



## 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

### Happy Birthday, dear Blessed Mother!

Labor Day Weekend, school classes, crisp fall evenings, football games, farmers' markets, harvesting, and the list goes on, as we begin the month of September. On the 8<sup>th</sup> of September the Church celebrates the Birthday of Mary. In this special year as Schoenstatters commemorate the powerful shrine network, think how the Blessed Mother was the first born shrine for God's only begotten Son, Jesus.

The feast originated in Jerusalem, connected to the basilica known at the end of the fifth century as the basilica of holy Mary where she was born (now called the Basilica of St. Anne). This feast determined the date of the later feast of her Immaculate Conception nine months before. We want to celebrate Mary's Birth with a special party thanking God for giving us such a mother.

There is also the Name Day of Mary, celebrated four days later on September 12<sup>th</sup>; and the memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15<sup>th</sup> – which is the death day of our founder, Father Joseph Kentenich. He had a deep, all-consuming love for Mary that carried him through years of imprisonment and exile. He knew firsthand of sorrow, yet his face radiated bliss and contentment.

On September 28<sup>th</sup> our nation begins an important 40 Days of Life with prayer and fasting before the presidential election. I want to thank each one who participated in the Bishops' "Fortnight for Freedom" and to all who crowned Mary as *Queen of Religious Freedom in America* on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We want to do even MORE praying, fasting, and striving during these 40 days before the American people will be voting on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

Minnesota will have the Marriage Amendment on the ballot. Along with giving full support in a YES vote; people need to understand that the voice of the people is a right that should not be given to one judge or any state legislature. The far-reaching change to the very definition of marriage is not to be relinquished to a few, but that all will continue to have a voice. Also, one must note that leaving the ballot blank on this issue is equal to a No vote which gives others the option to define marriage for you.

Isn't it providential that exactly now when a small activist group wants to re-define the essential meaning of the very nature of marriage, Schoenstatters across America are spiritually pilgrimaging to our **Jubilee Family Shrine** where the values of purity, marriage, children, family, and love have been gifted since the shrine's dedication in the Bicentennial Year of the USA?

I would ask each one who reads this to discuss which sacrifice you and your family is willing to do until November 6<sup>th</sup>. We cannot be wishy-washy when the very backbone of Americans – our religious freedom, has been taken! As it stands now, we are no longer able to follow our consciences by saying No to the relentless killing of babies in the womb or the early push of our elders into the tomb.

We are not in the minority, we are Americans who must come together and stand united for our religious freedoms. God is good, God is Father, and he hears all prayers uttered. Let us not be apathetic, let us not be found on the sidelines. Let us wake up, rouse one another, and be heroic in sacrificial love for God, our faith, our families, our values, and our country!

**God Bless America!**

*From our Jubilee Family Shrine, Sister M Jessica*

## Featured Schoenstatter: Robert J. Plante



Robert J. Plante, with his wife, Beth, is a member of the Schoenstatt Couples Group around Coon Rapids, Minnesota. He began to know Schoenstatt from his daughter Leesha and her involvement at the girls summer camp program. Together with four other couples, their monthly meetings this year are directed towards the Blank Check Dedication. Robert wanted to have only the best for our MTA and built a treasure chest for her in which the blank checks can be properly stored. The red oak chest is complete with the MTA logo on top and the Schoenstatt logo on the front, both made from maple. The keychain has a maple shrine with a dark walnut door, only on one side. The chest, presented for the Blessed Mother's use on Easter Saturday, April 14, 2012, was promptly taken on pilgrimage to the four Schoenstatt Shrines in Wisconsin.

The blank check dedication is a further step of growth in the covenant of love. It expresses a fuller readiness to live one's life in total surrender to God. This new step had its origin in the difficult year of 1939. Schoenstatt's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary coincided with the beginning of World War II and an even greater persecution on the part of the Nazis in Germany. To express the willingness to totally entrust all things to Mary, the Schoenstatt Family made a "Blank Check" dedication with the MTA: they would "sign over" to Mary utterly everything, including the very uncertain future, and it would be up to her to lead her work through the darkness to whatever victory God had in store. #76, Fr Jonathan, *200 Questions about Schoenstatt*

Despite times of unemployment, Robert put his faith in Jesus and his Mother, deciding to give them a special joy. Just as a "blank check" in the financial world implies absolute trust in the person given the check (that they will write in the correct amount and not defraud or overdraw the account), so each of us can totally trust the MTA with all decisions regarding the future and not hold anything back. Thank you, Robert, for making the chest and blank checks!

