

# SCHOENSTATT MOVEMENT



*The Spirit of the Lord hath  
filled the whole earth, Alleluia*

**WA NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023**

**Schoenstatt Shrine Pilgrimage Place**

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**The month of April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit.** To believe in the Holy Spirit is to profess that the Holy Spirit is one of the persons of the Holy Trinity, consubstantial with the Father and the Son: "with the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*)

**The Holy Spirit is the Person of Love in the life of God.** He is also like a breath, an aspiration of infinite Love, from which we draw the breath of life. On the day of Pentecost the Divine Spirit communicated such an abundance of life to the whole Church that to symbolize it "**there came a sound from heaven, as of a violent wind coming, and it filled the whole house where they (the Apostles) were sitting.**"

But it is also for us that the Holy Spirit has come, for the group in the Cenacle represented the whole Church. **The Holy Spirit came to remain with the Church forever. This is the promise of Jesus Himself.** He dwells in the Church permanently and unfailingly, performing in it without ceasing His action of life-giving and sanctification. He establishes the Church infallibly in the truth. It is He Who makes the Church blossom forth with a marvellous supernatural fruitfulness, for He brings to life and full fruition in Virgins, Martyrs, and Confessors those heroic virtues which are one of the marks of true sanctity.

### **The Holy Spirit and Our Spiritual Life**

Everything depends on the Holy Spirit's operation in us. The more fully we allow ourselves to be drawn and guided by the Holy Spirit, the closer we shall come to Jesus and His mysteries and graces. The Holy Spirit must draw us to every good thought, **Page 2**



word and deed. Every act of faith, of hope and of love for God requires the inspiration and help of the Holy Spirit. If our virtues and our deeds are to be truly perfect and worthy of God, they need the special and continual touch of the Holy Spirit. Even though we are endowed with



all the supernatural virtues, we still remain mere apprentices in the spiritual life. We know what we must do; and yet lack the virtue and the faculty to perform these things with ease. The Holy Spirit must guide us. He must seize our intellect and our wills and guide us in prayer, in work, in the decisions we have to make, and in the difficulties we encounter every day. He must share with us His manner of seeing, of loving, of thinking, and of working.

Our works and our conduct will be perfect only when the Holy Spirit has taken complete possession of us. Therefore, in addition to the supernatural virtues of faith, hope, charity, justice, fortitude, temperance and wisdom, He gives us also His seven gifts. Thus He equips the tiny boat of our soul with sails upon which He Himself, the Spirit of God, blows. Our progress across the sea of life is then no longer slow and painful. We are propelled and guided by the Spirit. If the Spirit of God breathes upon the sails of our boat, then our journey will be a happy one. Then through the work and the help of the Holy Spirit, who lives in our soul, we shall come to the Father.

***Excerpted from ;The Light of the World by Benedict Baur, O.S.B.***



*Come, Holy Spirit, Creator blest, and in our souls  
take up Thy rest; come with Thy grace and  
heavenly aid to fill the hearts which Thou hast  
made.*



## PALM SUNDAY

The final Sunday before [Easter](#), Palm Sunday represents an important day in Christian worship traditions spanning Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox traditions. In the Catholic Church, Palm Sunday represents the sixth Sunday of [Lent](#) and marks the beginning of [Holy Week](#). It's a unique, beautiful liturgy that sets the stage for Easter Triduum and traces its inspiration back to the [Gospels](#).

### Biblical Roots of Palm Sunday

John's Gospel tells us the story of Jesus's journey to Jerusalem as Passover approached.



On the next day, when the great crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took palm branches and went out to meet him, and cried out: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, *John 12:12-13*

When the Gospel makes mention of Jesus riding on a colt or ass, it fulfills the prophecy from Zachariah: ***"Exult greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem! Behold: your king is coming to you, a just savior is he, Humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."*** *Zachariah 9:9*

As Jesus prepared to celebrate Passover, we celebrate Palm Sunday as we prepare for Easter. In 2023, as in all years, Palm Sunday occurs one week before Easter.

Palm Sunday is referred to as "Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion" because it's the day we first hear the Passion reading. We, will hear it again on [Good Friday](#) but from a different Gospel.

The Gospel we hear at the start of Mass, which describes Jesus's approach to Jerusalem, also rotates with the liturgical cycles.

(In 2023, the Church is in the lectionary cycle of Year A. **Page 4**)



The Responsorial Psalm typically comes from Psalm 22 and features the familiar response, **“My God, My God, why have You abandoned me?”** The season of [Lent](#) gives way to the celebration of [Easter](#) in Holy Week, the most sacred period of the liturgical Calendar.

Holy Week includes both the Church’s most solemn observances and joyous feasts. Unique, beautiful liturgies fill the period of time that begins on Palm Sunday and culminates with Easter Sunday.

**Holy Week 2023 is a great time to recommit to prayer and draw close to God.**

### **Monday through Wednesday of Holy Week**

Daily Mass takes place like normal during these three days of Holy Week. Gospel readings during these days include passages from the Gospels of John and Matthew about Judas betraying Jesus, preparing us for the Thursday liturgy commemorating The Last Supper. Taizé prayer services are popular in the evenings in the days between Palm Sunday and Holy Thursday.



