



SCHOENSTATT FATHERS VICTORY NEWSLETTER



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SCHOENSTATT



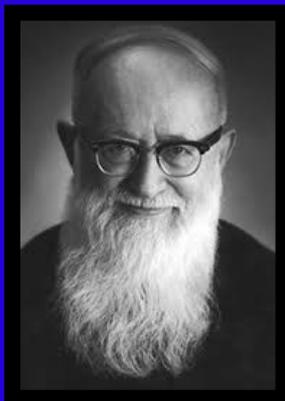
Schoenstatt is an international Catholic lay movement that strive to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the example and guidance of Mary. Schoenstatt, a German word for "beautiful place," is the

name of the valley in Germany where the Original Schoenstatt Shrine is located. Schoenstatt was founded on Oct. 18, 1914, by Fr. Joseph Kentenich in Schoenstatt, Germany. Its spirituality is based on a covenant of love with Mary, venerated under the title: Mother Thrice Admirable (MTA), Queen, and Victress of Schoenstatt.

The Schoenstatt Fathers are a community of Roman Catholic priests whose primary mission is the priestly service of the International Schoenstatt Movement. Together with this movement we work towards the moral and religious renewal of society and the mission of the Church.

KENTENICH YEAR

15th September, 2017 — 15th September, 2018



Fr. Joseph Kentenich

Father and Founder of Schoenstatt

The Schoenstatt Movement all over the world mark the Kentenich year in preparation for the 50th anniversary of the death of our founder. The accent in this year is to bring the Charism of our Founder to the world.

He is Risen...

Victimae Paschali Laudes

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA.



Dear Friends of Schoenstatt

Easter is a special moment that fills all of us with unbribed joy of the risen Christ. I am delighted to bring to you our dear Schoenstatt family, friends and relatives, benefactors and benefactresses, Easter greetings and Blessings. Easter symbolizes the renewal of life. At this Easter, I pray that you and your family may experience the renewal of life, love, happiness and plenty of colourful Easter blessings.

In the Christmas edition of our Victory Newsletter I announced that we shall try to share our life and the happenings and plans of our community with you from time to time within the year through the *Victory Newsletter*. Hence, I am glad to introduce to you the Easter edition of the "Victory Newsletter". We hope that this will help you to take part in our lives, in our spirituality, in our Apostolate, in our growth and development. For our benefactors and benefactresses especially, it is my wish that through this Newsletter you would be part of the life of our seminarians, as well as our fathers, for whose training and upkeep you generously donate. I hope that it can also stir up some interest and desire in many more who would like to either join the Schoenstatt family or to donate to the training of the future priests of our community here in Nigeria.

May I use this opportunity to introduce to you also the group called **Friends of Schoenstatt**. This is a Divine Initiative which started around our community in Ibadan but gradually is spreading across the country. It a group of men and women whose ideal is to take part in the life of our community as real friends supporting us both materially and spiritually. They also take part in our Schoenstatt spirituality. They are soliciting for new members who would join them to carry on their God-given mission. Please feel free to indicate if you have interest, no matter where you live. The intention is to have friends of Schoenstatt in different parts of the country.

I thank brother Jude Eze and Agaptus Ilediuba who are working with me as editors of the Newsletter. Our *Victory Newsletter* will be coming from time to time within the year. This edition covers our life and Apostolate since January this year. Thanks for your love and support. Once again Happy Easter!

Fr. Okereke, Kingsley ISch.
Superior Delegate

THE UNVEILING OF THE CHOSEN NAME FOR OUR NEW HALL



The Rector of the Formation House, Fr. Charles Ozioko, unveiled the chosen name for our new multi-purpose hall, named after our Father and Founder in honor of the Year of Father Kentenich. As a sign of his presence, the personal symbol of Fr. Kentenich—a Pelican is placed inside the hall.



The significance of this symbol is that it shows a mother pelican that pierces her own breast in time of famine, that her young might seek sustenance from her very flesh and blood at the cost of her own life. This pelican represents selfless-sacrifice. Fr. Kentenich saw himself in this light, and indeed gave his all for the mission of the covenant of love and the entire Schoenstatt work. The hall will be used for the celebration of Sunday Masses and other celebrations. It is also available for the meetings of various apostolate groups.

LENTEN RECOLLECTIONS FOR THE FRIENDS OF SCHOENSTATT

WHO ARE THE FRIENDS OF



SCHOENSTATT? The friends of Schoenstatt are a small group of people who strive graciously and tirelessly to see to the growth of our community here in Nigeria.

