

# Schoenstatt Family News

A publication of the Madison Schoenstatt family for members, friends, and visitors to the Marian Shrine.

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## Father's Exile Legacy – Mary's Victory for the Church



*On October 25, 2014, Pope Francis met with the Schoenstatt Family as part of the 100<sup>th</sup> jubilee event. In this newsletter, we will reflect on the fifth question from the area of Church They asked the Holy Father how can we help you in the renewal of the Church and where would you suggest we place our emphasis. The following is a paraphrase of the response from Pope Francis:*

• **Renewal:** (...) Some people are talking about the "revolutionary Pope." (...) The Latin Fathers used to say *Ecclesia Semper Renovanda*. The Church has to renew itself continually. (This has been) since the first centuries of the Church. And they struggled with this, so did the saints. In other words, those who take the Church forward are the saints who were able to renew their sanctity and, through their sanctity, renew the Church.

So, the first favor I ask of you, as a help, is **sanctity**. Do not be afraid of a life of sanctity. This is what it means to renew the Church. Renewing the Church is not, in the first place, to make a change here or a change there. It must be done because life is always changing and we need to adapt. But this is not renewal.

(...) The things that the newspapers are reporting are all external renewals. It is interesting. None of them are talking about the renewal of the heart. They don't understand anything about what it means to renew the Church. It is sanctity. Renew the heart of each person.

• **Freedom of Spirit:** Something else that helps me, which was (in) your question, freedom of spirit. The more you pray and allow the Holy Spirit to act, the more he attains this holy freedom of spirit, which leads him to do things that bear tremendous fruit. Freedom of spirit. This is not the same as relaxation, (...). Freedom of spirit requires **faithfulness**, and requires **prayer**.

When we don't pray, we don't have this freedom. In other words, those who pray have freedom of spirit. They can do "crazy things" in the good sense of the word. "How did you get (that) idea? How well it worked!" "And I, who know it, prayed and it came to me." Freedom of spirit.

• **Danger of Functionalism:** Do not become encapsulated. (...) We need to understand this well -- in directives, or things that imprison us. Let us return again to the image of

the Doctors of the Law (at the time of Jesus). They were so meticulous about obeying the Ten Commandments that they invented another 600 (regulations). (...) this leads you to be closed in, encapsulated.

When the apostle plans - (...) when the apostle believes that good planning makes things move forward, he is mistaken. This is **functionalism**. This is what businessmen need to do.

We have to use these things, yes. But they are not the priority unless they are at the service of the other, freedom of spirit, prayer, vocation, apostolic zeal, going out. (...)

Sometimes I see at some Bishops' Conferences or in dioceses where they have people who are responsible for everything. Nothing passes them by, and everything is very functional, very organized. But sometimes there are things missing or they do half of what they could have done with less functionalism and more apostolic zeal, more interior freedom, more prayer, in other words, this interior freedom, this courage to go out. (...)

• **One Center in Christ:** (...) There is only **one center**: Jesus Christ. And when I put my pastoral methods, my pastoral path, all my actions and everything else at the center, I "de"-center Jesus Christ. All the spirituality, all the charism in the Church, everything that is most diverse and rich, must be "de"-centered. The Lord is at the center.

Therefore, when Paul, in his first Epistle to the Corinthians, speaks about charism, these things which are so beautiful, about the body, about the Church, each one with its charism, how does he end? It ends by talking about love. In other words, (St. Paul teaches us that) the good things come from God and belong to God. (...) Question: Am I "de"-centered, in this sense, or am I at the center, as a person, or as a movement, as a charism? (...) The center, is only Jesus. The apostle is always "de"-centered, because he is a servant, at the service of the center.

The "de"-centered charism does not say "us" or "I." It says Jesus and me. Jesus asks me. I have to do this for Jesus. He is always at the center. We are orbiting around the person of Jesus. Do not forget. A movement, a charism, needs to be "de"-centered. (...)

