

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Theme: The Time of the Home shrine is Now!

Divine Providence is clearly directing our attention to the home shrine at a time when the concept of the family is being seriously attacked in our world. Our International Schoenstatt Family and Universal Church recognize it as a unique gift which provides a life-giving response to the urgent needs of our time.

3:00 – 5:30 pm **Arrival of Congress Participants at the International Center**

4:15 pm **Buses start to leave Hotels to bring Congress Participants to International Center**

5:00 – 6:45 pm **Dinner (Retreat Center)**

7:00 – 7:15 pm **Congress Opening (Tent at Province House)**

- Official Congress Opening Welcome
- Welcoming Father Kentenich to Congress
- Welcoming and Introducing each country

7:15 – 7:35 pm **Opening Presentation: The Time of the Home Shrine is Now!**
Joe and Judy Yank, members of the Family Federation from Milwaukee, will present the situation of our times in light of Fr. Kentenich's statement in 1968 shortly before his death, "With hope and joy, confident in victory, we go with Mary into the newest times," giving the answer to our times by creating a covenant culture fostered and protected in the home shrine and living shrine.

7:45- 9:00 pm **Holy Mass (Main Celebrant: Fr. Gerald Langsch)**

9:00 - 10:30 pm **Return to Hotels**

Friday, June 28, 2013

Theme: The Vision of our Father and Founder

In 1948 from Santa Maria Brazil Father Kentenich wrote "Take the image of the Blessed Mother into your homes..." And then he waited for Divine Providence to provide open instruments - the families - to take this vision to heart. He patiently educated and observed these instruments God gave him in Milwaukee. Only then did he declare the famous words about this "new order of shrine" just as the Church was now declaring the image of the Domestic Church.

6:30 – 8:00 am **Breakfast (For those at Hotels.)**

8:00 – 8:45 am **Breakfast (For those at Retreat Center)**

8:00 – 8:40 am **Buses leave from Hotels to International Center**

9:00 – 10:00 am **Second Presentation: A Journey through the Historical Development of the Home Shrine**
Victor and Olga Alegria, novices in the Family Institute from Texas, will present the vision and historical development of the home shrine, tracing the impulses of Divine Providence from Germany, Argentina to the United States and Fr. Kentenich's response from the pre-founding document of 1912 to the official foundation of the home shrine on November 18, 1963 in Milwaukee.

10:00 – 10:30 am **Break**

10:30 – 11:30am **Testimonial Panel: Historical Perspectives**

Panel Members: **Andy and Anna Horn**, members of Family League from Milwaukee; **Rafael and Olga Rolon**, members of Family Institute from North Carolina - originally from Puerto Rico, but living in New York when Fr. Kentenich was in Milwaukee; **Pepo and Patricia Kostner**, Family Institute from Argentina. This panel will discuss their home shrine experiences from the perspective: Family Horn of the German families in Milwaukee that Fr. Kentenich worked with; Family Rolon of the Puerto Rican families experiences from New York; and Family Kostner of the Argentine families experiences of the "Schoenstatt Corner" and home shrine development.

12:00 – 1:30 pm **Lunch**

2:00 – 3:15 pm **Third Presentation: The Great Atmosphere – The Lived Reality**

Mike and Marge Fenelon, members of the Family Institute from Illinois, will present their experiences of their contact with Fr. Kentenich while growing up as children in two of the first home shrines in Milwaukee. They will relate how the unique and beautiful impulse of the Living Shrine came to be, how it integrated into the home shrine and its deep impact on their and their family's lives as they sought to live the Nazareth Family ideal.

3:15 – 3:45 pm **Question and Answer**

Mike and Marge Fenelon and **Victor and Olga Alegria** will respond to questions from the Congress attendees related to the day's presentations. Question slips are available in your registration folder and can be filled out and returned to the MC before the session starts.

3:45 – 4:15 pm **Break**

4:15 – 5:45 pm **Holy Mass** (Main Celebrant: Fr. Guillermo Carmona)

6:00 – 7:30 pm **Dinner**

8:00 – 9:00 pm **Evening Program**

Skits / music presentation to start off the evening on the power of the home shrine to be performed by the Illinois and Milwaukee Schoenstatt Families on behalf of the USA. This will be followed by an opportunity for four countries presenting themselves. Each country will have 10 minutes.

