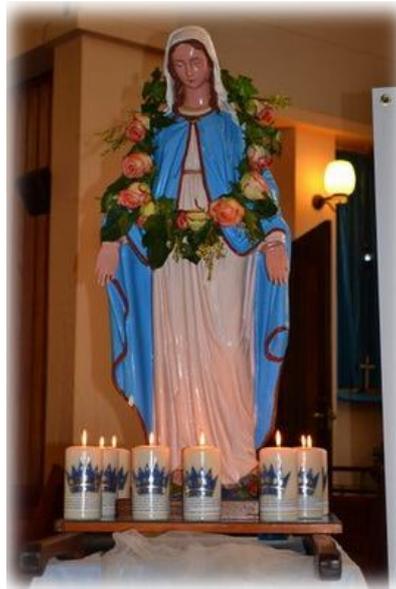


SCHOENSTATT NEWS

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



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AUGUST 2013 EDITION



Feast of the Assumption

This week on the 15th August we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. Mary Assumed into Heaven is the Patroness of South Africa — we in Australia have as our Patroness, Mary Help of Christians. I found this on the internet and thought it appropriate for our time.

Ed

Cape Town Honours our Patroness



SOUTH AFRICA, Francis Boule.

South Africa has the honour of having as Patroness, Mary Assumed into Heaven. The nation was placed under her Patronage in 1952 during the National Marian Congress which was being held in Durban that year.

Fifty years later a group of lay people who had been trying to get the feast day celebrated more publicly, organized a Golden Jubilee event in the Archdiocese of Cape Town. It was a great success with the Salesian's church in Lansdowne, Our Lady Help of Christians, being packed to overflowing. Each year since then this group who belong to the Schoenstatt Movement together with Schoenstatt Fathers and Sisters have organized a similar honouring of our Patroness. It is and has always been a liturgical celebration and not a Holy Mass as the wish is to focus on Mary who always leads us to Her Son.

Queen and Patroness we call upon you

This year there was a change in that the youth of the Archdiocese presented relevant petitions to our Patroness and placed lit candles around Her statue which was surrounded by flowers and crowns. It was the desire to offer Mary, who is a Queen, a Crown recognizing Her as each one's personal Queen. Each of the Archdiocese's eight deaneries was represented and each read a petition to which the congregation sang the response "Queen and Patroness we call upon you". With gratitude the organizers noted that the church was full despite it being a wet winter day.

Liturgical Dance

As has been the way for a number of years, the Salesian band provided vibrant music for the congregation's singing. The Archdiocesan Liturgical Dancers gracefully honoured the Patroness with a new "Ave Maria" with the congregation watching and singing.

The celebrant was Archbishop Emeritus Lawrence Henry who gave the final benediction. Fr Peter-John Pearson, Vicar-general, preached on Mary's assumption.

Towards the 60th anniversary of Mary's patronage

To the joy of the organizers, many commented most favourably on the event. As one said "The bar has been raised". This presents a challenge, especially as 2012 marks the 60th anniversary of Mary's patronage of our nation and the 50th anniversary of the start of the second Vatican council. The challenge is accepted "with Hope & Joy". (Taken from our Schoenstatt website.)

Fr. Kentenich.

.... An excerpt of a talk given by Fr. Kentenich.

".....Be open for the world! Know what is going on in the world, know how the people of the most varied outlooks think and feel, know the direction in which science is tending...

Be experienced in the ways of the world! Do not hide away, but move freely and naturally in the world, be able to have your say in public life.

Overcome the world! While being completely in touch with the world, be inwardly removed from it by taking your bearings from God's scale of values.... It is not public opinion that has the last word to say, but God; not science but God; not my own opinion but God..."

(Taken from "The Courage of Faith Novena booklet)

With this in mind let us reflect and pray for the forthcoming elections. We pray that God may guide us, the Australian people, to vote for a strong and good government, we pray that those who will govern will truly govern for all the Australian people, a body of people who will remember and act on decisions based on our strong Christian roots, a government that is prudent and wise, people who feel honoured and privileged to govern this wonderful and beautiful country, our home.

MTA, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt, Pray for us

MTA, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt, Protect Our Country,

MTA, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt, Bless the whole World.

Father Kentenich, Pray for us.

Our Lady Help of Christians, Pray for us!

Homily of Pope Francis during prayer service:

Dear Friends,

“It is good for us to be here!”, Peter cries out after seeing the Lord Jesus transfigured in glory. Do we want to repeat these words with him? I think the answer is yes, because here today, it is good for all of us to be gathered together around Jesus! It is he who welcomes us and who is present in our midst here in Rio. In the Gospel we have heard God the Father say: “This is my Son, my chosen one; listen to him!” (Lk 9:35). If it is Jesus who welcomes us, we too ought to welcome him and listen to his words; it is precisely through the welcome we give to Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, that the Holy Spirit transforms us, lights up our way to the future, and enables us joyfully to advance along that way with wings of hope (cf. *Lumen Fidei*, 7).



