



SHRINE SOUNDINGS Jubilee Family Shrine & Retreat Center

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Marriage = One Man and One Woman

Here is the statement released by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, President of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, on the US Supreme Court decision to legalize same-sex "marriage."

Rome, June 26, 2015 (ZENIT.org)

Regardless of what a narrow majority of the Supreme Court may declare at this moment in history, the nature of the human person and marriage remains unchanged and unchangeable. Just as *Roe v. Wade* did not settle the question of abortion over forty years ago, *Obergefell v. Hodges* does not settle the question of marriage today. Neither decision is rooted in the truth, and as a result, both will eventually fail. Today the Court is wrong again. It is profoundly immoral and unjust for the government to declare that two people of the same sex can constitute a marriage.

The unique meaning of marriage as the union of one man and one woman is inscribed in our bodies as male and female. The protection of this meaning is a critical dimension of the "integral ecology" that Pope Francis has called us to promote. Mandating marriage re-

definition across the country is a tragic error that harms the common good and most vulnerable among us, especially children. The law has a duty to support every child's basic right to be raised, where possible, by his or her married mother and father in a stable home.

Jesus Christ, with great love, taught unambiguously that from the beginning marriage is the lifelong union of one man and one woman. As Catholic bishops, we follow our Lord and will continue to teach and to act according to this truth.

I encourage Catholics to move forward with faith, hope, and love: faith in the unchanging truth about marriage, rooted in the immutable nature of the human person and confirmed by divine revelation; hope that these truths will once again prevail in our society, not only by their logic, but by their great beauty and manifest service to the common good; and love for all our neighbors, even those who hate us or would punish us for our faith and moral convictions.

Lastly, I call upon all people of good will to join us in proclaiming the goodness, truth, and beauty of marriage as rightly understood for millennia, and I ask all in positions of power and authority to respect the God-given freedom to seek, live by, and bear witness to the truth.



Thank you Archbishop Kurtz for your clear statement. We who experience Our Mother Thrice Admirable's zeal for marriage and family life are with you. Jubilee Family Shrine is the title, mission, and graces of the Schoenstatt Shrine on Lake Sleepy Eye. Do come on pilgrimage spiritually or physically soon! Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, please bless all families!

Sister M Jessica

Featured Schoenstatter: Father Mark Niehaus



Father Mark Niehaus and Father Andres Larrain from Chile

A little before 9 pm on Easter Thursday 1972, the medical staff at Divine Providence Hospital in Ivanhoe, MN, received the latest model in the Niehaus family. With Sister Christmaris present, it was also my introduction to Schoenstatt. As I grew up our family blessed our home shrine—Mother of the Prince of Peace—when I was two, we made numerous trips and connections to Schoenstatt in Minnesota and Wisconsin and I was a regular at Schoenstatt Boys Camps.

Becoming a priest, let alone a Schoenstatt Father, was not something I wanted to do or had really taken seriously. During my freshmen year of college in Mankato, after a Christmas break trip to Waukesha, an image of the Schoenstatt Blessed Mother was given to the Newman Center and was hung in the chapel there for six months. That was plenty for me. In a moment of internal upheaval, confronted by my own inability to understand my life I looked up at the MTA, so familiar from my childhood, and basically said: “You tell me what to do and I do it.”

That led me to discern priesthood in general. Then at a diocesan vocations’ weekend I felt the nudge to investigate the Schoenstatt Fathers’ Community. Then, little by little the Blessed Mother and her Son started to draw me in. I moved to Milwaukee where I finished my studies. Then I went to Germany, Paraguay, Argentina and Chile to be formed as a Schoenstatt Father. My ordination came in 2003, after which I’ve had the gift to be in parishes, work with university students and do a number of things in Schoenstatt.