## BLANK CHECKS FOR MTA NOW AVAILABLE

In addition, Robert J. Plante designed a blank check, complete with record partitions. The couples gave six of these golden check books for the Blessed Mother on May 12, 2012. The first group to use them, after the honorary opening check was "given to Schoenstatt's Founder to use," was the New Ulm Mothers at their Mariengarten Dedication on June 7, 2012.



Robert explains the uniqueness of the MTA's checks:

+ **The signature line** is not a line, it is actually microprint. On most checks it says "Authorized Representative" or "Authorized Signature." On the Schoenstatt checks the signature line reads as follows:

"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, my entire self without reserve. As I am your own, my good mother, guard me and defend me as your property and possession. Amen."

+ **Check number** to begin the six book series: #5025  
The 50<sup>th</sup> book of the Bible is John. Chapter 2, verse 5 reads: *His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."*

+ **Routing number** is: 85122514  
When you assign a number to each letter of the alphabet in the order in which they appear, the routing number spells out: 8-5-1-2-2-5-1-4

**H-E-A-V-E-N**

+ **Account Number** assigned is: 105192119  
Using the same principle, the account number on the blank checks spells out: 10-5-19-21-19

**J-E-S-U-S**

 <b>Jubilee Family Shrine</b> Schoenstatt on the Lake Blank Check Dedication		 <b>JUBILEE FAMILY SHRINE</b> SCHOENSTATT ON THE LAKE 27782 County Road 27 Shawley Eye, MN 56085 (507) 784-7727		Check # 5025 Date: _____
Date	Payor Name	Received	Check # 5025	Play to the order of: <u>Mother Thrice Admirable</u> \$ <input type="text"/> <small>DOLLARS</small>
		Check # 5025	85122514 105192119 5025	Memo <u>Blank Check Dedication</u> Authorized Signature _____ RP



## Historical Change at Original Shrine

Sunday, April 1, 2012, will be recorded in the history of the Original Shrine as the day on which the Pallottine Fathers entrusted it to the Schoenstatt Fathers, as the legal leaders, for its free use. It is a transcendental, historic event that was witnessed by the universal Schoenstatt Family, thanks to schoenstatt-tv and schoenstatt.org. This day was striven and longed for by many generations! Daily at 9:00 pm the night blessing is imparted in the Original Shrine, with a devotion on First Saturdays. The Original Shrine is open from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm daily. There are three Masses each weekday morning at 6:30, 7:15, and 8:00; with a 7:00 am Mass on Sundays and Feast Days. From 9-12:00 noon there is silent Eucharistic Adoration or Masses for Pilgrim Groups. The adoration continues until 6:30 pm daily. After 9:00 pm as the Original Shrine closes, it may be reserved for groups and private time. Inquire at sakristei@urheiligtum.de.

## Rose Garden Extravaganza



Mike Wagner shows Sister Rita-Marie the art of how to cut fresh roses. Our Queen of Minnesota is delighted in the daily scents and delicate beauty of the queen of flowers. Thank you, Mike, for creating the garden and making it all possible!

## 14 Patriotic Rosaries at Grey Eagle

There wasn't much going in our diocese for the Fortnight for Freedom, even with my asking at the various offices. Our priest is allowing our family to have the Patriotic Rosary every evening in the Marian Garden by our church. We place the American and church flags on either side of her; and sing patriotic hymns and pray other prayers and litanies from the USCCB. As I was making the booklets and thought I was done, I got your Schoenstatt email with some extra sources and we added an additional page. We had 46 people the first night and 60 the second and it won't be in the bulletin until this weekend. All just by word of mouth. It has been beautiful and encouraging for our family, as we weren't sure if we'd be alone most of the time. Thank you three times over. In our Shrine of the Holy Family, Karen Becker

**The Holy Family Statue from the Jubilee Family Shrine continues visiting families on the way to October 18, 2014.**

## MTA Coronations on June 17<sup>th</sup>



Pictured from left to right: Chris Rockers, Sr. Jessica, Angie Frundt, Fr. Leo, Kas Greenfield, Karla Carr, Candis Carr, Mary Kozoliek, and Cathy Stevermer.

