



Serving the Schoenstatt Family in the Midwest **40th Anniversary of the Jubilee Family Shrine** Fall 2016

SHRINE SOUNDINGS Jubilee Family Shrine & Retreat Center

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VISIT THE DOOR OF MERCY AT THE SHRINE

40th Jubilee Shrine Blessings!

Dear Mother Thrice Admirable, fifty years ago you came to Minnesota with a handful of sisters to administer the Divine Providence Hospital and Home in Ivanhoe. The Schoenstatt Family grew slow and steady in the Lincoln County area, branching out via our 1st Movement Coordinator, Sister M Juliana Najarro, to the Twin Cities and Brookings. We honor and rejoice over your victories!

The covenant of love with you, Mary, did spread from town to town, the Schoenstatt Girls Youth increased via the summer camps and the many sisters working with the girls and Moms and Dads. The Schoenstatt Fathers sent Father Dieter Haas who brought welcomed seasonal retreats with confession and opportunities for home shrine dedications and covenants sealed in the shrine. We honor and rejoice over your victories!

The farmhouse expanded by incredible benefactor miracles in 1981 and 2004. From your shrine you oversaw each shovel dug and each nail hammered as the Schoenstatt Sisters have placed personnel to serve the Diocese of New Ulm and surrounding states. To date, our most recent transfers include a farewell to Sister Ellen Marie and a welcome to our new superior, Sister Mary Kate. Our youth sister is now Sister M Faustina and the new cook is Sister M Mayrelis. Sister M Ellen continues the sacristy work and helps wherever needed, Sister M Candace is working at the Pastoral Center in New Ulm, and Sister M Jessica continues with the adult movement work.

Looking toward our founder, Father Joseph Kentenich, and his words at the 25th Jubilee of the Original Shrine in Germany, we could use his same litany of gratitude in most

regards! He wrote so lovingly of you, dear Mother Thrice Admirable that: "All that has come about from here is HER work. In our ranks she has enkindled a heroic living and striving for sanctity through her intercession. To her we owe a delicate sense of purity and intactness, a sense for the development of noble, creative fatherliness and motherliness, and the longing for a burning love of God and souls. She has given us the monumental structure of our ascetical and educational system, which can be so perfectly adapted to the God-given uniqueness of each individual and community. She helped us find our personal and community ideals. ...

She was always there, in spite of the many times we failed, and gave us the courage again and again to reach for the stars. All the houses which we have built or been able to acquire, both at home and abroad, are her property. She has seen to it that we always looked on all our present difficulties as tasks that must be courageously undertaken for our time. She has opened our eyes to the great law on which our family is built: As a child of war we can only grow and prosper through battle and strife, through trials and persecution.

Without her we would never have been able to steer a prudent course or preserved our clear views in the midst of the differences of opinion in the Catholic world; nor could we have pursued our course so calmly and perseveringly. She has formed and educated us as a family and as individuals into what we are and has conquered and secured for us the place in the Church which we hold today. So it is that the words of Vincent Pallotti have been realized in us, *She is the great Missionary!* She has worked miracles."

Thank you, MTA, from each one of us ☺, Sister M Jessica

Featured Schoenstatter: Connie Laqui (via Las Vegas NV)



Connie & Sister M Jean Frisk help with Founding Sunday prep.

Connie Laqui began with Schoenstatt in 1978 when she was an anesthetist at Hennepin County, Minneapolis: Sister M Juliana came to stay at Linda Castillo's home and they asked me and my husband, future-Deacon Sonny, to join a Schoenstatt Group. I didn't feel like going! When I tell people Schoenstatt isn't showy, there is usually a slow growth that helps you inside and outside; we are not in competition – rather it is you, Blessed Mother, who I ask to help me do what I can in being instrumental in building the Kingdom!

I love Schoenstatt: my career, my marriage, my family are all interwoven with my love of the MTA and her covenant. I am a child of God. Actually with my work from the ER and operating rooms, I tell you: This is a *Reality*: **The MTA is my partner in everything I do!** She was right there every time things got critical; there was never a blood vein that she couldn't find☺. Our Schoenstatt prayers have helped me so much in my life. The shrine graces are authentic. When we are open, she will transform us in amazing ways!