Looking ahead to the next 100 years, I hope and pray that Schoenstatt can continue to be a real source of grace for the Church. As our Holy Father notes in *Laudato Si*, many things need to change in the ways we see and do things from nature to politics and social

thinking. The interpersonal relations and the need to create a new culture is something we have learned to do in the covenant of love and what our founder calls the organism of attachments. We have many tools that can help our Church and world. If we listen to the Blessed Mother, she can tell us how to do our part in helping all of creation to give praise to the Lord.



Father Mark meets with the Anoka/Coon Rapids Group.

UPDATE ON FATHER DIETER HAAS



Last summer Father Alfons Boess wrote a letter to Rose & Gene Deutsch explaining how the days go for Father Dieter in Chile. Father Boess said that letters and photos give special joy to Father Dieter who is “filling the capital of grace – that he often talked about – with some of the hardest moments when a person cannot speak or move freely!” The five retired priests have breakfast between 8 to 9 am; Holy Mass at 11:00 in the house chapel of the Schoenstatt Fathers in Bellavista followed by a visit to the National Shrine; 1:30 pm dinner; and supper before retiring. Father Dieter thanks everyone who keeps the priests in your prayers.

This Summer is the Golden Anniversary of the Secular Institute of the Schoenstatt Fathers

Gratitude fills our hearts for all the work and inspiration offered by the many Schoenstatt Fathers who served in the Midwest.

As the Year for Priests was celebrated in 2009, Father Jonathan Niehaus offered this interview:

1. Who are the Schoenstatt Fathers?

We are community of Roman Catholic priests whose primary mission is the priestly service of the International Schoenstatt Movement. Together with this movement we work towards the moral and religious renewal of society and the mission of the Church. We have about 200 ordained members in 20 nations worldwide.

2. When were we founded?

The Schoenstatt Fathers were founded in 1965, but our roots go back to the founding of the Schoenstatt Movement on October 18, 1914. On that day, Father Joseph Kentenich (1885-1968) and a group of high school seminarians made a covenant of love with Mary, asking her to take possession of their chapel (now known as our Schoenstatt Shrine) to help them become saints and draw many youthful hearts to herself. The ensuing years verified that Mary was indeed very active in this new place of grace, drawing Catholics since then from around the world.

Our community was approved as an institute of pontifical right on June 24, 1988. We also have the right of incardination, i.e. our ordained members are incardinated directly into the community instead of a diocese.

3. What is our apostolate?

Around the world, our apostolate includes parish work, missions, hospitals, and schools. But our main task is always the priestly inspiration and guidance of the Schoenstatt Movement. Because of this, we center our work around our Schoenstatt Shrines and centers: leading retreats, doing youth work, guiding the individuals and branch communities of the Schoenstatt Movement.

4. What is our organizational structure?

Our community has a general superior and general council based in Schoenstatt, Germany. As a whole the community is organized into 6 provinces and regions. Small groups like the Fathers in the USA are called a delegation and are attached to a province. A unique feature of our internal organization is the "courses." Candidates who go through the same novitiate together form a permanent course. Here members find an

additional form of support and inspiration as they go through their formation and phases of priestly ministry.

5. How does one join the Schoenstatt Fathers?

To join the Schoenstatt Fathers, a young man begins by taking up *contact* with a member of the community. Because of the importance of the Schoenstatt Movement to our mission, we encourage potential candidates to become more familiar with the Schoenstatt Movement and to read about its history and spirituality. With time, a vocation to our community will need to grow into the covenant of love with Mary and a love for the Schoenstatt Shrine. After a time of discernment (usually guided by one of the Fathers), one can apply for acceptance as a *postulant*. If accepted, one normally spends a time of three months in the U.S. in immediate contact with one of our houses before going to South America to learn Spanish and prepare for the novitiate.

Qualifications for entry include: A sound personality, good health (physical, emotional, psychological), ability to study on the university level, and an active spiritual life. At least two complete years of university studies prior to departure for South America are required; previous university course work in philosophy, Greek, and Latin is helpful. The normal age limits for acceptance are 20 to 27 years of age.