After a one year preparation study from the book "Home Shrine Coronation Guide," seven ladies from the Blue Earth Schoenstatt Mother's group along with Sister Jessica made the coronation step for the personal MTA pictures on Father's Day. The large picture of the MTA, which was enthroned in January at Sts Peter and Paul, was placed before the altar with their framed MTA pictures, candles, and prayers. Father Leo Koppala performed the ceremony. A delicious potluck supper followed in the church dining hall for all the families.

## DVD on Father Kentenich Available!

It's Here! Craig Turner from New Prague has captured the heart of Sister M Petra's talks from last October on a DVD entitled: Experiences with Father Kentenich. It is excellent, high definition quality filming which you can share with your group, family, friends, pastors, colleagues... Plan to pick one up at your next visit to the Jubilee Family Shrine or call 612-618-9334. Or simply send a check for \$15 with your name and address to: Sister M Jessica, 27762 County Rd 27, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085. Order extras to mail as apostolic Christmas gifts.

**LIFE BEFORE THE COMPUTER** went like this: *-friend's email*

- An application was for employment
- A program was a TV show
- A cursor used profanity
- A keyboard was a piano
- A web was a spider's home
- A virus was the flu
- A CD was a bank account
- A hard drive was a long trip on the road
- A mouse pad was where a mouse lived
- Memory was something you lost with age

**YOU KNOW IT'S A HOT SUMMER DAY** when: *-Wood Dale Home*

- Birds need potholders to pull worms out of the soil
- Farmers feed their hens crushed ice so they won't lay hard-boiled eggs and cows give evaporated milk
- A can of soup directions says: "Just pour and eat."
- A dog is chasing a cat and they both are walking...



## Three New Home Shrines in Minnesota



Father Randal Kasel dedicated the home shrine of the Robert & Julie McNamara family, from Rosemount, MN, on June 27, 2012. Mary is **Gentle Mother, Queen of Peace**. She looks over to their school house. Seven unique symbols complete their living family shrine.



Mike and Audrey Wagner dedicated their home in Sleepy Eye, MN, **Mother of Hope**, on June 28, 2012. Their associate pastor, Father Mark Steffl, officiated on the Vigil of the Apostles, Peter and Paul. Their home is just north of the magnificent St Mary's parish church.



Christine Risler asked Father Randal Kasel to dedicate her home shrine in Lake City, MN, on July 2, 2012, as **Queen of Peace**. Mary's graces were experienced as she accepted her new throne of grace.

PLEASE take a **family photo in your home shrine** and send it with one of your family customs with our MTA to [srjessica@schrsmmary.org](mailto:srjessica@schrsmmary.org)

## Garage Sale was a Success!



When Jenny Baker came up with the idea of a garage sale fundraiser, no one could have guessed what Our MTA was planning. From the beginning we wanted it to 1) Help Schoenstatt Families declutter and 2) Be priced to save and go. THANK YOU to each and every one who brought items or boxes or vans-full to Farmington.



Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup> was lead off and our biggest day. Truly there were many bargains to find as it was "make an offer." Saturday started at 9 am with \$1 a bag and did we go through bags. \$4,200 was totaled and a matching grant donor came forward! MPHCEV = Mother takes perfect care and will be victorious! -St Vincent Pallotti.



Mark Rockers at [mcrocks@bevcomm.net](mailto:mcrocks@bevcomm.net) made the four sets of unique Burma Shave 5 ads come to life.

Dave & Christine Baker got them up near the entrance of the Dakota County Fair. Many people came "just to check out who made those signs."

We are making plans for next year; so keep on giving those boxes to Sister Jessica & enjoy the un-stuffed look around your home shrine ☺.

