



## SHRINE SOUNDINGS Jubilee Family Shrine & Retreat Center

Schoenstatt Movement, 27762 County Rd 27, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085 [www.SchoenstattMN.com](http://www.SchoenstattMN.com) 507.794.7727

### In Summer 1948, Father Kentenich Visited the Midwest

Seventy years ago in mid-July, Schoenstatt's Founder began his "grand tour west" during his personally wished visit to America. Father Kentenich wanted to come to the United States to help his beloved MTA: "Washington and Moscow are, together with Rome, the present centers of the world... If we succeed in making Schoenstatt at home [in the wide open spaces of the United States], then the MTA, with her great mission for our time and her abundantly filled hands, will more easily and surely set out on her march to victory throughout the world as the educator of nations." (See page 13 of *Visit to America* by Fr. Jonathan Niehaus)

Traveling by train from Milwaukee to St Paul, Father Kentenich visited Hampton and St Paul with Father Lambert Hoffmann. Next the two traveled by car to Hillsboro, North Dakota, for a quick visit to Father Proeller. At Trail City, South Dakota, a planned priests' workshop was given. This was hosted by Father Buescher, uncle of Sister M Hermina.

Meeting with the "quasi-exiled German" Father Reichenberger, Father Kentenich returned with him to Hampton and St Paul on July 26, 1948. From there they visited St John's Benedictine Abbey in Collegeville en-route to Winnipeg, Canada. Since Father Kentenich didn't have a Canadian visa, Father Lorscheid took him to his Pallottine Parish in Dunseith, North Dakota.

From here plans were made to drive 700 miles south to Boys Town, arriving August 3<sup>rd</sup> in Omaha, Nebraska. Driving east, relatives and Schoenstatt Sisters' families were visited in Chicago and Detroit, with Father Kentenich back in Milwaukee on August 8, 1948.

One can read more about these travels – which included a visit to Father Sylvester Luby, President of Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, on August 19, 1948 – in *Visit to America*. In spring of the Marian Year 1954, with reflection on his trip a few years prior, Father Kentenich pointed to Mary as our Mother and Educator who would form "American Saints":

**"Cardinal Stritch once said, 'The American has within himself the timber from which to carve saints for our altars—all that is missing are the masterly hands to carve that wood.' We are made of the wood which the American Cardinal had in mind. We are made of the stuff from which something great can be formed. But who should carve such figures from the rough block of wood which we represent, saints such as world and Church need today, in order to master the archenemy of Christendom and of all civilization? The answer was given by Our Lord from the cross: 'Ecce Mater tua—Behold your Mother!' Behold the one who co-generated you, the one who nourishes you, the one who is the educator of God's children here on earth and of the great saints and apostles in the Kingdom of God. Behold your Mother Thrice Admirable and Queen who wants to enter into a covenant of love with you."** (See p. 24 of *Mary, Our Mother and Educator*)

What a challenge to use "the good ole Summer time" to try and remember to raise our hearts and minds to God, asking Mary to help us in our quest to be genuine people of kindness, of generosity, of nobility. To be *American Saints* which the world can look up to in how to live. Come and visit the Jubilee Family Shrine in Sleepy Eye.

Let's open our hearts to our Heavenly Mother. Wishing blessings for everyone from her shrine, *Sister M Jessica*



**✚ Father Nick VanDenBroeke and Lonsdale Schoenstatt Mothers came to the shrine to pray for a mother's healing.**



**✚ Summer Camps begin in the shadow of the shrine from June 3 to August 5, 2018. This is the logo for the Schoenstatt Girls Youth this year.**

## Featured Schoenstatters: Jenny & Dave Baker by Christy Baker



It has been a long, joyful, and sometimes difficult journey but the Blessed Mother has been leading and guiding us home. Thank you, MTA! Daughters Christy and Amy brought our family to Schoenstatt when our friends at St. Agnes invited us to join their Schoenstatt girls group. They had so much fun and it drew us in by the example of the other Schoenstatt members, and the energy and joy of the Sisters of Schoenstatt.

