



Dear leaders of the Schoenstatt Movement,
Dear Schoenstatt Family,

It is with gratitude that we look back on the "Conference 2014" in February 2009. In a matchless experience of the Spirit of Pentecost we were given profound unity as a Family, as well as a common direction as an apostolic Movement. We would like to say a special thank you for the network of prayer which made an essential contribution, with so many others, to the success of the Conference. In the meantime you have taken in the reports and testimonies at various levels about the beginning of our common preparation for the celebration of the hundred years of our Movement's existence.

The result of the Conference is contained in the "Message 2014". It was published in the various languages and can be printed out from www.schoenstatt.de. The message takes the covenant of love as its starting point. Even after a hundred years it remains the vital source of our actions and our fruitfulness. This life has become effective in four common streams of life (the power of the shrine, bonding to our Father, our missionary impulse, unity of the Family) and has to find expression in the time to come in five apostolic fields (families, youth, pedagogy, the Church, a new social order).

After this start, which was brought about by the Holy Spirit, we want to take practical steps, so that the message may become a stream of life in the whole Family and prove fruitful in the above fields for the Church and society.

The General Presidium will appoint an international central commission (ZK) in the course of the year, and will transfer the planning and realization of the programme to it. The task of the commission will be to prepare and carry out the central celebrations in Schoenstatt and Rome in 2014. This will include:

- a) Developing the guiding principles contained in the "Message 2014" and making them more precise.
- b) Collecting and passing on information, as well as co-ordination of national and regional projects in the Movement's five fields of apostolate. We count upon a holy competition of ideas and initiatives between countries, continents, sections of the Movement and the communities.



c) Building up a suitable organizational structure and an international plan for financing the project.

Until the appointment of the ZK, contact Sr M. Luciane Machens and Fr José María García with any questions and desires with regard to 2014. They can be reached by email at 2014@schoenstatt.de.

We have decided upon the first practical step. The General Presidium has gladly taken up the wish of the Conference 2014 for the Father Symbol, which our father gave for the original shrine, to go on pilgrimage. On 8 July 2009 – 99th anniversary of Fr Kantenich's ordination to the priesthood – it will be sent out from the original shrine during a solemn Holy Mass at 9 a.m. and should visit all the national Schoenstatt Families. Through this symbol, which symbolises the loving concern and guidance of God the Father, all are invited to the Jubilee 2014 at the original shrine.

The co-ordination of this pilgrimage is in the hands of Sr M. Luciane Machens and Fr José María García. May this symbol help the grace of divine guidance to take hold of us once more, so that we can come into vital contact with one another, and that a stream of life may come into existence, which we can direct into the Church in the Jubilee Year.

Schoenstatt, 8 May 2009

On behalf of the International Presidium

P. Heinrich Walter