9:00 – 10:30 pm **Informal Reception**

Snacks and drinks will be available at the tent for informal get together of attendees for conversation and getting to know one another.

9:00 – 10:45 pm **Buses return to Hotels**

Saturday, June 29, 2013

Theme: My Home Shrine – A Lived Reality

MC: Do I really believe that my home shrine is a true Schoenstatt shrine with the accompanying graces? We need to answer this with a demonstrative - Yes! How do I know this is true? We have all seen the reality of the home shrine in the fruits and miracles that have come from it. We have seen the covenant of love lived in our marriage and family through the “living shrine” and customs to reinforce the faith and form our children. It is a lived reality.

6:30 – 8:00 am Breakfast (For those at Hotels.)

8:00 – 8:45 am Breakfast (For those at Retreat Center)

7:30 – 8:45 am Buses arrive from Hotels

9:00 – 10:00 am Fourth Presentation: My Home Shrine: A World of Attachments – A Fountain of Holiness
Sue and Paul Vandersheuren, members of the Family League from Wisconsin, will present how Fr. Kentenich gave a beautiful world of attachments to the families as he led them deeper into the striving towards the Nazareth family ideal in their daily lives. They will tell of their own family experiences to form these attachments in their own family as they strive to live their home shrine ideal – Fountain of Holiness.

10:00 – 10:30 am Break

10:30 – 11:30 am Fifth Presentation: Seeking the Truth – Our Search for the Nazareth Family Ideal
Steve and Angela Carlson, members of the Family League from Minnesota, will share their beautiful story of their search for the truth and their transformation through striving for the Nazareth Family Ideal once the Blessed Mother led them to Schoenstatt. They will share their unique life in the home shrine through words, pictures and music and the rich blessings that have come about over the years.

12:00 – 1:30 pm Lunch

2:00 – 4:30 pm Afternoon Break-out Discussions:
The afternoon is left for informal break-out sessions. The theme for the discussions is 1) sharing of personal home shrine experiences; 2) discuss what has impacted people from what has been experienced in the Congress, and 3) how can we concretely give the gift of the home shrine to the Church. Questions will be supplied to generally guide the discussions. Groups should collect and write down comments and discussion points. These will then be summarized by Congress organizers and some points brought out in the morning presentation on Sunday.

4:45 – 5:45 pm Holy Mass (Main Celebrant: Fr. Marcelo)

6:00 – 7:30 pm Dinner

8:00 – 10:00 pm Family Night (Continued)

We will have a family night of cultural exchange from the different countries. Each country will have 10 minutes in which to present.

10:00 – 10:45 pm Buses return to Hotels

Sunday, June 30, 2013

Theme: My Home Shrine – A Gift to the Church

We believe that the home shrine is one of Schoenstatt's greatest gifts to the Church for saving the family and a powerful instrument of evangelization. Through our lives of faithfulness to the covenant of love, lived in and through our home shrines, we present this gift every day anew to the Church on her journey homeward to the Father (or) on her journey to the new shores of time.

6:30 – 8:00 am Breakfast (For those at Hotels.)

8:00 – 8:45 am Breakfast (For those at Retreat Center)

7:30 – 8:45 am Buses arrive from Hotels

9:00 – 10:00 am Sixth Presentation: My Home Shrine - A Gift for the Church

Sr. Marie Day, Schoenstatt Sister of Mary and Movement sister at the International Center, will present how the active and lived home shrine is a gift for the Church as a lived reality of the Domestic Church and how it presents an apostolic opportunity to give this gift on to others.

10:00 – 10:30 am Break

10:30 – 11:45 am Mass (Main Celebrant: Bishop Fernando Isern)

We will celebrate a concluding sending out Mass with Bishop Isern of Pueblo, Colorado, which is open to all of the local Schoenstatt family.

12:00 – 1:30 pm Lunch

1:30 Buses leave for Exile Shrine (Buses leave with first half of Congress participants)

2:30 Buses leave for Exile Shrine (Buses leave with second half of Congress participants)

3:00 – 3:45 pm Closing at Exile Shrine

There will be a closing/sending out ceremony from the Exile shrine.

4:00 pm Buses return to International Center and Hotels

5:00 pm Buses return to International Center and Hotels