



# Schoenstatt Family News

A publication of the Madison Schoenstatt family for members, friends, and visitors to the Marian Shrine.

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Fear not, Proclaim  
the Father's Love!



Dear Schoenstatt Family,

At Covenant Sunday last January I made a reflection about the first part of our present motto: "Fear not." Now in March I would like to meditate a bit on the second part: "Proclaim the Father's love."

First of all, when we say "The Father's love" we are referring to the love of God the Father revealed to us by our Lord Jesus Christ. My starting question is: Who is able to proclaim the Father's love? Someone who believes in our Lord Jesus Christ should be able to proclaim the love of God the Father. Please note that I'm saying: "should be able." Why? If the natural, human experience of a father or father figure was not present in the life of an individual, the encounter with God the Father would be difficult and the proclamation of his love even more.

Let me tell you a little story: Father Pedro went to teach religion to children of a poor village in Chile. He kept telling the children about God the Father doing this and God the Father doing that and God the Father doing many things. All of a sudden he was interrupted by one of the boys. The kid said: Teacher I thought God was good. What had happened? The father of the little boy was a very abusive father so that it didn't make sense to him to have a father in heaven.

Another story shows a positive access to God the Father. There was a 10 year old girl in a plane sitting alone among the passengers. She looked very interested in the book she was reading. All of a sudden the plane was caught in a strong turbulence. Everyone became nervous, some people became anxious, even some shouted for help in despair. The young girl kept reading her book without sign of fear at all. Once the "strong shaky experience" was over a woman sitting next to the 10 year old girl asked her: darling, did you feel any fear at all? She said: No. The adult asked: How come? The girl said: well, my father is the pilot of this plane.

The story could be like an icon of what it means to trust in God the Father and how it could look like the proclamation of his love. The young girl of the story remained calm in the midst of the turbulence because her whole being could rest while "being in the hands of her father," the pilot. Her father must have granted her basic experience of trust and love in her life. The young girl showed peace when everyone else showed fear. We could say that through her calmness in the midst of restlessness she proclaimed a treasure of trust and love rooted in her father.

A further step now in our reflection could start with the question: How could we grow in deeper trust and love towards our Father in heaven? Our father and founder encouraged us to learn to swim in the abundant ocean of love of God the Father. He suggested to practice each day the exercise of finding God's presence in daily events. Discover them, savor them and treasure them. Do you know someone who did this very well and proclaimed it?

*Father Francisco Rojas*

## Penny Power Project

The Madison Schoenstatt Family is participating in the **Penny Power Project**. Please return the bank to Schoenstatt Heights when it is full. You can use this as a sacrificial gift for Lent.

We received six cans back during March totaling \$35.36, which brings our total from \$238.39 to **\$273.75!** Two of the cans were entirely pennies – amazing that you could find so many! If anyone needs a new penny can, we have them in the Family Room.



# Calendar of Events

<b>Apr. 1</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning with Mary</b> Meditation: "The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is His Name."
<b>Apr. 1</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Schoenstatt Heights History Group</b> All are welcome who love Schoenstatt Heights and want to see its mission continue into the future. At this meeting we will digitally meet our pioneers and hear their stories.
<b>Apr. 6</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Marian Devotions and Benediction</b> at St. Dennis Parish
<b>Apr. 9</b>	<b>2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Sion Circle</b> Prayer for priestly vocations in the Founder Shrine.
<b>Apr. 18</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Eucharistic Adoration</b> in the Founder Shrine
<b>Apr. 21</b>	<b>7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Single Women's Group Meeting</b> This is a new group forming and is open to all single women who might be interested. The meeting will be in the Family Room
<b>Apr. 22</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Mothers' Group Meeting</b> This is a new group forming and is open to all mothers who might be interested. The meeting will be in the Family Room
<b>Apr. 23</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Covenant Sunday</b> Theme: <i>American Saint – Fear Not, Proclaim the Father's Love</i>
<b>During the month of May: Each Monday &amp; Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Marian Devotions in the Shrine</b> (except May 4). Our Blessed Mother would be happy to see many of her children together in the Founder Shrine for Marian Devotions in May. Consider taking time to join us to pray the rosary at the Shrine.		
<b>May 4</b>		<b>Invitation to Parish Priests – Schoenstatt Encounter Day</b> With apologies due to circumstances ordained by the Father's love, we need to reschedule the Priests' Encounter Day. As soon as we know which day it will be, we will update the invitations. If you have already sent an invitation, we will inform you of the new date soon so that you may contact your pastor accordingly. Thank you for your understanding! If you have further questions, call Sister Catherine at (608) 222-7208.
	<b>CANCELLED</b>	
<b>May 4</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Marian Devotions and Benediction</b> at St. Dennis Parish
<b>May 6</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning with Mary</b> Meditation: "He has mercy on those who fear Him in every generation."
<b>May 6</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Schoenstatt Heights History Group</b> At this meeting we will look at Father Kentenich's legacy in Madison.
<b>May 13</b>		<b>Schoenstatt Girls' Youth May Crowning Day</b> Save the Date - for details contact Sister María José at 262-522-4323.
<b>May 14</b>	<b>2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Sion Circle</b> Prayer for priestly vocations in the Founder Shrine.
<b>May 18</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Eucharistic Adoration</b> in the Founder Shrine
<b>May 20</b>	<b>9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Spring Work Day</b> Help the Sisters prepare for summer by raking leaves, washing windows, putting out lawn furniture and toys, removing fallen branches, etc. Some indoor, sit-down work will also be available. Lunch will be served at noon. Please call the Sisters at (608) 222-7208 so we know how much work to plan and food to prepare.
<b>May 22</b>	<b>6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Ice Cream Social Planning Meeting</b> Meet in the Family Room.
<b>May 28</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Covenant Sunday</b> May Crowning (Please bring a flower.)