Jenny loved making the covenant with the Blessed Mother by bringing her into our home and entrusting our family to her. When volunteering at a pregnancy resource center, Jenny especially appreciated the graces and help through Father Kentenich's intercession and Sister Emilie's help for her anxieties.

Dave grew up a Methodist, and struggled with Marian devotion. Slowly and gently, the MTA has convinced Dave to become one of her instruments. Dave was drawn into Schoenstatt by the writings of Father Kentenich – especially on Divine Providence.

We moved to Farmington in 1996 and joined the St. Matthias Church (note the German spelling!) Father Kentenich had preached there in 1948. Wow! We made our covenant and Home Shrine on May 31, 1996. The name of our home shrine is the Shrine of the Visitation. Dave's symbol, because he loves music, is the bell on top of the shrine. Jenny's symbol is the tabernacle. Our home shrine name is very appropriate and helpful as we became Schoenstatt Leaders in July of 2010. It is still their go-to prayer corner.

Jenny felt a strong urge to make her blank check on Friday, March 25, 2005, which she thought was the Feast of the Annunciation, although that year it was Good Friday. On the way to Sleepy Eye, she purchased a dozen roses to present to our MTA. At the Shrine, she counted only 11 roses. Feeling sad and unsure about making the blank check – questioning “does the Blessed

Mother really want me?” – a great peace and love flowed over Mom: “You are the twelfth rose.” Joyfully, Mom made her Blank Check. She continues to pilgrimage almost every year down to the shrine on Good Friday with roses. Dave made his blank check during the National Conference in Milwaukee in 2010. It was July 8, which was also the day of their first date.

Shortly after, things really started to move fast: Mom had an illness and she leaned on Our Mother for strength; the joy of Amy's marriage, the sadness of Amy's stillborn daughter, four Barn Sales, and many other events. Through them all, the MTA was with us.

The Pilgrimage to Germany, Switzerland, and Italy in 2014 was a highlight of our lives. Visiting Mt. Schoenstatt, Mt. Moriah, Mt. Sion, Gymnich, Adoration Church, and the ability to walk to many shrines are vivid memories. There was such a pervading peace and beauty. Christy, our older daughter, made her covenant in the Original Shrine. While on the pilgrimage, Grandpa took a turn for the worse. It was a comfort that the MTA and Divine Mercy were with Jenny's father, who had lived with us for 2 years, and passed away while we were in Switzerland in the arms of his other daughters. Jenny was on the phone praying with them, when he slipped away. It was a great blessing to be able to pray for his soul at all the holy places we visited.

After 19 years on the hobby farm, we moved to Bloomington. Funny story about this was when Amazon missed some deliveries because we had a Schoenstatt sign by our driveway. They thought we were Mr. & Mrs. Schoenstatt, not the Bakers.

Christy adds these notes: It has been wonderful to experience God's mercy especially through Mary and Schoenstatt. I have seen my parents become more peaceful, loving, and amazing people through growing closer to Jesus through the Blessed Mother. Mom is the heart and has held us together and keeps bringing us back to Jesus if we stray. Dad is the one who has protected, provided, and guided. Thank you guys! I love having a home shrine knowing that the Blessed Mother and Jesus are there in a special way. It is unique and I am so glad Father Kentenich was inspired to come up with the idea.

**Dave & Jenny would like to draw our attention to a couple things. A new book is available about Father Kentenich's educational methods entitled **AUTUMN STORMS 1912****

**Please consider if you would like to offer a few years of leadership for our Schoenstatt Family. We have served and are ready to hand on the torch. This way we would be able to help you ease into your new task for our MTA and her mission.**



## Father Kentenich visits Hampton



Father Hoffmann and interior/exterior of St Matthias Parish

**Father Lambert Hoffmann** (1900-1963) was born in a small town west of Schoenstatt, Germany. He made his covenant of love as a seminarian in Munich joining the Apostolic Federation and came to Minnesota in 1921, where he was ordained for the Archdiocese of St Paul/Minneapolis. He is the first Schoenstatt member to come and live in the USA!

