

Dear Schoenstatt Family Members,

Below is the next issue of our 'snippets' on the Father Symbol. I hope that you are finding these helpful in coming to an appreciation of the Father Symbol that will be visiting us very soon!

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(On behalf of CIT)

Schoenstatt Father Symbol – Information Snippet No. 6

Introduction:

While this Father Symbol is relatively simple in its form and design, behind it is a wealth of symbolism and reality for us to discover. Hopefully through these short 'snippets' we may all come to learn and appreciate a little more, some of the beautiful meanings behind such a symbol. We can for example, see in this Father Symbol



“The Power of God”

Spiritual Preparation:

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

“Ever since the creation of the world his invisible attributes of eternal power and divinity have been able to be understood and perceived in what he has made.” (Romans 1:20)



Reflection:

One of the attributes of God the Father is his power and might. A similar power of creating is something that parents exercise. They receive this power from God and we can see this power in connection with God's love and wisdom.

Throughout his life Father Kentenich endeavoured to educate himself to grow in this exercise of love and wisdom so that he could always see the power of God behind all that happened. He saw God's power, not as something to be feared, but as something that comes from a loving Father who cares for all his children. During his life – and beyond - Father Kentenich has become in his wisdom and love, a transparency of this loving father for his Schoenstatt Family.

Dear 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 the Holy Spirit to be with us so that like Father Kentenich we may know that the love and wisdom of God is behind all that happens in our life and see the eternal power and divinity of the Triune God in all that He has created.

Practical Resolution:

I ask for the grace to accept that the expression of the Father's power and might is his merciful love for me. Everything he sends me comes out of love, for love and through love.

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 charism 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!