Duane & Karen Becker family Slewfoot Band provided a wonderful musical evening. New families mingled with those in adult & youth groups.

Girls Youth Weekend February 20-22



Checkmate by the Queen! was the theme enjoyed by 15 girls. Inspired by Fr. Kentenich: "If we take divine life in us seriously, we are all little queens able to check-mate the king," and using the imagery of the game of chess, the girls learned that one's recognized smallness before God allows us to receive his love and mercy.

Father Son Weekend welcomed 28



Fr Mark Niehaus powerfully crafted games and talks, crafts and meals, work and prayer for a great weekend during March 27-29. We sisters are grateful for projects.

Sleepy Eye Mothers Group to the Rescue



The Rings of Love arrived March 23 to help in frosting 80 lambs. Delores Spaeth, Sr Faustina, Mildred Rosenhammer, Mary Katherine Bauer, Sr Mary Kate, Lucille Losleben, Elaine Haala, Sr Jessica (Sr Ellen & Mary Lou Mathiowetz missing.)

Couples Retreat with Lenten Retreat



These couples were grateful for the March 6-8 weekend in the shadow of the shrine to boost their Lent resolve. Msgr Lozinski conducted the 10-3 pm Saturday Retreat with 15 more, on being intentional disciples of Jesus.

Mother Daughter Weekend Mar 20-22



Ana Grace & Maria Jose Plotts from Maple Grove were at the "full house" with theme of *Seeking God Together* in our everyday lives. Personalized plaques were made.

Filipino Black Saturday Pilgrimage



Over 40 prayed **the Seven Last Words, rosary, chaplet, and stations** to accompany Our MTA as Jesus lay in the tomb. New families came, receiving graces & fellowship.

A Schoenstatter Canonization Begins

At the Jubilee Audience the Schoenstatt Family had with Pope Francis, on October 25, 2014, when the Pope was asked about the reform of the Church that he is undertaking, he commented saying, *"...those who take the Church forward are the saints who were able to renew their sanctity and, through their sanctity, renew the Church. They are the ones who take the Church forward."* ❖



Father Hernán Alessandri Morandé (with Fr Kentenich) was one of the most beloved and admired personalities in the Schoenstatt Movement's history. He died on December 18, 2007, at the age of 72. The Episcopal Conference of Chile gave its approval to begin his process of canonization on the 20th of November 2014.

Provincial Father Mariano Irureta, met with Cardinal Ricardo Ezzati on December 18, at the Archdiocese of Santiago to converse about the canonization process. Father Allesandri's great theological competence was among his most outstanding aspects, which led Pope John Paul II to invite him to present a theological pastoral reflection on the 20th Anniversary of Vatican Council II in 1985. He also participated in the Celam (Episcopal Conference of Latin America) and in the Puebla Conference, especially on the subject of ecclesiology. "Moreover, he was a great pastor; he worked many years in Our Lady of Sorrows Parish and Saint Vincent Pallotti Parish. He was a pastor for the poor, for the most simple. He is especially remembered for this catechesis and all the material that he wrote for the Month of Mary, which is used to this day, and he also established a school," Father Mariano Irureta reminisced. Another one of the works for which Father

Hernán is recalled with great affection and admiration is the Mary Helps Foundation, begun in the '80s, which helps children with an unsuitable infancy marked by abandonment, delinquency and prostitution. Today it is a large well-known corporation along with Christ's Home and The Roses Foundation. ❖

"Almighty God, also bless my enemies"



Suddenly the people at the German postal counter who had been queuing impatiently, were drawn into a conversation about injury and reconciliation, enmity at work and at home, and the strength it requires even to think about someone who has done us an injustice or harmed us, without talking negatively about them or even worse. "Please give me ten more," the young woman said who had started the conversation. "I have never seen such a stamp before." Behind her someone remarked, "I think I will put one on my desk." The special stamp is to mark the hundredth birthday of **Father Karl Leisner**, February 28, 2015. It moves people with its simplicity and the power of the quotation from the last diary entry (on 25 July 1945) of this young Schoenstatter from the Lower Rhine who died of TB shortly after the liberation of the concentration camp at Dachau. He was the only man ordained a priest in a concentration camp. Pope John Paul II beatified him on June 23, 1996, in Berlin. ❖