May Our MTA Richly Reward Each Who Contributed & Stopped By

## Schoenstatt Sister of Mary Declared "Venerable"

On May 10, 2012, Pope Benedict XVI promulgated the decree of heroic virtues of Sister M. Emilie Engel, a Schoenstatt Sister of Mary from Germany. There are two key moments in the process of beatification: the arrival at the moral certainty by the Church regarding the sanctity of a person and "the divine confirmation" of the verdict proven by a miracle through the intercession of the Venerable.

The process of Emilie Engel has reached the first step: the signing of the decree of heroic virtues expresses the judgment of the Church regarding the holiness of her life. This is an event which fills the community of the Sisters of Mary and the entire Schoenstatt Family with pride and joy.



Emilie Engel was one of the founding sisters of the Secular Institute of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary. In 1926 she left her position as a teacher to become the formation director of the new community and one of its pillars. Sister Emilie loved everyone, but her heart went out in a special way to the poor. Not only did she care for their instruction but nursed the sick, found employment for the students when they left school and even placed orphans with good families. She went about her work with courage and determination. For many years she suffered under tuberculosis and then from the stigma of the disease which at the time was not understood.

The founder of her community, Father Joseph Kentenich, appointed her to the general government and gave her the responsibility to care for the other sick sisters. He knew she would understand their needs on all levels. Even when she was confined to a wheelchair and was gradually becoming paralyzed, eventually losing her ability to speak, the founder entrusted leadership positions to her. Although Sister Emilie suffered from anxiety and scrupulosity as a child and young woman, her consecration to the Blessed Mother in the Schoenstatt Covenant of Love, and a deep trust in her spiritual director allowed God to transform her heart into one that was joyful, free, and able to help others find peace.

Sister Emilie proclaimed the teaching of practical faith in Divine Providence, namely that God is a loving Father, who in his wisdom, kindness, and omnipotence designed not only the great world plan, but also that of our little life. She was aware that this plan is also in Mary's motherly hands. Her example inspires us to open spaces in our lives for the wonderful work of God from the most genuine sources of our spirituality. She is

willing to help us direct our lives to what is essential, to put it in God's hands. -Sr M Marcia, Staten Island, NY

You are invited to ask Sister Emilie to intercede for you. Please contact the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary if your life has been touched by Sister Emilie. Here in the Midwest you can reach them at 507-794-7727, Schoenstatt on the Lake, 27762 County Rd 27, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085 or [www.SchoenstattMN.org](http://www.SchoenstattMN.org)

### Prayer

God, Heavenly Father, under the protection of Mary, our Mother Thrice Admirable and Queen, you allowed Sister M. Emilie to mature into a shining example of one who practiced faith in Divine Providence with childlikeness and selfless motherliness. We ask you, O Father to hear our petitions through her intercession. During her life she wanted to be nothing other than a loving sacrifice of your unending mercy. May she now implore for us the grace that you will bestow your overflowing kindness on us and help us in our time of need. May you soon raise Sister Emilie to the honors of the altar for the glorification of your unending Fatherly love and to the praise of Mary, our Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt. Amen

**Make Plans to Attend our annual  
SCHOENSTATT FOUNDING DAY CELEBRATION  
On Sunday, October 21, 2012 from 10 am to 4 pm  
At the Jubilee Family Shrine  
Holy Mass begins at 2:30 pm  
Sister M Carol will share her experiences with  
building up Schoenstatt in the USA and knowing  
Father Kentenich personally.**

**Games and Activities for the Children  
Free-will Offering for Lunch  
Confessions Available before Holy Mass  
Closing Benediction and Covenant Renewal  
at the Shrine, followed by Refreshments**

### Plan Ahead for the 2014 CENTENNIAL EVENTS:

June 16-30, 2014 will be the USA English Pilgrimage to Rome and Schoenstatt, Germany. A Spanish Pilgrimage leaves from September 5-19, 2014. The actual Centennial Day Pilgrimage is for all language groups from October 15-29, 2014. At present we have 20 from Minnesota who are interested in visiting the Original Shrine and so much more in June 2014. Can you join with them? Call Sr Jessica 612-618-9334 for info.

Bishop John LeVoir will celebrate with us at the Jubilee Family Shrine on Saturday, **October 18, 2014**. We are grateful that he has reserved this day to be with our Schoenstatt Family.