Since 1940, he was pastor at St Mathias Parish and School in Hampton, MN. In gratitude for his enthusiasm for the MTA and her mission, Father Kentenich came by train from Milwaukee to visit in mid-July 1948. At Father Hoffmann's request, Father Kentenich apparently held a triduum to introduce the parish into Schoenstatt, even hearing confessions for the first time in English.

Father Hoffmann wrote an article about Father Kentenich which was published in *The Wanderer and The Catholic Bulletin* (the name 70 years ago of the Catholic weekly diocesan newspaper). He summarized interesting aspects of the founder's life with five subtitles of organizer, modern sisterhood, tarquinian policy, fearless courage, and progress in adversity. Please refer to Father Niehaus' *Visit to America* for the complete articles in chapters eight and nine. These are Father Hoffmann's words for "Fearless Courage":

**Outwitting the strict supervision of the guards, he organized a relief group for the distribution of food which he smuggled into camp. Against the strictest orders he employed three stenographers for his dictation by which he kept in contact with the outside world, even beyond the boundaries of Germany (which was in the midst of war!) He gave daily lectures in the various sections of the camp which held 44,000 persons. Intentionally disobedient to the unjust laws of the camp he proved to be a source of inspiration to all. When the awful history of Dachau is written, Father Kentenich will stand out as the figure, the exemplar of true Christian fortitude.**

## and Saint Paul Sites 70 Years Ago



St Mary Chapel at the St Paul Seminary

Father Kentenich visited the St Paul Seminary on 2200 Grand Avenue and St Mary's Home for the Aged with Father Hoffmann. He gave a talk to 12 Sisters of St Francis working there. One sister remembers, "Father Kentenich impressed me by his love for the Blessed Mother. He trusted in her care for him in all situations, especially in the many difficulties in Dachau. He said that the Blessed Mother took care in great and small difficulties but she especially took care of him in a million small ways. He was also very kind and happy."

There was also a visit to the offices of *Der Wanderer* at 128 East Tenth Street in St Paul, including conversations with the editor-in-chief Joseph Matt.

Franz and Therese Mueller were professors at St. Thomas College and when asked about Father Kentenich's 1948 visit some 44 years later, Therese Mueller relates the following about it:

**"I taught classes in family sociology, etc. [at St. Thomas College]... One day I received a phone call that three priests wanted to come and visit us for lunch. It was Father Kentenich, Father Reichenberger, and Father Hoffmann (who must have made the contact). But my class was done at 11:00 and lunch was supposed to be at 12:00! So I only have time to stop at a store on the way and buy something quick. Since I only had 35 cents in my pocket and the only store on the way was one where I didn't normally shop (so I couldn't get any credit), I ordered 35 cents worth of hamburger. I got home and made a hotdish. When I served what dessert I could get together, Father Kentenich said, "I had worse in Dachau!" (He had a good sense of humor.)... So there we were, three priests, Franz, myself, and our four children. Afterwards they signed our guest book!"**

*See p. 98ff in Visit to America by Fr. Jonathan Niehaus*

When Father Kentenich returned safely to the Original Shrine on Pentecost Sunday, May 20, 1945, it was the fulfillment of intense striving for freedom under the Third Reich connected to the Second Milestone of our Schoenstatt History.

Every year we give thanks for this great gift of God that after more than 3 years in the Dachau Concentration Camp, Father Kentenich, as well as the Original Shrine, were free from harm. Father Kentenich was convinced that God gave a divine seal of confirmation to the **Threefold Message of Schoenstatt**.

Each year in gratitude, May 17<sup>th</sup> renews the message of practical faith in Divine Providence, May 18<sup>th</sup> is to renew our Covenant of Love and May 19<sup>th</sup> stands under the banner of Mission Consciousness.