"It was neat to make the covenant of love with my group of friends. The MTA candle and the necklace are a special keepsake I put in a place of honor in my bedroom. I also liked writing the prayer to Mary to call on her to help me in my daily life." *Isaiah Chryst* from Andover

Fr Mark Niehaus accepted his covenant on January 26, 2015. ❖

***The Road to Sainthood* by Caitlin Bootsma**
Consultant to the VIRTUS® Programs, Feb 2015

While we all know and pray for the intercession of the saints, the process of becoming a saint may not be as familiar. Canonized saints are men and women who the Church recognizes as being in Heaven with God. While hopefully there are many, many saints, including some among our deceased family and friends, the Church is very careful about who she holds up for public recognition. It should come as no surprise, then, that being canonized is not a “given,” but rather a process that clearly demonstrates the holiness of each individual. Here are the steps that must be completed before the canonization of a new saint.

- 1. A five-year waiting period:** To ensure that the deceased person has a lasting reputation for holiness, a cause for canonization cannot begin until the person has been dead five years. A Pope can waive this requirement. This happened recently with both (Blessed) Mother Teresa and (Saint) Pope John Paul II.
- 2. Servant of God:** After the waiting period, the diocese in which a person died can begin a cause for canonization. Once this stage has begun, the person is known as a Servant of God. During this time, the diocese gathers a great deal of information about the Servant of God—both about their life and from any writings they may have produced. Once the documents have been examined by the diocesan tribunal and the bishop and the person has been found worthy, the cause (and all of the documentation!) is sent to the Vatican, particularly to the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints. The Congregation processes the documentation and the work of the diocese and ultimately votes whether the Servant of God’s cause should continue. If they decide the cause should continue they send a “Decree of Heroic Virtues” to the Pope who decides whether or not to continue the process. The length of time that this process takes does not necessarily correlate to a Servant of God’s holiness, but rather to the ability to collect and decide upon documentation. Dorothy Day is an example of a current Servant of God.
- 3. Venerable:** If the Holy Father approves of the “Decree of Heroic Virtues” the man or woman then becomes known as “Venerable” (like Sr M Emilie Engel). As a side note, it is possible for a person never to advance past this stage (such as the Venerable Bede) because more absolute evidence of their holiness was never confirmed. The evidence of holiness is, at this stage, proven by a miracle that occurred because of the Venerable’s intercession. This miracle must be something a theological commission establishes occurred after praying specifically for the Venerable’s assistance and that could not have been accomplished through natural causes. Once the theological commission has voted and made a positive determination of a miracle, they pass along the cause again to the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints. If the Congregation votes that a miracle occurred, the cause is given to the Holy Father.

4. Beatification: If the Holy Father approves of the Decree of a Miracle, the Venerable can then be Beatified and known as a Blessed. At this point, the faithful are able to venerate the Blessed, particularly in the Blessed’s local diocese. Blessed Paul VI is just one example of a person recently beatified by Pope Francis. Once a person is beatified, the process begins to confirm a second miracle. If a second miracle is verified, and approved by the Pope, the Blessed qualifies to be canonized a saint.

5. Sainthood: The Pope then canonizes the man or woman a saint. Of course, canonization does not “make a saint,” but rather recognizes infallibly that the person is already in heaven. Once a saint is canonized, the universal Church is invited to pray for their intercession.

Canonizations can be a long process. However, the process ensures that we, the faithful, know that we have intercessors in heaven, praying that we will also one day enjoy eternal life. *N.B.* The process for canonization for someone who has been martyred is slightly different. When someone dies for God, as Catholics, we believe they go directly to heaven. Thus, we do not need to confirm that a miracle occurred through their intercession since we already know they are in heaven. ❖

❖ “Watch out, the devil exists! Even in the 21st Century. And we must not be naïve. We must learn from the Gospel how to battle against him... The temptation of the devil has three characteristics and we need to learn about them in order not to fall into the trap. First, his temptation begins gradually but **grows** and is always growing. Second, it grows and infects another person, it **spreads** to another and seeks to be part of the community. And in the end, in order to calm the soul, it **justifies** itself.” *Pope Francis, April 11, 2014* ❖

❖ A key Easter resolution and gift to our MTA in May would be to go through my closet and take out any immodest clothing that has crept in! Be fearless. If this action is taken by all Schoenstatters, see what an impact **our modest dressing** (even in hot temps) would make on all who see us! ❖

