

SCHOENSTATT MOVEMENT



WA NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2023

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The entire month falls within the liturgical season of **Ordinary Time**, which is represented by the liturgical colour green. This symbol of hope is the colour of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. It is used in the offices and Masses of Ordinary Time.

MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of August 2023

For political leaders: We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.



LITURGICAL FOCUS

Focus of the Liturgy

The Gospel readings for August are taken from St. Matthew. All Sunday readings are from Year A, and Weekday readings are from Cycle I.

August 6th

Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord "And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun."

August 13

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Command me to come to you on the water.

August 20th

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Oh woman, great is your faith!

August 27th

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time; You are Peter, and to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

Highlights of the Month

August is often considered the transitional month in our seasonal calendar. It is the time of the year when the Church in her holy wisdom has provided a cycle of events in its liturgical year which allow the faithful to celebrate the major feasts in the life of Christ and Mary. Most notably, during August, we celebrate the feast of the **Transfiguration** (August 6) and the feast of the **Assumption** (August 15).



The other main feasts of this month are:

St. Alphonsus Liguori (August 1), **St. Eusebius of Vercelli and St. Peter Julian Eymard** (August 2), **St. John Mary Vianney** (August 4), **Dedication of St. Mary Major** (August 5), **Transfiguration of the Lord** (August 6), **St. Sixtus II and Companions** and **St. Cajetan** (August 7), **St. Dominic** (August 8), **St. Teresa Benedicta** (August 9), **St. Lawrence** (August 10), **St. Clare** (August 11), **St. Jane Frances de Chantal** (August 12), **St. Maximilian Kolbe** (August 14), **St. Stephen of Hungary** (August 16),

St. John Eudes (August 19), **St. Pius X** (August 21) **the Queenship of Mary** (August 22), **St. Rose of Lima** (August 23), **St. Bartholomew** (August 24), **St. Louis of France** (August 25), **St. Augustine** (August 28) and the **Passion of St. John the Baptist** (August 29).

The feasts of **Sts. Pontian and Hippolytus** (August 13), **St. Bernard** (August 20), and **St. Monica** (August 27) fall on a Sunday so they are superseded by the Sunday Liturgy and the Liturgy of the Assumption.

While vacations afford us the time to relax and refresh, the change of habits and routines can also have a negative impact on our spiritual lives. As if to re-ignite us, the Church offers us in the plethora of August feasts, vivid examples of the virtue of perseverance: six martyrs—two who are named in Canon I of the Mass and two who were martyred during World War II; seven founders of religious congregations, as well as three popes and two kings;

It is never too late to begin—as the life of the reformed sinner, St. Augustine teaches us—nor too difficult to begin again, as demonstrated by the conversion of the martyr, St. Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein). We present day members of the Mystical Body, are certain of the reward to which we are called, for Christ's Transfigured body (August 6) is a preview of that glory. Moreover, in the Assumption of his Mother (August 15), Our Lord has demonstrated his fidelity to his promise. Her privilege is "the highest fruit of the Redemption" and "our consoling assurance of the coming of our final hope—the glorification which is Christ's" (*Enchiridion on Indulgences*). The Blessed Virgin Mary is the most perfect example of Christian perseverance, but she is also our advocate in heaven where she is crowned Queen of Heaven and Earth (August 22). Mary is the "Mother of Perpetual Help",

the patroness of the Congregation founded by St. Alphonsus Liguori (August 1). "No one who has fled to her protection is left unaided" is the claim of the Memorare of St. Bernard (August 20). Heretics have returned to the faith by the prayers of her Rosary, first preached by St. Dominic (August 8) in the twelfth Century, and hearts have been converted by the graces received while wearing her Miraculous Medal, promoted by St. Maximillian Kolbe (August 14) and adopted as the "badge" for the Pious Union he founded. *Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope!*

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SCHOENSTATT W A

Invitation for young women in Perth



[Click here for more information!](#)

Commencing 7pm Friday August 4 to 4pm on Sunday August 6.

Venue: Vincentians Retreat Centre, 625 Nettleton Rd, Karrakup WA

Cost: \$130 (includes food and accommodation).

RSVP: Tuesday August 1 (registration form and deposit required).

Contact Sr M Luka Junemann 0439 537 843 or srmluka@schoenstatt.org.au.