For the next 40 years, my advice would be to re-build your Schoenstatt Spirituality (in whichever state you find yourself) to deepen and enliven your faith. Read Schoenstatt material for I have found that because of my covenant of love, I am more eager to know about my faith and to evangelize. Don't put it off. *Nos cum prole pia, benedicat Virgo Maria.*



Connie & Deacon Sonny belong to the FTA group, who renewed their 35th Covenant Jubilee for Oct 10, 2016: Linda Castillo (and +Roland-CA); Alicia Hernandez, Carmelita Jimenez, Cording (and Ignacio) Munar, Paquita Hernandez, Alice & Drony Castillo. Connie flew in from Las Vegas, NV, where she moved in 2003, for Oct 16th.

Largest Ever Minnesotan Delegation



Wow Minnesota, we were told: Sr M Jessica, Connie Laqui, Mike & René Kisrow, Judy Pipke, Dave Baker, James & Tim Wolf, Mark & Chris Rockers, Mary Lou Hubly (Son Joseph & Rachel w/Terez are not on photo), Jenny Baker & Alicia Hernandez.

Dave and I have been blessed to attend the Leaders Meeting at the International Shrine in Waukesha, WI, from Oct 7-9. We helped to share what the Minnesota Schoenstatt Family has been doing the past year, and then helped via prayer and discussion, to discern what is God's will for Schoenstatt in the next year. Father Mark Niehaus helped us to narrow it down and look at what we are facing in the world today. We recognized that there is a lot of anxiety and hatred in the world. We also know that our Lord Jesus Christ is victorious and we have no need to fear, and we have our MTA leading us to the Father! Our Motto reflects just that! Our Motto is... **FEAR NOT! PROCLAIM THE FATHER'S LOVE.**

The motto is relevant for our lives today, with lots of external and internal worries. The world can be a scary place. Our motto asks us to boldly go out and share the Father's love with another person! Do it via our covenant with Mary.

How can we do this? Be aware that Divine Providence provides opportunities to share our faith! A personal example was when someone noticed the MTA picture on my notebook, which opened a conversation about Schoenstatt! I also found Father Kentenich quoted in a book about the Rosary (which he was a great believer in). He wrote that the Rosary is more powerful than an atomic bomb! -Jenny Baker



Betty & Carly Radke (officiated by Father Jonathan Fasnacht) with Judy Herdina & Janice Market sealed the covenant May 22, 2016, after Mass at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Winona, MN.

40th Jubilee of the Shrine at Sleepy Eye, MN

On Sunday, October 16, 2016, the Schoenstatt Family celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Schoenstatt Shrine which stands on the shore of Lake Sleepy Eye. It was truly a day blessed in every respect from weather to graces, people to food, praying to conversing, and re-savoring to listing all that has come about since October 3, 1976.

Over 100 persons (from seven states) gathered by 10:00 am to hear Sister M Elizabeth Dingbaum and Sister M Jean Frisk share from their personal experiences with Schoenstatt's Founder, Father Joseph Kentenich, and their reminiscing from the actual shrine building time. With a warm homey delivery they pointed out how Divine Providence did indeed provide for all that was needed to give this State of 10,000 Lakes a shrine where people can pray and receive spiritual directives for their lives and petitions. It IS a place of pilgrimage for thousands in the Midwest.

Both speakers were able to talk with Father Kentenich about their vocation calls. He could advise them how to seek and answer God's will. This shrine has also become a spring of vocations for the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary, the Schoenstatt Fathers, and movement groups of couples, mothers, youth, and pilgrims; as well as serving as a mecca for summer camps for over 40 years.

Father Robert Goblirsch led the meal prayer and after the noon banquet, Theresia Miller and Theresa Kisrow showed a PowerPoint on the World Youth Day in Poland; Catherine LeBrun shared from the Schoenstatt Girls Summer Camp; Jenny Baker explained the year's motto: *Fear Not, Proclaim the Father's Love!*; and Mark Rockers showed the miniature Holy Family Statues which are now available at the Gift Shop. Father Randal Kasel, assisted by Deacon Mark Kober, offered Holy Mass followed by a procession to the Door of Mercy at the Shrine with Benediction and renewal of the Covenant of Love. Leo Bromenschenkel sketched a magnet for this ruby jubilee and more refreshments and activities were enjoyed by all.