❖ Being a disciple means being constantly ready **to bring the love of Jesus to others**, and this can happen unexpectedly and in any place: on the street, in a city square, during work, on a journey. *Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel, #127* ❖

❖ Never forget the value of a **Spiritual Communion**. ❖

❖ If you are what you should be, then you will set the world on fire. *Saint Catherine of Siena* ❖

❖ If you want happiness for an hour – take a nap.
If you want happiness for a day – go fishing.
If you want happiness for a year – inherit a fortune.
If you want happiness for a lifetime – **help somebody**.
-*Chinese Proverb*

❖ Mass Intentions are gladly accepted by the Schoenstatt Fathers, or enroll loved ones in Schoenstatt’s Golden Book. ❖

Mother, Accept My Childlike Prayer

Mary, you come near me in this picture; you want to meet me, me personally ...

Now – here and today, you want to give me the experience of your love and nearness.

Mary, that is what I experience near you: You do not hover somewhere above the clouds.

You are not removed from everything that is worldly and far removed from what is on our mind.

You are here – you are very near.

In God you and all of heaven are among us: experiential and perceptible.

Mary, Mother Thrice Admirable, you are here.

And you look at me, very calmly, very serenely, concentrated on me, only on me.

You carry your Child in your arms.

He is tenderly, affectionately united with you.

But you do not look at your Child; you are looking at me.

The Child also does not look at you, but together with you, looks in the same direction.

Together with you the Child is looking at me.

Both of you are looking at where life is happening, where I am sitting or standing.



Mary, my Mother and Queen, you look at me. To be looked at like this does my heart good.

Now I feel: I am not a number, not a minor matter. But I am important, important for YOU!

And I am unique, unrepeatable.

In your eyes, I am endlessly precious. I am a personal thought of God. Again and again he calls me with my personal name. In you, Mary, I am always meant and loved.

Mary, you are looking at me.

It does my heart good; it gives me inner relaxation and serenity. And it seems that time has stopped.

Nothing else is important or necessary.

The past demands nothing, the future does not push.

Only one thing is important: you and I.

You look at me, my dear MTA,

Knowing and understanding, kind and loving.

The calm that you are radiating is flowing into me.

I feel no hustle in you, no deadlines of what is due next and after that.

You are present completely for me, entirely present and you offer me all your affection.

Mary, Mother Thrice Admirable, you are looking at me.

And you are looking into the bottom of my soul.

You discover in me my true picture, my “better self,” what is good and noble, the whole personal preciousness that God has placed in myself.

And even if my heart would want to condemn me you believe in me – in the good in me. You do not look at the shadows first, but at the light in my heart.

You accept me as I am, and as I would like to be.

Mary, you look at me.

Your eyes are constantly resting on me.

And something is changing in me.

Resting under your glance is making me free.

It releases tensions and anxieties; it helps me to let go.

And I hear you say: Do not worry uselessly.

Do not torture yourself with all that does not yet exist, or with what should be.

Do not focus on your limitations and others' faults.

Do not become set on your own notions and stereotypes that are common practice.

Trust in me and surrender yourself to me.

Give me your fears and uncertainties,

your experiences of helplessness, your worries about the future, your great and small problems.

Give the dwindling of your physical strength to me and the wounds of your heart that are not yet healed.

Trust in me and surrender yourself to me with all that belongs to you. Be not be afraid, because I am with you with my Divine Child.

You look at me, Mary, my Mother, my Queen!

Something in me is changing.

Although I am returning to my everyday life – but with a different atmosphere in my heart.

Because I can leave with you something of me.

I can leave, but stay with you.

I return to my position where the Father God places me.

And in my heart your picture is alive, the picture of the Mother Thrice Admirable.

Again and again I see you in my heart and your loving glance. And then I know: You are near me; you are there, you are at my side, even more so:

You are around me on all ways of my life.

You are holding my hand; you accompany and lead me, yes, you carry me on your arms like the Child.

Thus I am secure and sheltered.

Whatever may happen, what may worry or burden me, what touches my heart and awakens joy in me.

I am convinced: You see everything.

You see more deeply, you see beyond everything.

Your looking at me remains forever, it never stops.

Mary, Mother, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt, help me understand the miracle of your presence with your Divine Son in my common everyday life and experience it daily anew today – tomorrow – especially – when I need it most.

Mother, never leave me alone, go every path of my life with me. Amen.

Sister M. Ilga Dreier