[Register online here!](#)



4-6 August 2023: **“Mary arose and went with haste”** (Lk 1:39) – LIVE from WYD Lisbon – Schoenstatt Retreat Weekend for Young Women

♥ Would you have loved to join WYD in Portugal celebrating your faith with young people from all over the world? This is an opportunity for young women to learn about the WYD theme, join others in prayer and discussions about their faith, and connect LIVE with the Holy Father and WYD participants in Lisbon.

A Basic Approach To Life. 1 Remember Who You Are

God created man in his image ; In the divine image he created him; male and female he created them (Genesis 1: 27 }

Who do you say that you are ?

If you are like most people. you will define yourself in these or similar terms: I am one or more of the following; the work you do, the spouse you are wedded to, the children you are raising . The parents who raised you, your ethnic background, the country in which you live, the religion to which you belong. All these relationships, of course, are part of who you are. But which one of

them is most uniquely you? Are you

DEAR LORD,
I CAN'T FIND THE
RIGHT WORDS.

merely a comprise of all of these relationships?

CAN YOU

If you were to lose one or two of them,

PLEASE

would you still be you? If you were to lose

JUST LISTEN

them all , would that destroy your

THROUGH

identity?

MY HEART?



Who are you then? If you still do not know, then begin to trust the insight of all the great spiritual leaders who have ever lived. What they say is summarized in the verses from Genesis quoted above.

Put simply, you are a *child of God*. This does not mean that you are not also someone's friend, or lover, or a citizen of a certain country. You are all of those, but you are also much more.

Deep within you in your heart of hearts, there is a spiritual place that only God can touch. He wants very much to live with you in that place, but you must invite Him to do so. Like a courteous lover, He will always respect your freedom. If you invite Him in, however,, you will come to know yourself as a child of God.

You will come to define yourself more so in terms of your relationship with God than in terms of your earthly relationships. You will gaze out at the world as one who is loved by God, and you will come to see other people and all creation in the light of His love. It won't always be easy or even fun, but it will be life in truth and reality. What could matter more???

Practical Suggestions

Reserve yourself a few minutes for quiet time. Relax and place yourself in God's presence. Read Revelation 3:20. Hear Christ knocking on the door to your heart. In your imagination, go to the door and let him in. Engage in loving conversation with Him.



Remind yourself several times each day that you really are a **child of God**. Don't let anyone or anything convince you otherwise.



Schoenstatt has grown through selfless service to the individual; It must continue to

grow in the same way in the future. J. Kentenich.

Schoenstatt, a place of pilgrimage. A Place of Grace.

Many people asked themselves if the Virgin had appeared as usually happens in other holy places, for example, Lourdes or Fatima.

No, in Schoenstatt there was no apparition of the Mother of God. But she has certainly manifested herself from this small place. There, she has taken a divine initiative through a priestly instrument, **Father Kentenich**. "All those who come here to pray – he said in the talk on October 18, 1914 – shall experience the glory of Mary." There, where the Virgin Mary makes herself present, there, life comes forth. There, where she is, we find peace. **There, where she has established**



herself, she gives her treasures in abundance, her graces. She always favors mankind, her children, and as all good mothers, she does it in such a way that she is especially concerned for those who suffer the most, those who are in greatest need, those who are the weakest. That is how a mother works, that is how Mary works. **Page 8**

SCHOENSTATT INTERNATIONAL

The Vatican last week presented the **list of names** that will make up the next **General Assembly of the Synod**, to be held in Rome during October 2023. Among the more than 360 summoned there are three **members of the Schoenstatt Apostolic Movement**.

As a Family, we are invited to pray and ask the Holy Spirit for each of them and for this very important moment in the life of the Church. They are: **Msgr. Ramon Alfredo de la Cruz Baldera, from the Dominican Rep.** Mon. Alfredo de la Cruz Baldera is a member of the **Institute of Schoenstatt Diocesan Priests**. He is bishop of the Diocese of San Francisco de Macoris in the Dominican Republic. In a letter to the priests of the diocese, he writes: *"The mission of building the kingdom of God invites us to a continuous renewal of the Church. Today this has a name: the Church of synodality. Synodality presents us with many challenges, challenges that at times we do not know if we will be able to face, but on the other hand we are confident that the Lord has given Peter's boat a good navigator who, together with many bishops, priests, religious and laity, will bring it safely to port."*



Msgr. Nicolas Nadji Bab, Bishop of Chad

Another of the bishops summoned is Bishop Nicolas Nadji Bab, who belongs to the **Schoenstatt Federation of Diocesan Priests**. He is responsible for the diocese of Lai, in the African country of Chad. Nicolas Bab got to know the Schoenstatt Movement through the Swiss Father Alois Baumberger, who worked for many years in the diocese of Pala, in southern Chad.



