

Reflections

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Marian Strategy

Mary, for the Father, is not simply a devotion. She is a banner. He wants to propose to us the task of erecting a Marian culture. He wants to see the face of Mary imprinted in the new world. In Mary, He shows us His project of the future in the form of a person, of life. In Her we find a synthesis between faith and life.....between the divine and the human.....between God's acting and man's acting. Whoever wants to be a builder and collaborator for the world of tomorrow must be attached to Mary.....he/she must attach Mary to all men and women, attach Her to all people and cultures.....so that She may lead them to Christ and the Blessed Trinity. Schoenstatt offers to the world not only places of the Covenant of Love but men and women who have the spirit of a Marian Covenant of Love. In this spirit we must see the Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign of the Mother Thrice Admirable and its fertility in the task of evangelization.

Don Joao, a great apostle

We are all Schoenstatters, members of an apostolic movement. We have been called to be apostles. If we do not assume that essential Schoenstatt mission, the Movement will be left lifeless.....it will fail.....it will lose its reason for being.

In this comes the importance of examples, of living models. We could name many Schoenstatters who have been great apostles and who invite us and motivate us to follow in their footsteps. We now mention Don Joao Pozzobon. Without a doubt, he is one of the major missionaries at the world-wide level.....one of the major evangelizers in the latest centuries. What he did throughout 35 years is a new method of evangelization, a modern Marian pastoral approach which is for families and all people.

Our Father and Founder confirmed it shortly before his death: "What Mr. Pozzobon does is the pastoral approach we need. He seeks opportunities for the Blessed Mother, so that She may manifest Herself" (4-11-68).

That is the secret of Don Joao's Campaign. Through Her, Mary the "great missionary," begins a grand visitation. Through the Rosary Campaign, the Blessed Mother Herself leaves from Her Shrines to visit her children, to give them graces and to work miracles of transformation.

The Pilgrim Images of the Campaign become small Pilgrim Shrines which extend Mary's evangelization to all corners of the country. The message and graces from Schoenstatt thus arrive in a more simple way, quicker and more comprehensive to the people. Thus our Father and Founder could say that "through Don Joao's apostolate, the fundamental sources of Schoenstatt become more effective" (4-11-68).

Encountering Don Joao

What does Don Joao Pozzobon want to remind us of? I think he wants to remind us of his great love: The Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign. That great love for which he sacrificed himself for 35 years, he now leaves in our hands. He reminds us that now we are the ones responsible, we are the instruments. He reminds us that the future of the Campaign in our country and beyond now depends on us.

Upon encountering Don Joao, we can speak to him, thank him, and ask him. He is at our disposal to bless us, to accompany us, and to motivate us.

Upon encountering him, he wants to renew us in our mission. He wants to renew us in our vocation as apostles and missionaries. Each one of us is responsible to evangelize the country, each one is responsible in converting it into a Nation of God. For that reason we must strive to reach each brother and sister, each home, and to put them all in contact with God and His grace. This is what Don Joao did tirelessly and heroically.

Dear brothers and sisters: may our encounter with Don Joao help us to grow in mission consciousnessmay he help us grow in our aspiring for sanctity and in our love for God, for Mary, and for the Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign.

Questions for reflection

1. Do I circulate the Pilgrim MTA?
2. Do I pray the Rosary often?
3. How can I help the Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign of the Pilgrim MTA?

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