50th Anniversary Prayer for the Schoenstatt Fathers

As our spiritual gift for the Schoenstatt Fathers, the Schoenstatt Family in the Midwest would like to pray this prayer daily during the month of July:

Dear Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen, and Victress of Schoenstatt, we pray in gratitude for the Schoenstatt Fathers and for all they have done for us.

Our Lord has chosen you to be his priest.

In you he wants to go through the world and bless it, in you he wants to sacrifice, pray, love, and suffer, in you he wants to pasture his sheep here on earth.

He has placed his Mother at your side, his Mother who accompanied him throughout his life. Remain faithful to her in all of life's circumstances. She will help you bear your burden joyfully, she will lead you and your spiritual children, the souls in your pastoral care, to the shores of eternal happiness.

-Father Joseph Kentenich wrote this congratulations to Karl Leisner for his priestly ordination in Dachau concentration camp on December 17, 1944.

Next Covenants of Love in Iowa



Covenants of Love took place in Des Moines, IA, on April 9, Easter Thursday at 4 pm by Joan Harkin, Jane L'Estrange, Pat Vetter, Ginger Godfrey, Barb Bernard, and Dolores Young. Then St Anthony Altar Society hosted Sister Jessica to speak.

Covenants of Love at May 13th Retreat



Judy Pipke and Susan Mielke from Waseca and Lester Prairie sealed their covenants at the Retreat Day, attended by 60 persons, led by Monsignor Lozinski. Both mothers wrote such inspirational (and tearful) prayers noting how Mary had chosen and led them in their striving for sanctity.

St Edward Class Trip on May 5, 2015



Father Craig Timmerman and staff brought the 7th & 8th graders from Minneota to spend a retreat day at the shrine.

Father Craig also stopped to pray in the shrine and visit with the girls from Minneota at Camp Week #1.



Three Cheers for Generous Souls



Ever wonder how Sister Jessica can pop in and out to meetings in the Metro Area? Here is the answer as **Jean Fox** opens her home and heart in the Minnetonka area! *Thanks to all who offer monthly help for gas, books, and time at meetings!*

Bishop LeVoir Visits the Shrine



Bishop John LeVoir tells his secretary to schedule an evening visit to the Schoenstatt Shrine each May and October. These are important to him. He entrusts the intentions of the Diocese of New Ulm to our MTA, offers Mass and leads the Rosary.

Schoenstatt Girls Youth Office News

Greetings to all from our Jubilee Family Shrine! Thank you for all of your prayers and support for the branch of the Schoenstatt Girls Youth! Our summer camps have been most beautiful already this summer with many girls coming and encountering our Mother Thrice Admirable and her Son in our Shrine.

I would like to let you know some upcoming changes in the fall. On August 1st, I will be going to Waukesha, Wisconsin for one of our training periods called a tertianship. This training period will last five months and is connected with my course's (the group I joined with) final incorporation into the community of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary. During these five months, there will be no one to replace me and so the girls groups will continue with the generosity of our lay leaders. I will try to be in touch with each group before I go and make sure that they have the necessary materials at least for the months of September (if they meet that month), October, November, & December. In January, either I or someone else should be able to again be a director for the Schoenstatt Girls Youth and will hopefully be able to visit all the groups again in the spring.

Since there will be no youth sister here in the fall, please note that the Schoenstatt Girls Weekends on Oct 23-25; Dec 4-6 and Dec 27-29, 2015 will be cancelled. Before I go, at the end of July, I hope to be able to send out the dates for our activities for the spring of 2016.

Sister Mary Kate



DISCERNMENT RETREATS

The Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary will host a retreat for young women ages 15-27 who are discerning their vocation. It will be held Monday, August 3 at 10:00 am until August 5, 2015, at 2:00 pm at the provincial house in Waukesha. Please call Sister M Emily at 262-522-4200 before July 26. ☆

On Sunday, September 13th **Come and Meet the Sisters at the Shrine** from 2-4:00 pm at Sleepy Eye. This is an invitation for EVERYONE during this Year for Consecrated Life. Bring along your friends! ☆

May 17th Visit to Parishes



DRE Jennifer Daubner scheduled Sister Jessica to speak during the Faith Formation after Sunday Mass for parishes in Foreston and Milaca, in the Princeton MN area. A May crowning united all ages.

