

IMPULSE

412022

for Daily Living



Roses
for
peace



Secretariat Father Joseph Kentenich

Roses for Peace

"That the war will stop soon!" – Ukrainian children, who are currently housed in Schoenstatt, prayed to the Blessed Mother in the Chapel of Grace, the Original Schoenstatt Shrine.

Peace in Europe, peace also in other parts of the world – this is a subject that moves many people at the moment. The fact that peace is not at all self-evident has become all too clear in recent months. In a shocking way, we have once again experienced the extent which brutal violence can assume.

At the same time, we feel our powerlessness in such a situation: Only God can ultimately put a stop to the spiral of violence and hostility. When diplomatic ways fail and fighting continues, this is above all a call to intense prayer for us Christians. Father Kentenich was convinced, "Prayer is the great power in the Kingdom of God." Prayer establishes the connection with the power of love that comes from God, and this power alone can overcome hatred.

Love is Stronger

This is what our faith in Christ, who gave his life out of love and thus defeated the power of evil, tells us. In prayer we unite with HIM, who is our hope. The month of October reminds us of a form of



prayer that has a long tradition in the Church: The prayer of the rosary. Christians of many generations have experienced the protection and power of this prayer. The rose – symbol of love – can be an indication of the love of God that comes to us when we contemplate the events in the life of Jesus. When we weave a *wreath of roses* through our praying, this can be a way to respond to God's love for us.

In his Apostolic Letter *On The Most Holy Rosary [Rosarium Virginis Mariae]* St. John Paul II wrote: " If this repetition is considered superficially, there could be a temptation to see the rosary as a dry and boring exercise. It is quite another thing, however, when the rosary is thought of as an outpouring of that love which tirelessly returns to the person loved with expressions similar in their content but ever fresh in terms of the feeling pervading them... In fact, praying the rosary is nothing other than contemplating the face of Christ with Mary. Where these two are present, something changes.

Where the rosary is prayed, a space is created where God is near. A space where our life too should be transformed, should become a life of love. In the Dachau concentration camp Father Kentenich addressed God the Father in a prayer:



“Let us immerse ourselves into the ocean of love which the rosary allows us to drink in richly, and let the glowing love of Christ and his Mother inflame our weak sacrificial spirit.”

The rosary, a prayer for peace:

Peace in the world begins in one's own heart, in one's own family. To become people of peace, that's how the rosary wants to help us. John Paul II writes about this: "By its very nature, the rosary is directed to peace. This results from the fact that this prayer is based on the contemplation of Christ, the Prince of Peace who is *our peace* (Eph. 2:14). Whoever internalizes the mystery of Christ – and this is precisely what the rosary is – makes the mystery of peace his own and his way of life."

Many have experienced praying the rosary as a source of strength and blessing. It is being rediscovered in our time. One testimony should stand for many others: "For many years I had forgotten to pray the rosary. It no longer seemed contemporary. When my son was in a real crisis, I took up the rosary again. Through this prayer I found inner peace, tranquility and strength." (A. R.)

IMPULSES FOR LIFE

- Collect "Roses for Peace" during October, the month of the rosary.
- Which mystery of the rosary speaks to me most clearly?
- Which one fits my current life situation?
- What concern would I like to especially keep in mind when praying the rosary today?

Father Kentenich on the Prayer of the Rosary

After his liberation from the Dachau concentration camp in 1945, Father Kentenich spoke to the people in Ennabeuren, a small village in the Swabian Alb. Here are some statements from these sermons about the rosary:

“Mary is very fond of the rosary. Every day bring these wreaths full of roses to our heavenly mother!”

In Dachau the slogan was: Work! Work! Move! Move! Isn't it the same with us? We humans are always busy. We have very little time or desire to reflect inwardly. That's why we don't know what we possess in Mary.

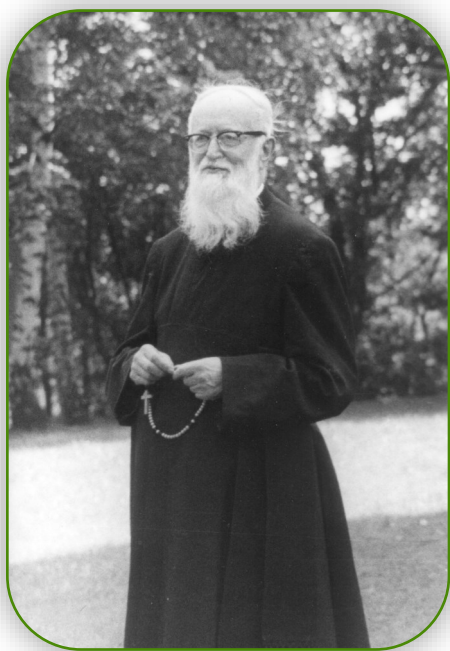
In the rosary we contemplate the wonderful greatness and glory of Mary. The rosary is our good and best friend. What the rosary says and exemplifies resonates in our lives. When we adhere to it, we become like Mary, an apparition of Mary.”