In his homily Father Kasel explained how much faith was needed to build this shrine as the spring board for the retreat center and events that we enjoy today. He pointed out that when Jesus comes again, will he find faith on this earth? Will ours be a dead or a living faith? We want to be among those who believe God cares for me in this moment. We live in the mercy of the Heavenly Father, instruments in his plan of love.

One text this day read: "Thinking of you and praying for you as you celebrate the 40th anniversary. Even though we are not active in the Schoenstatt Movement, we continue to benefit from your work and ask the Blessed Mother for many graces for you, today and always!" It is beautiful to think of how many hearts and souls have passed through the shrine door in these past four decades. Don't worry, Our MTA does not forget you – you are in her motherly heart forever!

As we go forward, the Schoenstatt Family wants to keep thanking the Blessed Mother for all the graces she gives. Deep heartfelt gratitude was echoed over and over for all who made these 40 years possible! As one email sent stated: "This celebration day could not have been nicer or better executed."



Helping make 300 shrine cookies are Eugenio Sablian, Sister M Faustina, Fran Martin, Gladwin, MI and Regina Appel, Ankeny, IA.



Sister M Jean above with Joyce & Dorrence DeCock, and Sister M Elizabeth with Delores Spaeth presented their talks in the morning



and then a delicious dinner, prepared by Sister M Mayrelis with helpers was enjoyed by all.

Ruby 40th Joy Continues from Shrine Fest



Theresia Miller & Theresa Kisrow share from WYD Poland Event



Donna & Don Brinkman, long-time members, bring the Mass gifts.



Carol Dahl receives magnet from designer Leo Bromenschenkel.



Four of the six 1976 Shrine Builders were re-united: Sisters M Jessica and M Jean, Sister Louis Byrne BVM, and Connie Plaetz.

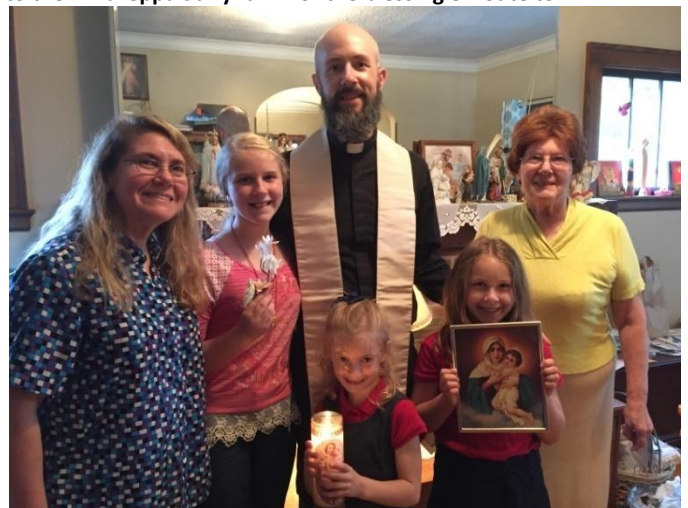
Memories and Two New Home Shrines



In May, Sister M Shirley brought the Radiant Hearts of Mary youth group together: Laurie Reiner, Shelly Rhode, and Patty Berkner to share the protection of the MTA since their consecration in 1979.



On Sunday, August 21, 2016, the Robert and Suzanne Befort Home Shrine to Mary, Untier of Knots was dedicated. Mary untied the first knot that all the children were home as Father Francisco came to their Mazeppa dairy farm for the blessing enroute to WI.



On Sept 6th for the Blessed Mother's Birthday, Father Kyle Kowalczyk blessed the Home Shrine for the Azelton Family as Mother of Holy Hope and Love Everlasting. It was a blessed evening for them from the Divine Mercy Parish, Faribault, MN.

Covenants tell MTA: We love you



Sarah Turner made her covenant on Aug 19, 2016, as she was unable to do it at summer camp. Father Francisco, Jacinta Loomis, her group leader and Youth Sister, Sister M Faustina, are with her.



Stephen & Jenna Miller from Browersville, MN, made their Family League Membership Dedication and Blank Check on Sept 26, 2016, after preparation at home. They felt called by the Holy Spirit for this time, as they came for the Jubilee Year of Mercy Retreat Day.



Now the time had come for Carmelita Enriquez, Fridley, MN, to seal her covenant. Prepared since her 2014 Pilgrimage to Germany, she offered herself, her family, and loved ones to the MTA.