MN Home Educators Conference



Donna Carlson's Mothers from Early, IA area greeted many Schoenstatters May 29-30 at the annual Catholic Conference & Curriculum Fair for sharing school life. Parents are the first and most important educators for children. Summer gives all a welcome change of pace.

Summer Meetings Continue



The Women's Group in Des Moines had a wonderful meeting and potluck June 27 from 11-2:30 pm on the *Game of Love* Sermons. Georgia Ryan leads the discussion and they eagerly buy, read and discuss what is newly published. Fr Kentenich treasured faithfulness.

This year at summer camp

we asked the girls if they would write down the answer to this question: Why is Schoenstatt important to you? The following are some of their very enlightening and inspiring thoughts:



- “Schoenstatt is important to me because it teaches me why Mary our Mother is the most important Queen, and she calls us to be little Queens.”
- “Schoenstatt is important to me because I get to spend time in the shrine with Mary. Even though I have a room shrine, the actual building is just awesome to be in.”
- “Schoenstatt is important to be because: 1) It is so focused on God, Mary, and us, 2) It teaches me to love the MTA, and 3) I love to be in the shrine!”
- “I love Schoenstatt because it’s my second home, and fills me with peace and encouragement to be a light back home.”
- “It helps me grow closer to God and gives me the opportunity to spend time with holy girls who love their faith as much as I do.”
- “To me it’s a place where I know the friendships I make here will last because we all have one common ground – love for God and our MTA.”
- “Schoenstatt is my home, a place where I can be myself and where I can belong.”
- “Schoenstatt for me is a very calm and peaceful place to pray and spend time with Jesus and Mary. It is a place where no one makes fun of you because you are different.”
- “Schoenstatt is a place where I can feel peaceful and at ease all the time. The joyful atmosphere just makes me want to stay here forever. I LOVE SCHOENSTATT!”
- “I like Schoenstatt because of the way everyone takes care of each other and being able to go to the shrine almost any time (such a feeling of peace there!).”
- “Schoenstatt is a beautiful place that has made me happier and brings me peace. And coming to the

camps has encouraged me and given me a stronger faith. Without Schoenstatt I have no idea where I would be physically and faith-wise. I wish I could always come and stay at Schoenstatt for days unending.”

- “Schoenstatt is a place where I can live my faith and dress modestly without criticism. Schoenstatt changed my life, and I don’t know where I would be without it!!!”
- “Schoenstatt is important to me because the Blessed Mother is so strongly present here. Also because it has such a sense of home and belonging, peace and joy.”
- “Schoenstatt helped me to always be proud of who I am.”
- “Schoenstatt is important to me because I am always happiest when I’m focused on the Blessed Mother... Some of the happiest moments of my life have taken place here at camp and in the shrine!”
- “Schoenstatt to me is a place to find a stable environment, and reconnect to God.”
- “Schoenstatt is a place where I can get a break from the everyday world, have fun, and be myself.”
- “Schoenstatt... it made me think a lot!”



Girls Camp Session #3 with Sr Mary Kate (L) and Sr M Jennifer (R)

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BARN SALE #4

Don’t forget to collect & help with our **HUGE rummage sale fund raiser!** Located at 1623 210th St E, Farmington, MN, there are over 40 tables of items! Starting at 9:00 am each day: Thursday, August 13 through Saturday, August 15th. If you can’t come please send a donation to

Sr M Jessica - Schoenstatt Fundraiser
27762 County Rd 27, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085.
“God loves a joyful giver!” 2 Cor 9:6

Garage Sale at the Shrine on Friday August 21 with Sleepy Eye Buttered Corn Days!

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Mark Sunday October 18, 2015 on your calendars to be at the Shrine 10 am-4 pm