

Dear Schoenstatt Family Members,

We are in the Lenten season and look forward to the Feast of Easter. We are reminded that God in his boundless mercy has given us his greatest gift – his Son to redeem and save us. Father Kentenich said that going the way of the Cross with the Redeemer “*reminds us of the infinite mercy of the Father for his children and for the world.*” Only through Christ can we come to know the Heavenly Father, for Christ said – to know him is to know the Father. And in this spirit of thanksgiving and joy, we look now at the Father Symbol as it reveals to us another aspect of the wonders of the fatherhood of God and of all fatherhood – natural and spiritual fatherhood.

United in our Covenant,  
Shirley Hall  
Sr. M. Georgina Heger  
(On behalf of the CIT)

### **Schoenstatt Father Symbol – Information Snippet**

#### **No.4**

#### **Introduction:**

This is a photo of the Father Symbol which will be visiting us soon (3.-17.4.13).



This is the same Father Symbol which was given to Father Kentenich for the Original Shrine. Since 2009 it has been travelling around the world as part of the preparations for 2014 of the entire International Schoenstatt Family.

One aspect of this symbol is that it reflects:

**“The Glory of the Triune God”**

#### **Spiritual Preparation**

You might like to place yourself spiritually in the Shrine or with your Pilgrim Mother and reflect on this scripture quote:

***“By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”*** John 15:8-9

#### **Reflection:**

The glory of God is shown by all that He has given us, rather than in what he receives from us. Mary’s life was fruitful when, at the hour of the Annunciation and then throughout her life, she said her “Yes, Father” to all that the Heavenly Father asked of her. We can also share in the glory of God by our readiness to fulfil the mission He gives to each one of us. Father Kentenich gave his life to Our Lady through his union of hearts with her in the Covenant of Love. He offered all that he did throughout his life for the Glory of God. We can also offer all that we do to our Blessed Mother through our contributions to the Capital of Grace so that she can use these to lead us and others to the Heavenly Father.

*Dear God our Heavenly Father, we ask for the grace through the Shrine of growing deeper in our relationship with you and with your Son. As Mary helped Jesus with the work of redemption, we want to serve the Church through our involvement in Schoenstatt.*

*We ask Our Blessed Mother to help us fulfil our mission so that we may glorify the Triune God.*

*We thank you Heavenly Father for giving us the gift of Father Kentenich who strove throughout his life to always say "Yes" to Divine Providence and by his example lead many home to the glory of God.*

### **Practical Resolution:**

I want to ask the Blessed Mother to help me find my personal mission in life. Which mission did God give me? Why do I ultimately exist? How wonderful it would be if I were created for a great mission. Each day of this week I want to discover one or more beautiful traits within me. How can I help build the Father's Kingdom here on earth?

### **We pray together:**

Dear Mother Thrice Admirable,

With great joy we are on pilgrimage to your shrine.

The faith of our Father and founder Fr Kentenich inspired you to set up your home in Schoenstatt.

In the shadow of this shrine a family was born, a new spiritual way within the Church, a charisma in the midst of our time.

We want to fill the capital of grace with our gifts; with our gratitude and repentance, with our surrender and longing.

With every step we take on our pilgrim way we ask you:

Enkindle in us anew the fire of love for you,

for Father Kentenich and for our family.

Mother, give us the strength to spread a covenant culture

in our world today and educate us to be your true

missionaries for this century.



**Your covenant - our mission!**