While some Catholics refer to these days as “Holy Monday,” “Holy Tuesday” and “Holy Wednesday,” these names are less prominent than those given to other days that compose Holy Week. The church, simply refers to these days as “Monday of Holy Week,” “Tuesday of Holy Week” and “Wednesday of Holy Week.”

### **Holy Thursday**

Holy Thursday begins the Easter Triduum—the three days leading up to Jesus’ Resurrection. Its formal name is Mass of the Lord’s Supper, which was the first celebration of the Eucharist. Other branches of Christianity refer to this day as Maundy Thursday. This liturgy includes the reception of the Holy Oils, in which the Oil of the Sick, the Oil of Catechumens, and the Holy Chrism are processed through the church, to be used for the rest of the year. These oils are all blessed by the local bishop shortly before the liturgy.



Also notable at the Holy Thursday service is the washing of the feet, in



which the priest washes the feet of 12 parishioners. Jesus did this to demonstrate to his disciples how they are to serve others through selfless love. Originally, only men were invited to be among the 12 to have their feet washed. [A decree from Pope Francis in 2016](#) opened up the ritual to all.

At the end of Mass, consecrated hosts remain on the altar while everything else is stripped away. As incense fills the church, the priest, donning a special garb called a humeral veil, takes the Blessed Sacrament and processes out of the church to a chapel or other area for adoration.

## Good Friday

[Good Friday](#) of the Lord's Passion, commonly known as Good Friday, is the only day in the entire year in which no Mass is celebrated. It's a solemn day that calls for fasting and abstinence. [Stations of the Cross](#) are popular on Good Friday. The main service on Good Friday features no procession. The Passion is read and the Eucharist (consecrated on Thursday) is distributed.

Veneration of the Cross and solemn intercessions—a set of shared prayer intentions offered universally on this day—are other unique elements to the Good Friday service.



**Holy Saturday** The Mass on Holy Saturday is the Easter Vigil, though its full reference on the Church schedule of daily reading is



“Easter Sunday The Resurrection of the Lord Holy Saturday is the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter.”

This is the most unique and perhaps most important liturgy of the year.

The Easter Vigil ends the Triduum and

begins Easter celebrations.



The service can only begin once the sun has set. Outside the church, a fire lights the Paschal candle, and the flame is shared throughout the church to individual handheld candles. The Liturgy of the Word, which normally [includes nine readings](#), begins in darkness. The readings demonstrate the connection between the Old and New Testaments and how Jesus fulfilled Scripture and achieved salvation for all humanity.

The Liturgy of Baptism, which follows the Gospel and homily, marks the culmination of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program. Catechumens, who have been preparing to enter the Church, are baptized, confirmed, and later receive their first Holy Communion.

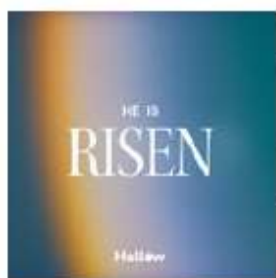
The Easter Vigil is a joyous, celebratory liturgy, filled with rich songs. Although the services ends late at night, churches typically have a reception afterward continue the celebration.



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## Easter Sunday

Compared to other Holy Week services, Easter Sunday Masses are most similar, to those that occur during Ordinary Time. The festive atmosphere continues from the Easter Vigil, with the worship space decorated with beautiful flowers, especially white lilies. Of course, many parishioners wear special outfits to celebrate the day. Easter, the biggest feast that the Church has, is also among the most well-attended services of the year.



*Let us not forget the great prayer: the one that Jesus taught us, and which is the prayer with which he prayed to the Father. This prayer prepares us for Communion.*



## EVENTS

We have two events on Saturday 15 April at the Schoenstatt Shrine

### **Easter Faith & Fun 2-430pm for Mums and girls aged 11-15**

Come and join us as mothers and daughters for an afternoon of prayer and celebration of Easter at the Schoenstatt Shrine. Please bring along a plate to share for afternoon tea and some Easter chocolates. Cost: \$5 per girl. **RSVP:** Wednesday 12 April.



 **SCHOENSTATT MOVEMENT**

# Easter Faith & Fun Afternoon

FOR GIRLS AGED 11-15 & THEIR MUMS  
(OFFERED THROUGH THE SCHOENSTATT MOTHER DAUGHTER PROGRAM)

COME AND JOIN US AS MOTHER & DAUGHTERS FOR AN AFTERNOON OF PRAYER AND CELEBRATION OF EASTER.

PLEASE BRING ALONG A PLATE FOR AFTERNOON TEA AND SOME EASTER CHOCOLATES.

