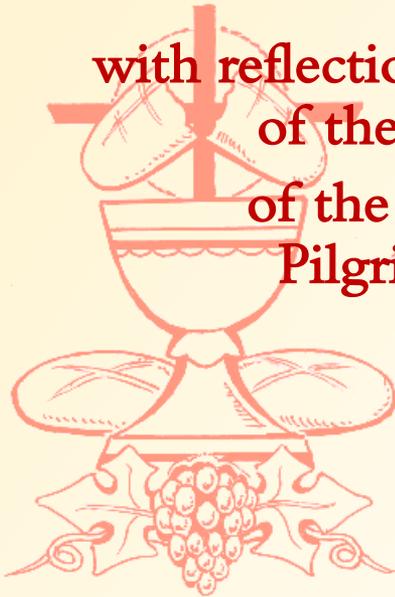




Luminous Misteries

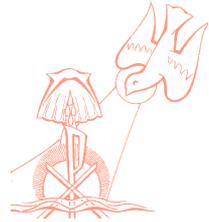
with reflections on the mission
of the Apostolate
of the Schoenstatt
Pilgrim Mother



First Mystery:

1. The Baptism in the Jordan

Mother, your Son makes himself one of us, sharing his lot with us, yet transforming it. In our humble simplicity we want to always seek to please our Father in Heaven.



The great day was September 10, 1950. John Pozzobon's life changed that day. It was a Sunday. Sister M. Teresinha Gobbo, a Schoenstatt Sister of Mary, entrusted a large picture of the Blessed Mother of Schoenstatt to John to take to the people of the parish. He was commissioned to take it to a different house each day to encourage the people to pray the rosary, but she told him it was not necessary for him to pray it every night. John strictly carried out the assignment to take the picture to the homes but since he also felt responsible.

John anyways decided to pray the rosary every night and began to see how the Hearts, 2010 of the families were transformed in sharing the daily rosary with families and through each visit of the Blessed Mother.

John continued his visits, completing 87,000 miles in approximately 30 years. He mostly covered this distance by foot, visiting families, hospitals, schools, and jails in Southern Brazil, carrying the picture he had received, which weighed 24 pounds on his shoulder. He also carried a bag with materials for the apostolate, which weighed about 15 pounds. Nothing could stop him... He called himself "the Blessed Mother's little donkey," because he took the Blessed Mother everywhere (paraphrased from E. Soros, *Conquering All Hearts*, 2010).

Reflection for the missionaries:

- When did the Blessed Mother call me to be her missionary?
- How has my journey with Mary been?
- Who has she transformed on her way?

Our Father who art in Heaven...

Hail Mary... (10x)

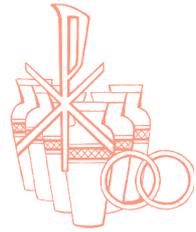
Glory be to the Father...

Second Mystery:

2. The Wedding at Cana

Your Son listens to you and obeys you in a childlike way, in order to bring back joy and faith into our Hearts, 2010. We ask that Mary may always

intercede for us with her Son, transforming our smallness into the best of wines.



A year after starting the Rosary Campaign, Father Kentenich (1885-1968) was sent into exile. Schoenstatt continued functioning, but without its founder. Unsure of the causes some bishops in other countries where Schoenstatt was established preferred to restrict some of their activity. John's initiative was rather new and therefore, from early on, it became difficult for him to fulfill his ministry.

John only worked in the dioceses and parishes where he received the permission of the bishops and the pastors. But sometimes he was treated harshly, obliging him to abandon the people he was visiting. This hurt him profoundly. John was giving his life for the evangelization of the most needy and many others... But he always obeyed with an iron will. As a loyal pupil of Father Kentenich, he saw the loving hand of God through the authorities (paraphrased from E. Soros, *Conquering All Hearts*, 2010).

Reflection for the missionaries:

- How do I ensure that my work with the Pilgrim Mother is at the service of the Church or of my parish or diocese?
- Have I grown in love for the Church through this apostolate?
- Have I brought someone back into the fold of the Church through it?

Our Father who art in Heaven...

Hail Mary... (10x)

Glory be to the Father...

Third Mystery:

3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom

Mother, your Son calls us to become God's instruments here on earth. May Schoenstatt always become fruitful in building the kingdom of love, the kingdom of your Son, here on earth.



Later, the Brothers of Mary began to influence his life, especially Herman Arendes, with whom he shared much time in personal conversation and apostolate... Father Aquiles Rubim, rector of the Pallottine Major Seminary, was John's spiritual director and confessor for many years.