“We want to pray the rosary devoutly, not parrot it back and forth. It is not a prayer wheel. You shouldn't pray it only with the mouth, but with the heart.”

Even now, the danger that threatens us from the East is very great. That's why we want to pray the rosary every day. We give Mary a great joy.

The rosary is the good friend in the great battle of the times. What does this battle look like? There aren't just people who fight and war against each other. Today, completely different powers are at work. The terrible things we are witnessing today are not just things people can do to each other. We sense other powers, other worlds, discover beyond the senses a senseless world.

Either we side completely with Christ's side or we get run over... Christ calls; he calls very earnestly for our surrender. In this gigantic battle of the spirits, the rosary is the friend who helps us decide ... for Christ.





Testimony of a Lutheran Christian:

Even I, as a Lutheran, am grateful to have personally experienced such a great Christian as Father Kentenich. He was a resolute man of our Christian mission. The lot of such people is to be embattled. He wanted to show and convey to a later generation: Clear decisions must follow from thought and faith.

In our lives, it often takes us a long time to learn the right way of *listening inwardly*. We take many detours, follow many false goals, before we finally reach the direct transmitter with our antenna. Resisting the spirit of the times doesn't just mean to take it upon oneself with civic courage to stand on the sidelines. Rather, it calls for a fundamentally different way of life, one that goes against the trend.

Yes, I too was moved by Father Kentenich's winning cordiality, with which he met me personally ... To practice Christianity means, as I understood Father Kentenich, that every deed, every feeling and every experience (whether pleasant or unpleasant) must be

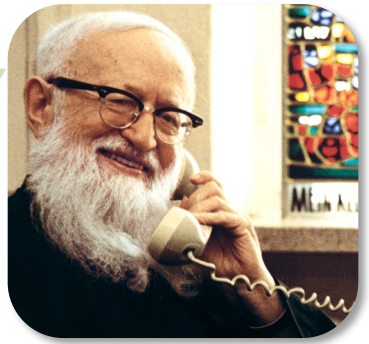
brought into relationship with God. This means that we understand everything we encounter as coming from HIM. Our life, beyond all earthly goals, is a time of decision and probation. In a society, which successfully tries to suppress death and in which efficient medicine performs miracles, we easily tend to forget this. Just like all generations before us, we too will one day be asked whether we have decided in life for or against God.

Father Kentenich saw that this task, in which he also succeeded, was to create a spiritual family of priests, women and men, children and youth, to form a great worldwide Christian community.

The fact that Schoenstatt is a place where people from all over the world visit is something that became a certainty for a part-time taxi driver at the Koblenz central station with passengers from different countries of the world who had the destination "Mount Schoenstatt".

A stream of religious life is flowing from Schoenstatt into the great wide world and brings abundant fruits. Father Kentenich's characteristic was a faith that could not be shaken by anything, faith which he perpetuated in the Schoenstatt Movement. (H.-C. S.)

He Helps



IN SPIRITUAL DISTRESS

I turned to Father Kantenich when my daughter was experiencing great spiritual distress. A relationship of many years had broken. She was unspeakably sad and desperate. Even professionally, she no longer saw no saw its value. But shortly thereafter, when I handed over this worry to God, things became brighter in many areas. She enjoyed her new work. She found a lovely room in a nice shared apartment and she now radiates joy and confidence. Many heartfelt thanks to all who have included her in their prayers. Many thanks to our God, the Father, who leaves no request unanswered. *H. B., September 2021*

IN FAITH

From the bottom of my heart, I thank Father Kantenich for all he has done for the Schoenstatt Movement. For many years I have been in contact with people who are connected with Schoenstatt. God and Our Lady have sent them into my life. This has made my life more fulfilling and the joy is growing more and more. Even my husband, who has actually strayed far away from the Church, is beginning to come closer again. These are small "miracles" for me! With all my heart I thank for this. *C.T., December 2021*

Today, I prayed for Father Kantenich's powerful intercession since I had overlooked some appointments I had previously made and therefore double-booked myself. Both appointments were very important and couldn't easily be cancelled at the last minute and were to take place within an hour of each other. I asked Father Kantenich for his assistance that the first appointment would be on time

and go quickly so that I could make it to the second appointment. I was able to finish quickly and as I drove to my second location, I again asked Father Kantenich to help me maneuver through the heavy traffic while at the same time not having to stop at too many red lights. It happened that way, and I was even five minutes early for my second appointment. Thank you, Father Kantenich! *J.H. (Wisconsin)*

IN ILLNESS

I have entrusted various health problems in our family to Father Kantenich: Our eldest son was diagnosed with MS some time ago. That was a shock for all of us! Several weeks later, we received a report that was surprisingly negative. MS was ruled out for the time being. However, since symptoms were still present, he was given infusions for three days. In the meantime, he is doing well. We are very relieved.