**SATURDAY 15 APRIL**  
**2:00PM-4.30PM**  
**9 TALUS DRIVE,**  
**MT RICHON WA 6112**  
**\$5.00 PER DAUGHTER (CASH ONLY)**

PLEASE RSVP BY WED. 12 APRIL

**Sr M LUKA**  
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### **“Swimming in the Ocean of God’s Mercy” 930am- 430pm retreat for young women**

The program will include formation, prayer, confession, Holy Mass and fellowship celebrating Easter together. Cost: \$10 (includes lunch, please bring a snack to share for morning or afternoon tea). **RSVP:** Tuesday 11 April. To register or for inquiries for either event please contact Marissa Yang [peacefulspirit180@gmail.com](mailto:peacefulspirit180@gmail.com) or 0448 966 998 or Sr M Luka [srmluka@schoenstatt.org.au](mailto:srmluka@schoenstatt.org.au) or 0439 537 843



## 10 years of Pope Francis' papacy

*A period marked by bold statements such as "culture of encounter", "tenderness revolution", "synodality", "Church on the move" and many other terms, which have*



*been translated, much more than in words, into tangible attitudes.*

It was 2013 and the Church was in turmoil due to the election of a new Pope. The Argentine Jorge Mario Bergoglio was among the candidates, but he had a strategy when he arrived in Rome that year: "I have planned a strategy so that I won't be elected," he jokingly tells the Schoenstatt Fathers. "I will enter the Conclave Hall hunched over, with a cane. The other cardinals will say: let's not vote for this old man."

The strategy did not work and on March 13, 2023, the 10 years of Pope Francis' pontificate were completed. A period marked by bold statements such as "culture of encounter", "tenderness revolution", "synodality", "Church on the move" and many other terms, which have been translated, much more than in words, into tangible attitudes

### **The new Pope must be like this: the 4 key characteristics according to Francis**

When he landed in Rome, Bergoglio had in mind the profile of the priest and leader that the Church needed:

**"First, he must be a man of prayer**, a man united to God. **Second, he must be totally convinced that the head of the Church is not the Pope, but Jesus Christ**, and he must repeat day and night: 'The head of the Church is Jesus Christ, not the Pope.

**Thirdly, he must be a bishop who seeks unity,**





**a bishop who is simple, close to the people, tender. Someone who is very willing to serve. And fourthly, he must have the courage to get rid of the filth that has been piling up in the Vatican".** Without knowing it, he himself would have to adapt to this profile, although he already had many of these characteristics in himself. Thus these ten years have passed, under struggles and conquests, accomplishments and dreams, and above all, under the direction of the Holy Spirit. Father Alexandre Awi, coordinator of the International Presidency of the Schoenstatt Movement, worked closely with the Pope for several years, five of them directly in the Vatican, and summarizes the Pontificate from his point of view: "It has been a great renewal for the Church, an opportunity to relive the spirit of the Second Vatican Council. It has placed major emphasis on a Church on the move, a missionary Church. I would say that the Pontificate of Pope Francis is the implementation of the spirit of the Aparecida Conference for the whole universal Church

## **A global and inclusive, universal and synodal pontificate**



Ecclesiology researcher Father Stan Chu Ilo states, "When Pope Francis was introduced in 2013, I was working as an African expert on global Catholicism for a Canadian television network. I was surprised when the new Pope was introduced to the world live, because I had no biographical information about him. So I started making a list of things we African Catholics wanted from the new Pope. Among other things, a decentralized and decolonized Catholicism, capable of enabling local Church leaders to address local challenges using their own cultural and spiritual resources. There was also an urgent need to give African Catholics more seats at the decision-making table of the global Church." Looking back today, Father Stan acknowledges the positive steps the Church has taken towards those dreams: "A decade later, based on my work as a scholar on Catholicism,



I would say that most Catholics know and love Pope Francis. They also see a strong bond between his message and their priorities, in their hopes and dreams for a better Church and a reconciled world.”

## **Schoenstatt and a look to the future**

In view of these ten years that have passed, the Schoenstatt Movement is grateful for the paternity and closeness of the Holy Father. There have been several encounters with the communities of the Movement, especially during the celebration of the centenary of the Covenant of Love in 2014.

For Father Alexandre, Schoenstatt has achieved tangible steps in the development of a missionary and apostolic Church, as envisioned by the Pope, especially in the area of the family and the youth. And there is still much to be accomplished, in unity and harmony with the Holy Father

“I also believe that a Marian Church has a lot to do with Pope Francis’ style. Although the Pope does not explicitly say so, his Marian attitude also reflects on the Church’s mission, a merciful Church, a Church that is a mother, a Church that is capable of welcoming, that embraces before judging, that truly seeks to live the tenderness revolution, in the words of the Pope. This is also very characteristic of a Marian charism, of a Marian Movement like ours. In this sense, we can continue to





# COMING EVENTS

## **Fridays**

- Shrine 10am **HOLY MASS**
- 11am to 815pm **Silent Eucharistic Adoration**

## **Third Sunday of the month**

- 130pm to 245pm **Formation**
- 3pm **Covenant Sunday Devotion** followed by social and refreshments

## **Saturday 15 April**

- 930am-430pm **"Swimming in the Ocean of God's Mercy"** Easter day retreat for young women.
- 230-430pm **Easter Faith & Fun** afternoon for girls aged 11-15 and their mums

**Please express your interest to feature your family, or provide other newsletter contributions by 16 April 2023 to:**

**Joy and John Doherty  
Email: [joy@jaysbus.com.au](mailto:joy@jaysbus.com.au)**