But the main source of inspiration for John was the founder of Schoenstatt. He felt intimately united to his person, his mission, and his destiny. They had limited personal contact but John found ways to connect with Father Kentenich. On July 11, 1951, he sent him a handwritten letter with his photograph "so that my actual person may be represent as closely as possible in the Original Shrine."* Father Kentenich responded through Sister M. Norberta: "[H]e sincerely appreciates your letter and says that in the shrine of our beloved MTA he remembered you and all that is yours. He prayed for the special blessing and protection of the heavenly Mother for all your deepest aspirations."* On September 10, 1980, on the thirtieth anniversary, John entrusted the large picture, with which he had traveled on pilgrimage for such a long time, to the Sisters of Mary as an inheritance. On this occasion he remembered the blessing sent from the Original Shrine by Father Kentenich: "[T]hat wonderful blessing was the strength of this Campaign."*

(paraphrased from E. Soros, *Conquering All Hearts*, 2010).

Reflection for the missionary:

- Where do I find the main source of inspiration for my apostolate?
- How is my connection with the Father Joseph Kentenich, the founder of Schoenstatt?

Our Father who art in Heaven...

Hail Mary... (10x)

Glory be to the Father...

*Esteban Uriburu, *A Hero Today, Not Tomorrow*, Cape Town, 1991.

Fourth Mystery:

4. The Transfiguration on Mount Tabor

Your shrine radiates into our times the brilliance and splendor of Tabor's sun. Mother, grant to us strength and faithfulness that through our witness the person of Christ may shine forth in us, too.



As the Schoenstatt Movement geared up to the 100th anniversary of the birth of its founder, Father Joseph Kentenich, almost 100 replicas of the Schoenstatt Shrine had been built and dedicated around the world. By then, the Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign had developed significantly within the borders of Brazil with some 2,570 Pilgrim MTAs that traveled to homes daily, mainly in the south where John had worked most actively.

Up to March 1984, John had walked with the Blessed Mother for 33 years, visiting almost a million people. Since he was almost 80 years old, his strength was diminishing. The last three decades of his life had been marked by a radical giving of self, sleeping little and walking untiringly with the Blessed Mother. For a long time he had kept a secret hope in his heart that someday the Campaign would reach the entire world. His dream came true when, in Autumn 1985, during the great international centennial gathering in Schoenstatt, Germany, small images of Pilgrim Mother were sent out to Germany, Australia, Bolivia, Burundi, Ecuador, Spain, the Philippines, Holland, Mexico, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Switzerland, and Uruguay (paraphrased from E. Soros, *Conquering All Hearts*, 2010).

Reflection for the missionaries:

- Where do I take the image of the Pilgrim Mother? Where do I allow her to take me on my journey with her?
- Am I willing to entrust to Mary my dreams and concerns with the trust that she will fulfill my wishes, if only I remain faithful to her in the covenant of love?

Our Father who art in Heaven...

Hail Mary... (10x)

Glory be to the Father...

Fifth Mystery:

The Institution of the Eucharist

As the greatest of all miracles of love, bread and wine are transformed into the life and being of our Lord Jesus Christ. May our Hearts, 2010 and lives be transformed, too, into clear images of Christ and Mary.



The missionary action which we embody through our commitment with this apostolate fulfills a fundamental law in the kingdom of God: the simplicity of the Gospel, the rediscovery, and the revival of that which is always old yet always new—the greatness of the humble. This law of the Kingdom of God, which Father Kentenich liked to cite often, is proven again: “God does the greatest things through the smallest instruments.” This is the only way to explain the fruitfulness of the simple rotation of the image of the Schoenstatt Pilgrim Mother among friends, parishioners, students, or residents. How is it possible that such a simple man, with barely elementary education, of limited resources, gave origin to a work which today extends to all continents? How is it possible that in 1984 there were 2,570 Pilgrim MTA Shrines and 20 years later c.a. 200,000 images were circulating? The countless experiences of transformation that so many people and families give witness to the fruitfulness of this type of new evangelization. God, who can do all things calls small instruments. John Pozzobon, like Mary, made himself available for an extraordinary work through his extraordinarily simple way of reaching out to others (paraphrased from E. Soros, *Conquering All Hearts*, 2010).

Reflection for the missionaries:

- Who are the special instruments that the Blessed Mother has used to guide me into this world-wide apostolate?
- Who have a I guided to grow deeper in their faith through this apostolate? Am I willing to continue embracing the fruits and challenges of this mission?

Our Father who art in Heaven...

Hail Mary... (10x)

Glory be to the Father...