Servant Soldiers of Virtue Blank Check



Many things came together as the Servant Soldiers of Virtue couples group from the Andover area was preparing for their blank check dedication for some years. After designing the blank checks and a treasure chest for the MTA, Robert Plante designed their group logo from the five home shrine ideals (which Mike Kisrow displays in photo). Father Francisco and Sister M Jessica directed the weekend of 60, which included three more families.



Robert & Beth Plante, Dan & Mary Loomis, Don & Kendra Turner, Mike and René Kisrow, Nathan & Jennifer Daubner came together and asked the MTA to spread her motherly mantle over their families and to accept their striving for holiness in the covenant. Each couple signed the blank checks on the altar realizing that she will provide for their needs, as "a child of Mary will never perish."

Buttered Corn Days were enjoyed on Friday evening and the children thought this weekend should become "a regular!"



Flock Talk

By Our Lady's Disciples

“Faith is a love affair with Jesus.” I heard or read that saying, or something similar, once upon a time, but I’ve long since forgotten where. Obviously, the saying has stayed with me all of these years.

I think of the people that I love in my life. I am a father, a son, a husband, a brother, and a friend. And the Bible gives us many examples of God loving us as a father, of us being God’s children, of us being siblings and friends to Jesus. But when it comes to comparing our relationship to Jesus to that of a marriage, often the images used are the Church as the bride of Christ in Ephesians 5:23-29 or the wedding feast of the Lamb in Revelation 19:7-9. It’s not always as common for us to view our personal relationship with Jesus as husband and wife.

This leads into my favorite book of the Bible. It may be one of the least known and least quoted books and one rarely read during Mass: the Song of Songs. For those who are not familiar, it is a fairly short book, only 8 chapters long. It is a three-person play, including the bride, her friends (the “daughters of Jerusalem”), and the groom. The bride expresses her love for the groom, and he for her, and they each describe the physical beauty of their beloved.

Reading the book for the first time can be interesting, since the style of the book is so different from the rest of the Bible and the imagery of the bride and the groom describing the physical aspects of their beloved aren’t typical of inspirational writings. It will not appeal to everyone’s tastes, and some may decide that the book is not for them. But through prayerful meditation of the writings, I have come to see the book as a description of a deep, loving relationship with Jesus. I meditate deeply upon Jesus saying, “Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come.” (Song 2:10) I prayerfully answer, “I belong to my lover, and for me he yearns.” (Song 7:11) I read in chapter 5 about the bride hearing the groom knock on the door, but when she opens, he is not there, and she must go out and look for him. I meditate on this reading along with Luke 2:41-50 (Mary and Joseph searching for the child Jesus in Jerusalem) and John 1:38-39 (John’s disciples asking where Jesus stays, and Jesus replies, “Come and see.”), and I hear Jesus calling to me, asking me to search for him.

I have found that each time I read the Song of Songs, it leads to new ideas and meditations. And I look forward to reading it again and finding further insights.

As always, we welcome feedback and ideas at flocktalkmn@gmail.com. –Stephen Ray

Quarterly Intention:

Fall is a season of change, and beauty as we observe a transition to fall colors in a palate that only God can create. During this season of change and magnificent beauty, let us offer God a daily prayer of thanks and praise for all of His bountiful gifts. Let’s also request the grace of the Holy Spirit and our Mother Thrice Admirable to help transform our hearts and the world in accordance with God’s beautiful plan for us all.

SAVE THE 2017 DATES!

PLEASE HELP US SPREAD THE WORD OF OUR COMING SHRINE EVENTS. IF YOU HAVE A FRIEND, PARISHIONER, OR INTERESTED PERSON, ASK IF WE MAY HAVE THEIR EMAIL TO SEND THEM OUR 2017 EVENTS AND THE SHRINE SOUNDINGS NEWSLETTER.

Upcoming Fall 2016 Events:

Father and Son Weekend: Nov 4-6, 2016

Women’s Weekend Retreat: Nov 18-20, 2016

Women’s Saturday Retreat Day: Nov 19, 2016

Girls Youth Weekend (ages 9-13): Dec 16-18, 2016



The Schoenstatt Family in Ohio erected a way side shrine in Springfield this summer. They have a strong movement with many mothers and couples groups, and are praying very hard for an open door for a Schoenstatt Shrine with Sister to be stationed in “the heart of it all!”