

Schoenstatt Movement

Movement Director

225 Addie Roy Rd.
Austin, Texas 78746
www.schoenstatt.us
P: 512.330.0602



October 18, 2017

Dear Schoenstatt Family and Friends,

Many blessings on this day of the foundation of Schoenstatt where we celebrate 103 years of the Covenant of Love that Fr. Kentenich and the first sodalists sealed in the Original Shrine. This gave birth to an amazing lifestream that has blossomed in many places and cultures. In this year of Fr. Kentenich, our Father and Founder challenges us to take that charism he entrusted to us and share it with the whole world.

We had a very productive Delegates Convention this year in San Antonio, and greatly appreciate all the work of the Schoenstatt Family at Mount Schoenstatt who made us feel at home. We shared some of the life streams of the American Church that were presented at the USCCB Catholics Convocation in Orlando last summer. It was an amazing experience to discern as a Family the challenges that the Church is having and looking for answers in Fr. Kentenich, knowing that his spirituality is a prophetic charism for the life of the Church. After a fruitful conversation during our delegates convention, we discerned that our motto for this year is: **Cor Unum in Patre, Living Covenant Culture**. We are very pleased to make this motto alive in our branches and diocese throughout Texas, offering this life a gift in the year of Fr. Kentenich. I am sharing this reflection created by some of our leaders, to better understand this motto and assist in being able to share it with all the Schoenstatt members.

Cor Unum in Patre, Living Covenant Culture

As the Schoenstatt Movement of Texas, we read the current lifestream of the Church today and Schoenstatt in our State. For inspiration, we considered our previous motto, the year of Father Kentenich, and our need to bring the Covenant of Love to our Society. We all saw the need to build authentic family through organic unity, the unique gift that Schoenstatt has for the Church. We have discerned that our identity for this year's lifestream is Cor Unum in Patre – One heart in the Father. This entails the two-in-oneness and interwovenness of fates of our family. United in our Father and Founder and in God the Father. We also realized that this identity expresses the Covenant of Love in a profound way. Our Mother shares one heart with the Father as we share our hearts with hers. It contains an ideal for us to aspire to: to get to know both Father Kentenich's mission and charism. It challenges us to know him as a true Father and saint for our times.

This identity led us to conclude that we must not only build covenant culture, but deepen last year's motto and *Live Covenant Culture* just as Father did everywhere. We discussed the need to found Schoenstatt wherever we go as joyful missionaries. Covenant Culture is a culture of encounter, as Pope Francis told us in the 2014 jubilee year. As we extend the Covenant of Love to each part of our lives and our attachments, we strive to become "letters of recommendation" for Father and his spirituality, which is the Covenant of Love. His mission is for the Church and for the world that is why our call is so big: targeting culture as a whole. This call to action will inflame our hearts for Father and Our MTA.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this delegates convention, also to all those who prayed for this meeting. Let us stay united in prayer as a Schoenstatt Family in Texas, living this Covenant Culture so our Blessed Mother and Queen may continue setting hearts on fire from our Shrines.

United in our Mission,

Fr. Patricio Rodriguez
Movement Director