*(to be continued in July)*

*Father Kentenich's talk on June 21, 1959, to couples in Madison on making and renewing the covenant of love, paraphrased from notes by Henry Gmeinder (101).*

What does it mean to be a child of the Father? To be a child of the Father means to open the door and through the window see Him right there when something happens. Even a business man who works night and day should see the Father in this way. Didn't we know this? There are many things we didn't know!

Now of course the important thing is to be able to concentrate on the Heavenly Father and to see when I should think of the Heavenly Father. We must be reasonable. Especially in America, so many things as television, etc. So many are absorbed by these things. What will we pick up and what will happen to our faith? If we do not develop FAITH then (it will be difficult to recognize God since) He doesn't knock and say, "Here I am!" We must have "EYES OF FAITH" in order to see the FATHER in everyday life.

I must say that I should stick to saying certain prayers during the day — certain moments consecrated to God during the day — intensive moments when I occupy myself with God — moments when I look at the Father in Christ's way — there to see Him in everyday things. I should say my morning prayers, night prayers, and grace before and after meals. These are times when my soul rests in God, when God can be creative in me.

We must also do some religious reading. We don't know enough about God. Sunday sermons are not enough. We must read more, say at least once a week we should read from a religious book.

Again, what does it mean that we should discover the Hand of the Father? It is like looking through a window and taking His hand and letting Him lead us through life.

### **Celebrate Founder Shrine Birthday**

Join us on **June 20** to remember the 62nd anniversary of the dedication of the Founder Shrine. We will start with prayers in the Shrine at **9:30 a.m.** From the Shrine, we will drive to Highland Memory Gardens to visit the graves of our Schoenstatt heroes. Each person attending should bring their own picnic lunch. The afternoon will be a visit to Resurrection Cemetery. Our day will end at 4:00 p.m. Please call the Sisters at (608) 222-7208 by June 15 to RSVP. Join us for all or part of the day.

### **Congratulations and Thank you!**

We extend our congratulations to Sister M. Catherine. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison on May 16 with a double major in Finance and Accounting. We also want to thank her for all she has done to support the Schoenstatt Movement in Madison these past eight years. Sister M. Catherine will be moving to Waukesha on May 27.

## **June**

### **Calendar of Events in Madison**

- 2 6:30 p.m. – Ice Cream Social Meeting**
- 4 7:00 p.m. – Marian Devotions and Benediction at St. Dennis Parish**
- 6 8:00 a.m. – Morning with Mary:** Mass in the Family Room. Meditation: Queen of Families
- 13 8:00 a.m. – Holy Mass** in the Founder Shrine
- 13 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. – Women's Group**
- 14 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. – Sion Circle:** Prayer for priestly vocations in the Founder Shrine. All are welcome.
- 17 Eucharistic Adoration** during the night
- 18 Eucharistic Adoration** during the day
- 20 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Visit our Heroes on the Founder Shrine Birthday**
- 20 8:00 a.m. – Holy Mass** in the Founder Shrine
- 27 8:00 a.m. – Holy Mass** in the Founder Shrine
- 28 9:30 a.m. – Holy Mass – Covenant Sunday**

### **Calendar of Events in Waukesha**

For more information call: (262) 522-4300

- 7 Corpus Christi Procession**
- 12-14 Schoenstatt Boys Camp**
- 14-18 High School Mission Camp 1**
- 19 Day Camp 1**
- 20 Schoenstatt Young Women's Workshop**
- 21 Covenant Sunday**
- 25-28 Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign Convention**

### **Upcoming Events**

- **July 23-26 – National Exile Congress at the Schoenstatt Retreat Center in Waukesha.**
- **August 2 – Ice Cream Social: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** The sign-up list to volunteer to work at the Ice Cream Social and raffle tickets are available at Schoenstatt Heights. This is still our main fundraiser for the movement, so we encourage you to take as many tickets as you can sell (or purchase yourselves) in order to help fund our movement activities throughout the year.

*We extend our sympathy and prayers* to the family and friends of Vern Theisen, who passed away on May 9. He helped assemble many pilgrim MTA's.

*Please pray for.* Father Dieter Haas, Sister M. Angela, and those in our Schoenstatt family who have requested prayers due to illness, surgery, or other intentions.