## Divine Providence

Practical faith in Divine Providence is a faith in God and his loving care that has been made part of one's practical everyday life. We learn and deepen our trust in God's care, striving for a constant dialogue with the God of life and history and actively seeking God's will through hearing his voice in the times, in our soul, and in the order of our being.

Father Kentenich wrote this prayer while imprisoned in Dachau in 1943. It is a Schoenstatt favorite and follows in the original German and English translations, both literal and free-style.

### PRAYER OF CONFIDENCE

Ich bau auf deine Macht  
und deine Güte, vertrau'  
auf sie mit kindlichem Gemüte;  
ich glaub', vertrau' in allen Lagen  
blind auf dich, du Wunderbare,  
und dein Kind.

I trust your might, your kindness,  
Mother dear, I do believe that you  
are always near. Whatever  
happens, Mother mild, I blindly  
trust in you and in your child.

I trust your might, your kindness,  
Mother dear, I do believe that you  
are always near. Schoenstatt's  
great Queen, O Mother mild, I  
blindly trust in you and in your  
child.

## Covenant of Love

The message of the covenant of love is the message of how God expresses his love in specific relationships which open to us his saving power. Schoenstatt's covenant of love with Mary provides a vibrant expression, safeguard and means to cultivate the covenant of love with God.



Families from the Lonsdale area came May 16, 2018, and renewed their covenant of love in the Jubilee Family Shrine. When can you and your family come?

## Mission Consciousness

Our awareness is that the presence of a place of grace like Schoenstatt must engage us in a unique way as part of God's plan from all eternity. For a Schoenstatter being "mission conscious" means: clearly recognizing that God has given Schoenstatt a mission and special task in the world today, the conviction of faith that Mary has called me/us to help her realize this important mission, and actively cooperating in the realization of this plan. (see more in chapter two *200 Questions about Schoenstatt* by Fr Jonathan Niehaus)



Our Schoenstatt Girls Youth send heartfelt thanks to all donors as over \$3000 has been raised for their September 13-20, 2018 Founder Pilgrimage to Germany.

### CONSECRATION PRAYER

My Queen, my Mother, I give myself entirely to you and to show my devotion to you, I consecrate to you this day my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, myself without reserve. As I am your own, my good Mother, guard and defend me as your property and possession. Amen.



April 22 Banquet helpers left to right are Maria Callens, Mary LeBrun, Willow Miller, Theresa Kisrow, Anna LeBrun, Eleanor Boeser, Hannah Miller and Kim LeBrun.





## Lent Retreat & Couples Weekend



Saturday was a good day for me. Monsignor Lozinski is a blessing as a confessor -- as well as an inspiration in his talks and attitudes about our faith. If we could have more like him in the field!! Wow. Thank you for letting us share in the happy day for Sister Ellen. What a wonderful way to have spent 60 years! Makes me want to really re-focus my life and time. I have Our MTA here on the table. Have to find a special place where I can use her to place my attention when I do my Rosary. Please tell Sister Sarah thank you again for the great meals. *Carol Dahl, March 2-4, 2018*

## Mother-Daughters Weekend



Our theme, Mother, If Only I Were Like You! was well received over Divine Mercy Sunday, April 6-8, 2018, by almost 40 persons. This is indeed a quality, traditional time for mothers & daughters.

## May 9<sup>th</sup> Retreat Day at the Shrine

What better way than to honor Mary with a day of graces at her Jubilee Family Shrine. The lot fell to Mildred Rosenhammer to crown our MTA. St James Catholic Daughters of America sent a group.



## Marian Apostles from Glencoe



Sister M Faustina led the Marian Apostles' Dedication on May 20, 2018, of the Glencoe Girls' Group: Ruby Ballalatak, Isabelle Good, Reese Magnusen, Katrina Koralewski, and Evelyn Mielke.

