

## Schoenstatt Father Symbol – Information Snippet No. 7

### **Introduction:**

Some people say we make too much fuss of Fr Kentenich in Schoenstatt. These people have no trouble with our attachment to Mary and they like praying in the Shrine even though most are unaware of the Covenant of Love and the offerings to the Capital of Grace which is filled with the offerings, prayers, sacrifices and good deeds from people who have made the Covenant.



In this of reflection in preparation for the visit of the Father Symbol, which is to be placed in the shrine in Schoenstatt in October 2014, is based more on Father Kentenich than on God the Father.

You will find the basis for this in the book of Genesis God said,

***"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. (Genesis 1:26)***

This means that in some way we all reflect God. We all are instruments of God.

You can say that in some way we are icons of God.

Different icons emphasise different aspects of the relationship the person in the icon mirrors. For example, sometimes you see the hands being out of proportion to the arms and the rest of the body. At other times angels are behind a person protecting them. At other times people are close together expressing a love for God or the love they share for God.

In the Shrine, Our Mother Thrice Admirable, is offering Jesus to those who look at her and her child..... *What does this symbolise for you?*



### **Reflection:**

You might like to place yourself spiritually in the Shrine or with your Pilgrim Mother and consider what aspect of Fr Kentenich's life you see as a reflection of God the Father.

### **Practical resolution:**

Father in heaven, please show to me how I can be your instrument?  
(Perhaps by being more understanding, more patient, more compassionate, more acknowledging the other person, by being merciful...)

*United with our Schoenstatt Family here in Australia we pray our pilgrimage prayer for 2014:*

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!**