On the 17th of March this year, the members of the friends of Schoenstatt had their Lenten recollection and retreat which was anchored by our spiritual director Fr. Nichodemus Okenwa.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF OUR FATHERS 22nd – 27th JANUARY 2018



On the 22nd of January, all our Fathers working here in Nigeria gathered around the Victory Shrine for their annual meeting. Fr. Pablo Pol was present

as the representative of the Nigerian community in the region. It was indeed an important moment for all our Fathers as they had yet again another opportunity to be together as brothers, renew their love for Mary in the Shrine and also renew their strength for their respective apostolates. The meeting also offered opportunity to our Fathers to deliberate on issues concerning our young growing community here in Nigeria in other to find a way forward. Urgent among the issues discussed is the need to get a new **COASTER BUS** for our growing student community. The two available Toyota Hiace buses can no longer convey the 50 students we have to School effectively. The community is calling on help from anyone who can support her financially to overcome this challenge. No matter the amount it, will be appreciated. You can pay to: Acct. Name Schoenstatt Fathers, Acct no. Diamond Bank: 0005334208; Zenith: 1010163619. God Bless you as you support us.

MATRICULATION CEREMONY OF THE NEW BROTHERS 24th JANUARY and 15th FEBRUARY 2018

On the 24th of January, 2018, six of our first year Philosophy students studying at the seminary of Saints Peter and Paul Bodija Ibadan, had their matriculation ceremony. This event took place in the seminary hall, anchored by the formators and academic officials from the University of Ibadan.



On the same note, on the 15th of February, the remaining four of

our first year philosophy students studying at the Dominican university also had their matriculation ceremony. We are wishing them well in their academic pur-



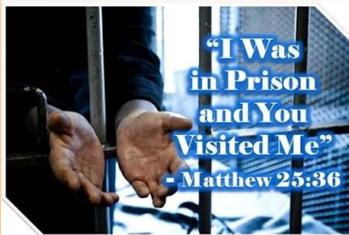
Schoenstatt
*A Family, a Marian Place of Grace and pilgrimage,
a spirituality, a movement of renewal, a retreat center.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Fr. Henry Leaves for Rome soon to Replace Fr. Herbert Opara in our Parish while Fr. Herbert will be back to the Country to assume his new role as the Novice Master. We wish both of them well in their new tasks and responsibilities.
2. In April, Fr. Chochos Kunav will resume his work in Ibadan as the new Rector of the Filiation and the Bursar of our community. Fr. Chochos was formerly a Parish Priest in Warri Diocese. We wish him well in his new task.
3. On the 27th of May shall be our annual Marian Cantata. The Cantata marks the end of May devotion for us as a community. This Cantata features, Confession, Rosary Procession, offering of our May Blossom, Talk, Music from different choirs and groups from the Archdiocese in honour of our Lady, and Benediction. It will be an amazing experience. Do keep a date with us, Don't miss it.
4. On the 22nd of September, 2018, our Brothers: **Jude Eze, John Iyoke, Dansuma Okpanachi, and Ugwoke Ugochukwu** of the course *Apostles of the Covenant of Love*, will be Ordained into the order of Deacons at the Victory Shrine of our Lady of Schoenstatt here in Ibadan. Please pray for them.
5. On the 23rd of September, 2018, there shall be a Family Thanksgiving for the whole Schoenstatt Family, a kind of fund raising. With it, we hope to raise fund for a new Coaster Bus for our student community. You are very much invited and may God reward you as you support us generously.

OUR VISIT TO AGODI PRISONS IN IBADAN

19th January
2018



The 20th of January marks the second milestone in the Schoen-

statt history. It was on January 20th 1942 that father Kentenich took the decision to go to Dachau, (the concentration camp) if it is demanded of him, for the sake of the family. This very decision was an expression of his practical faith in divine providence, and contribution to the capital of grace of the MTA. As a commemoration of this very important step in our history and the life of our founder, the student community annually visits the Agodi prison yard here in Ibadan to identify and show solidarity with the inmates. Due to some logistics, this year's visit was held on the 19th of January and it was indeed a huge success.

REV. FR. CHRISTOPH HUBENTHAL VISITS THE COMMUNITY



On the 25th of February 2018, Fr. Christoph Hunenthal from Erfurt Diocese in Germany with our brother Fr. Magnus Ifedikwa ISch visited our community here in Ibadan. It was the first time Fr. Christoph was

visiting Nigeria. During this visit he had opportunity to interact with the community. For him, it was a nice and memorable experience as he was able to encounter our liturgy, songs and way of life. After his time with us Frs. Christoph and Magnus left for Umuahia, and from there back to Germany.