His course brothers are priests of the dioceses of Pala,

Moundou, Sarh and Lai. They were present in Schoenstatt in 2019 for the centenary celebration of the Hoerde journey.



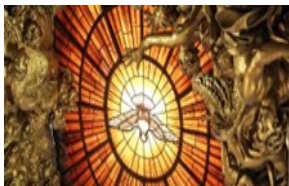
Pedro Paulo Weizenmann, from Brazil

Among the lay people who will participate in the Assembly is young Pedro Paulo Weizenmann. He will work in the Secretariat of the Synod, as a volunteer, where he has been collaborating for some time. Pedro Paulo was part of the **Schoenstatt Boys' Youth** at the Shrine of Vila Mariana, São Paulo, Brazil, for many years. With a family that has been part of the

Schoenstatt Movement for many years, he actively participates in the Movements' missionary works, forums, and groups in his diocese. Pedro Paulo took the first image of the Pilgrim MTA to Harvard University, in the United States, where he studied. He also took the MTA on his internship at the UN in 2019.



Let us pray for all participants in the Synod In total, 363 voting members will participate in the Assembly. There are 85 women, 54 of whom have voting rights. Let us accompany them all with prayers and offerings to the **Capital of Grace**, that this may be a Pentecostal period in the life of the universal Church.



"Soul of my Soul". This is what Fr. Kentenich calls in his prayer to the Holy Spirit (Towards the Father, 639), the defender that Jesus Christ promises to the apostles (Jn 16, 7), who will make them understand all the teaching

of Christ and through him they will be able to do great wonders. "Those who believe will be accompanied by these signs: they will cast out demons in my name, they will speak new languages, they will hold snakes in their hands, If they drink any poison, it will not hurt them; they will apply their hands to the sick and they will be healed." (Mk 16, 17-18).

This is how it is described in the Gospel, but many times we relegate it and forget it. We reject, by virtue of rationality, these wonders that God grants us.

Men are limited and we cannot encompass all the greatness of God. We feel overwhelmed by it and as we have been complicating our life and making it more rational, we have been moving away from what is the truth.

Our mission is to announce the Gospel in real life

But let's not forget one thing. The most important mission that Jesus gives us before going up to heaven. "And he said to them: Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to all creation. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned". (Mk16, 15-16). Before the signs that will accompany us, before expelling demons or being immune to poisons, our mission, our main mission is to announce the Gospel so that our brothers believe, are baptized and are saved. So the question is, am I doing what Jesus himself commands me? Maybe I'm not a great preacher or have a platform to do it, but what about my life? "Your life is the only Bible that many people will read" says an anonymous saying.

And the Holy Spirit will work wonders

Let's do it!!! He, Jesus, has given his life for me, he loves me and counts on me. He gives me his Mother, the Blessed Mother, who accompanies and educates me. Let's make our life organic.

Now, God's love for us, which is his Good News, is a patient and knowledgeable love of our reality. That is why he "only" asks us to believe in him and announce him. He has already taken care of the rest on the cross. He counts on our sin and weakness, although he does not want us to abandon ourselves to them, but rather that we try to be faithful and consistent to the best of our ability. In Jn 8:11, Jesus tells the adulterous woman "I do not condemn you either. Go, and from now on sin no more". He does not condemn us. He knows what we are made of. But he asks us for action, effort, knowing that only with him, and not by ourselves, will we be able to follow him. And the Holy Spirit will work wonders.

By Manuel de la Barreda, Madrid, Spain

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 refreshments

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Please forward any contributions to
Joy and John Doherty for the next edition of
"Schoenstatt WA News" by 16 August 2023

We look forward to your input
Email: joy@jaysbus.com.au