## Nine MN Delegates at Exile Seminar III



Thirty-one attendees came from 12 states and Burundi, Africa, to listen and learn from first-hand accounts of Sister M Petra Schnuerer's experiences with Father Kentenich.

On Dec. 1, 1951, Father wrote: *"If God has foreseen North America for me, then that country has a mission for me and I have a mission for that country. He will show in due time the details of that mission."* As to the reason for his exile Father said that it is normal for the Church to check everything out, and if we love the Church, many fruits would come later, which proved to be prophetic. *"We must take care not to disturb the plans of God in the least!"* was his attitude.

Seminar III focused on Father's faithfulness and his keen ability to work within the parameters imposed on him. He looked for ways in which he could be an effective, priestly image of our heavenly Father. The spirit of God was so innate in him that Father became a transparency of God. Many were the fruits of his exile time in the United States, among them the Monday Evening Talks, formation of the home shrine, and the International Center in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

Sister Petra fleshed out the nature and spirit of Father Kentenich in such a way that all came away with a deeper understanding of our founder and his legacy during the time of his exile in the United States. She said, *"A free, firm and faithful leader who works as an instrument in Father's hand is always fruitful. We can be convinced that: Father has conquered and merited these treasures for us. As his children and heirs, we have the right to inherit what he merited. As his instruments, we have the right to ask and expect everything from our Father and leader. He is waiting for us and counting on us ..."* *Read more at [www.schoenstatt.org](http://www.schoenstatt.org)*

## Labor Day Pilgrimage from Madison, WI

We started our journey with 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Mass at the Founder Shrine in Madison, WI, as well as a travelers blessing, accompanied by Father Robert of Burundi. Then we were off to Sleepy Eye, MN. When we arrived at Schoenstatt on the Lake, which many of us visited for the first time, the graces of the Jubilee Family Shrine were strongly felt. The marvels of the town of Sleepy Eye are a real treat to learn about and experience. On Monday morning, it was hard to say good bye to the Shrine on the Lake where the strong sense of family is felt – a place where the word Schoenstatt "beautiful place" is truly reflected. The Blessed Mother had more in store for us, as on the way home we stopped at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse. Reflecting on our trip we came to realize more clearly that the Blessed Mother always draws

you close to her Son. Our Lord was present to us in Adoration at every stop of our journey. All of the pilgrims would like to thank the entire Schoenstatt Family of Minnesota for their efforts and contributions to make the Jubilee Family Shrine



such a wonderful place. We want to come back annually.  
- Anne Butler

Lillian Stimpert gave a tour of St Mary's Church. Leonard & Marge Seidl gave three boat rides.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS for Fall 2012

**October 7, 2012:** Pope Benedict will proclaim St John of Avila, a diocesan priest in Spain in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century and St Hildegard of Bingen, a Benedictine nun in Germany in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century as the 34<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> Doctors of the Church.

**October 11, 2012:** The opening of the Year of Faith across the universal church in every diocese until Nov 23, 2013.

**October 12-14, 2012:** The annual Schoenstatt Leaders weekend takes place in Waukesha, WI. Inspiration will be given and a new motto chosen for our coming Year of Mission with the Golden Jubilee of the Home Shrines.

**November 6, 2012:** It is our duty to vote as Catholics in the general election and yes, to uphold God's gift of marriage.

**November 16-18, 2012:** Make plans to attend the Women's Retreat at Schoenstatt on the Lake with Father Randal Kasel and Sister Jessica. *Come away and rest awhile.*

**For 2013 there are three special events to note:**

**June 27-30, 2013:** International Congress on the Home Shrine in Waukesha, WI. Reserve the weekend – make plans to attend the Golden Jubilee and draw from this wellspring.

**July 23-28, 2013:** World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. "Go and Make Disciples of All Nations." Pope Benedict was the first to register for the event this past August 28, 2012. It is expected to draw 3 million plus pilgrims to this stunning location and one of our most beautiful Schoenstatt Shrines!

**October 1-21, 2013:** The Father Eye Symbol for the Original Shrine will be traveling in the Midwest. It will also be here for our Founding Day Celebration on *Sunday, October 20, 2013*, with Bishop John LeVoir at the Jubilee Family Shrine.