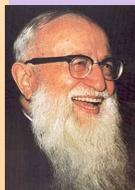


PILGRIMS FROM IFE VISITS THE VICTORY SHRINE



About 56 members of the Pilgrim Mother Apostolate at the chapel of resurrection, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ife, Oshogbo Diocese visited the victory shrine for the first time. This visit for them was a moment of personal en-

counter with the blessed mother in the shrine. They had their mass at 9am. Immediately after the mass, they also had confession, adoration and Holy Rosary, then they had series of reflections given by Fr. Charles on *Schoenstatt and the Church*. Brother Dansuma gave a reflection on the *Schoenstatt Consecration Prayer*, and Brother Emmanuel Okeke on the *Shrine and its Significant Elements*. Burning of prayer petitions was anchored by Fr. Paul Nwachukwu. After the refreshment, they left by 4:42pm.



Love of Mary.

Love of the Church.

Love of the Mission of Christ.

- Father Joseph Kentenich

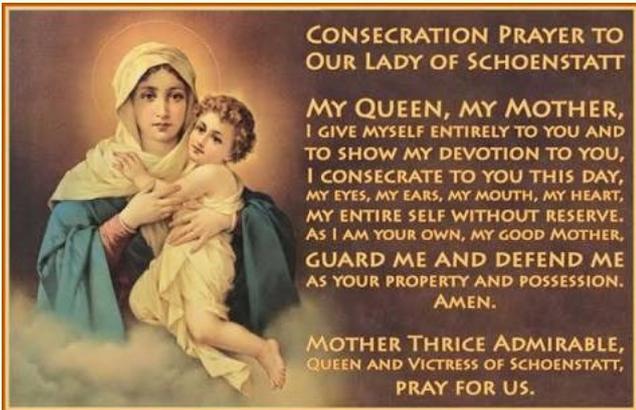
SHARING HIS CHARISM AND LIVING HIS MISSION

RECOLLECTIONS FOR THE SDYCAI
17th March 2018



On the 17th of March 2018, the South Denary Youths of the Catholic Archdiocese of Ibadan converged around the victory Shrine for their Lenten Recollections. During the period of this recollection, they had opportunity to experience our Lord Jesus Christ in

the Blessed Sacrament, and the prayers of the Holy Rosary. There was also an opportunity for confessions, the Stations of the Cross and the Holy mass. It was a spirit refreshing moment for all the participants.



SCHOENSTATT LAY CHOIR AND ALTAR SERVERS



In order to encourage the participation of the members of the worshipping community in the liturgical celebrations, the community has decided to incorporate the lay

faithful through singing and service on the altar. Hence, we now have the Schoenstatt lay choir and altar servers. These new groups will also be an avenue to participate in the apostolate.

PILGRIMAGE/RETREAT OF YCS
11th March 2018



On the 11th of March 2018, the Young Catholic Students of Ibadan Archdiocese had their annual retreat and pilgrimage at the Victory

Shrine of Mary here in the community. The retreat was anchored by the movement director, Fr Paul Nwachukwu, and three of the brothers, Michael Okpala, Aniekwe Charles, and Ekpunobi Paulinus. The retreat featured, rosary, workshop, confession and Eucharistic celebration. The topics of Reflections were given by two of our Brothers, Michael and Charles on *the Dangers of Bad Friends and Social Media Addiction, and on Youth and the Need for Self Education to Freedom, Firmness and Nobility*. It was a wonderful experience for them.

Support a Schoenstatt Vocation

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. - 2 Cor 9:7

Is God calling you to spread the Gospel through your prayers and donations? Then go to the mission by giving!

The training of a Schoenstatt Seminarian till ordination is at a minimum cost of ₦= 500,000.00 annually. This is definitely a huge sum but you can help subsidize this training by donating:

- ₦500,000** to support a Schoenstatt Seminarian for a year
- ₦250,000** to support a Schoenstatt Seminarian for 6 months
- ₦125,000** to support a Schoenstatt Seminarian for 3 months
- ₦25,000** to support a Schoenstatt Seminarian for 1 month
- ₦5,000.00** to support a Schoenstatt Seminarian for 1 Week

You can also support a Schoenstatt Seminarian with any amount. **₦=100, ₦=500, ₦=1000**

Your donation and cheque can be paid into the following account numbers:

Account Name: Schoenstatt Fathers

Diamond Bank:0005334208; Zenith: 1010163619

As we use your donation wisely, your intention will ever be before our altars.

Thanks For your kind generosity. God Bless you.



"THE SERVANT OF MARY WILL NEVER PERISH"