But what can we do? “Bota fé – put on faith”. The World Youth Day Cross has proclaimed these words throughout its pilgrimage in Brazil. “Put on faith”: what does this mean? When we prepare a plate of food and we see that it needs salt, well, we “put on” salt; when it needs oil, then you “put on” oil. “To put on”, that is, to place on top of, to pour over. And so it is in our life, dear young friends: if we want it to have real meaning and fulfilment, as you want and as you deserve, I say to each one of you, “Put on faith”, and your life will take on a new flavour, it will have a compass to show you the way; “put on hope” and every one of your days will be enlightened and your horizon will no longer be dark, but luminous; “put on love”, and your life will be like a house built on rock, your journey will be joyful, because you will find many friends to journey with you. Put on faith, put on hope, put on love!

But who can give us all this? In the Gospel we have just heard the answer: Christ. “This is my Son, my chosen one. Listen to him!” Jesus is the one who brings God to us and us to God. With him, our life is transformed and renewed, and we can see reality with new eyes, from Jesus’ standpoint, with his own eyes (cf. *Lumen Fidei*, 18). For this reason, I want to insist with you today: “Put on Christ!” in your life, and you will find a friend in whom you can always trust; “put on Christ” and you will see the wings of hope spreading and letting you journey with joy towards the future; “put on Christ” and your life will be full of his love; it will be a fruitful life.

Today, I would like each of us to ask sincerely: in whom do we place our trust? In ourselves, in material things, or in Jesus? We are all tempted to put ourselves at the centre, to think that we alone build our lives or that our life can only be happy if built on possessions, money, or power. But it is not so. Certainly, possessions, money and power can give a momentary thrill, the illusion of being happy, but they end up possessing us and making us always want to have more, never satisfied. “Put on Christ” in your life, place your trust in him and you will never be disappointed! You see how faith accomplishes a revolution in us, one which we can call Copernican, because it removes us from the centre and restores it to God; faith immerses us in his love and gives us security, strength, and hope. To all appearances, nothing has changed; yet, in the depths of our being, everything is different. Peace, consolation, gentleness, courage, serenity and joy, which are all fruits of the Holy Spirit (cf. Gal 5:22), find a home in our heart, and our very being is transformed; our way of thinking and acting is made new, it becomes Jesus’ own, God’s own, way of thinking and acting. During the Year of Faith, this World Youth Day is truly a gift offered to us to draw us closer to the Lord, to be his disciples and his missionaries, to let him renew our lives.

Dear young people: “Put on Christ” in your lives. In these days, Christ awaits you in his word; listen carefully to him and your heart will be warmed by his presence; “Put on Christ”: he awaits you in the sacrament of Penance, to heal by his mercy the wounds caused by sin. Do not be afraid to ask God’s forgiveness! He never tires of forgiving us, like a father who loves us. God is pure mercy! “Put on Christ”: he is waiting for you in his flesh in the Eucharist, the sacrament of his presence and his sacrifice of love, and in the humanity of the many young people who will enrich you with their friendship,

encourage you by their witness to the faith, and teach you the language of charity, goodness and service. You too, dear young people, can be joyful witnesses of his love, courageous witnesses of his Gospel, carrying to this world a ray of his light.

“It is good for us to be here”, putting on Christ in our lives, putting on the faith, hope and love which he gives us. Dear friends, in this celebration we have welcomed the image of Our Lady of Aparecida. With Mary, may we be disciples and missionaries. Like her, may we say “Yes” to God. Let us ask that her maternal heart intercede for us, so that our hearts may be open to loving Jesus and making others love him. He is waiting for us, and he is counting on us. Amen.



Schoenstatt Annual Spring Fare

Yes! It is nearly that time again. Our annual spring fare is nearly upon us. Below is a flyer that details the huge raffle being run this year. The tickets will be drawn at the fare so please make sure that you have yours. There are still tickets available, so please contact Sr. Georgina or John Doherty if you have not yet received yours. There are fantastic prizes, make sure you get some tickets, you have to be in it to win it! All this information is also on our website.

For all stall holders who will be operating again this year we thank you for your help and assistance and trust that you are planning and preparing for November. We will provide more information regarding the Spring Fare as it comes to hand. To all those who work away so diligently behind the scenes, we thank you! Anyone who has a fresh idea or any new people who would like to become involved, you are most welcome - please contact Sr. Georgina (08 93992349) or John Doherty and make yourself known to them.

Ralph & Monica.