We were also worried about our younger son because a thickening had been forming on his leg for some time. During the MRI it turned out that it was only an accumulation of water or blood. How thankful we were!

During an eye examination it was determined that something was wrong with me. But the control examination showed that everything had disappeared!

My husband, who had severe knee and hip pain, had rapid improvement! I thank God and the Blessed Mother and also Father Kentenich for everything, and I ask for publication.

G. T., March 2022

I thank Father Kentenich very much for his help. My son, his wife, and their baby were sick with covid in November. I was greatly distressed and asked Our Lady and Father Kentenich to intercede with God. I also wrote to the Sisters of Mary in Schoenstatt and told them of my distress. I think it was the very next day after I had written that my son called and said he no longer had symptoms. His wife and the baby also soon recovered. I thank you very much for this!

G. W., Austria, January 2022

FOR PREMATURE BIRTH

My girlfriend gave birth to her first son. In an emergency birth, which was artificially induced, he came into the world as a premature baby. It was not sure whether he was healthy and viable. The infant had to be cared for in the hospital for weeks. This was a very difficult time for my friend. In the meantime, her son is a happy, strong and healthy baby. After the birth, I prayed to the Blessed Mother for my friend and her son and also entrusted the request for help to Father Kentenich. Now I am deeply grateful that the child and also the mother are healthy.

X., March 2022

WHEN BUYING A HOUSE

During the Christmas season of 2021, I had addressed the request to you to pray for us at Father Kentenich's tomb for a new home in my hometown. We had tried this for years without success. Now in March a suitable house was advertised. Since we acted quickly, we were among the first of a large number of applicants who were able to visit the house. The contact

between the owners and us was immediately very positive, and they, in fact, quickly decided in favor of us. The transaction will soon take place. We are incredibly grateful for this grace and the repeated help from Father Kentenich. It is tantamount to a *miracle* since it is almost impossible to buy a house in this very desirable place.

J. S., April 2022

IN AN ACCIDENT

Daily, I pray for Kentenich's beatification and entrust myself to him. In this way, I may experience his help again and again. Some time ago I was driving home after shopping. When I wanted to turn into another street, I convinced myself that there was no car coming from the right or from the left. But suddenly there was a crash, and a car arriving at a high speed hit me in the side. I was very frightened and got out of the car to look at the damage. I suspected that my car was very damaged. When the driver and I looked at the cars, we couldn't believe it: Neither his car nor mine was damaged. Thank you, Father Kentenich.

I. M., May 2022.

WORK RELATED

For some time, I had been looking for a new and less-stressful employment opportunity. Given the fact that I don't have much of a formal education beyond high school level, I was trying to be realistic knowing that I probably wouldn't find anything that would also help me financially. After some time, I turned to Father Kentenich for his intercession and prayed daily for this intention. After several weeks, a door opened. I went for the interview after first having asked Father Kentenich for his guidance, I did indeed receive a job that's above and beyond my original expectations! For this I'm very grateful!

B.S. (MN)

Father Joseph Kentenich

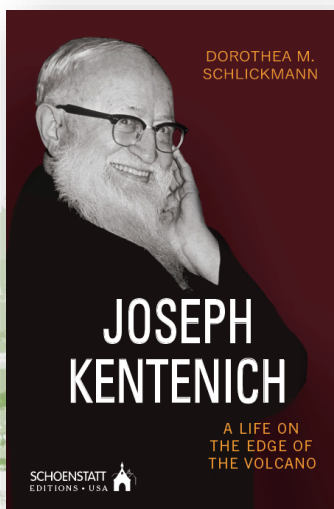
- Founder of the International Schoenstatt Movement -

*was born on November 16, 1885, in Gymnich near Cologne and died on September 15, 1968, in the Trinity Church of Berg Schoenstatt, immediately after the celebration of the Holy Mass. He is also buried in this church. His sarcophagus bears the inscription **Dilexit ecclesiam - He loved the church.***

The **Secretariat Father Josef Kentenich** distributes information about Father Kentenich, to those who are acquainted with Schoenstatt' spirituality and pray on his intercession. You will be able to find more information and novenas from Fr. Kentenich in our centers.

Request the publication:

in Spanish
&
English



A Life at the Edge of the Volcano

Contact Addresses in the USA:

Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary
W284 N404 Cherry Lane
Waukesha, WI 53188-9416
Phone: (262) 522-4200

Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary
House Schoenstatt
134 Front Street
Rockport, Texas 78382-7800
Phone: (361) 729-2771

Contact Address in Australia:

Mount Schoenstatt
230 Fairlight Road
Mulgoa, NSW 2745
Australia

*Translated from the German
by Sr. Marihedwig Heisig

Whenever this pamphlet directly or indirectly states that Father Kentenich is a "saint" it is always the expression of private opinion. The decision of the Church is in no way anticipated.