## Home Shrine Dedication in Excelsior



Father Andre dedicated the home of Jay and Robin Goetz and son John to Mary-Mother of Apostolic & Merciful Hearts. Their couples group joined them for the May 19, 2018 celebration, which took place on the Vigil of Pentecost.



*Flock Talk*  
By Our Lady's Disciples

Sanctity. Suffering. They are joined throughout God's great plan.

The Our Lady's Disciples group recently finished a study of Father Kentenich's talks on *The Game of Love*. In his talk on September 12, 1965, he made a side comment on Mary's "great mission," saying that it was needed "especially today, when the Church itself is in peril." If the Church was in great peril in 1965, I can only imagine Father Kentenich's thought on the state of the Church now, over 50 years later.

Father Kentenich is not the only priest who has spoken of a need for a Church revival. Father Michael Schmidt speaks of his belief that God raises up great saints about every 500 years in order to renew Catholicism, with the current generation of saints being led by St. John Paul II and Mother Teresa (St. Teresa of Calcutta) – and I pray that Father Kentenich soon joins this list. This belief joins very strongly with Father Kentenich's teaching of the need for Everyday Sanctity. Whether we are being called to be "capital S" Saints or "little S" saints, we still are each being called to reach for the highest levels of Everyday Sanctity.

How do we do that?

Father Kentenich gave us his roadmap to holiness during his Game of Love talks – suffering. We are each given opportunities to suffer and to unite our suffering to that of Christ. The suffering may be something put upon us, such as a health concern or the loss of a loved one. Or the suffering could be one of our choosing – fasting or cold showers (cold showers are really miserable to me). The suffering that we choose is in many ways training for the suffering that is put upon us – as much as it is also a means of helping another carry the suffering put upon them.

I read a blog recently that quoted Mother Teresa: "Suffering has to come because if you look at the cross, he has got his head bending down — he wants to kiss you — and he has both hands open wide — he wants to embrace you. He has his heart opened wide to receive you. Then when you feel miserable inside, look at the cross and you will know what is happening. Suffering, pain, sorrow, humiliation, feelings of loneliness, are nothing but the kiss of Jesus, a sign that you have come so close that he can kiss you. Do you understand, brothers, sisters, or whoever you may be? Suffering, pain, humiliation — this is the kiss of Jesus. At times you come so close to Jesus on the cross that he can kiss you. I once told this to a lady who was suffering very much. She answered, "Tell Jesus not to kiss me — to stop kissing me." That suffering has to come that came in the life of Our Lady, that came in the life of Jesus — it

has to come in our life also. Only never put on a long face. Suffering is a gift from God. It is between you and Jesus alone inside."

We are each given crosses, and we each have to choose to pick them up, to embrace them, to grow closer to Our Lord and Our Lady through them.

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

**Resolution:** Think of the crosses that you have been given throughout your life, and think of others who have helped you carry those crosses. Choose a means of suffering, such as fasting or cold showers, and offer the suffering to those who have helped you and to those whom you are able to help.

*Steve Ray is a member of the Our Lady's Disciples couples group in Roseville, MN.*

**This year *Founding Sunday* will be earlier:  
Plan to join us on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER  
15, 2018, from 10 AM to 4 PM, on the  
Golden Jubilee of Founder's Call to Eternity**

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### Schoenstatt Inter/National News

★ The World Meeting of Families will take place in Dublin from August 21-26, 2018. The Schoenstatt Family will host a booth to share Father Kentenich's spirituality for marriage and families.

★ One of those most difficult moments of a practical belief in Divine Providence came Sunday, April 29, 2018, when the final holy Mass was celebrated at the Mariengarten Schoenstatt Shrine located on Silver Spring & 68<sup>th</sup> in Milwaukee. Dedicated on January 20, 1962, it stood on the St Philip Neri Parish grounds next to the school which our Schoenstatt Sisters operated until 1995. Due to parish mergers the archdiocese sold the land to the present school administration.



The faithful Mariengarten Circle who kept vigil these last years.

