

## Wellcoming address

P. Juan Pablo Catoggio, 16.08.2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the different Federations, of the different countries, dear Schoenstatt Family! Dear friends all! I would like to welcome you all very warmly!

We celebrate 100 years of Hörde. Looking back, we can say today: Hörde was Schoenstatt's first step outward, the first step - still small, but nevertheless the first and therefore decisive step - from "Schoenstatt on the move"!

At that time, our Father consciously stayed here and did not go to Hörde. As he said, he wanted to know whether the leading young people still stand for it and supported the initiative themselves. Then it could be a work of God. Today, 100 years later, our Father and Founder is certainly among us! He knows that you, who are here and many, many more, whom you represent, have all made his dream and mission your own.

A few words have marked the Schoenstatt course since Hörde. May they accompany us these days.

### **Apostolic Federation**

In Hörde we got our name: the Apostolic Federation of Schoenstatt. Federation comes from, latin foedus, waht means Covenant, pact, alliance. Federation is a form of structure and organization that comes from a common covenant: we are united and allied. But the Federation is more than a structure, it is an attitude and a style, a culture, an attitude of freedom and magnanimity, of autonomy and solidarity. We also say for this: covenant culture.

And we are the Apostolic Federation of Schoenstatt. The apostolate is our common goal and our raison d'être. Our Father wanted and wants to give apostles to the Church.

Dear Schoenstatt Family: apostolic federalism or federativity is a permanent task. It cannot be a pretext for community egoism, nor a justification for the isolation and solitude of particular communities and branches. The Federation is a school for mature and responsible Christians and Apostles who build unity in diversity and diversity in unity, in mutual respect, in fraternal fidelity and in affective and effective closeness and appreciation, in solidarity and co-responsibility for the common mission.

We are one family, Cor unum in Patre et in missione Patris! In the apostolate, in the mission, we are together - all of us work apostolically for the League, in and with the League for the Church! Unity in and for mission.

### **Caritas Christi urget nos**

This can only succeed, can only have meaning and soul, if the love of Christ urges us. This is the Pauline motto of Hörde, the soul of our apostolate: Caritas Christi urget nos, urges us, does not leave us rest.

### **Wake up and waken each other! Wake up all Schoenstatt!**

Therefore, another word from the time of Hoerde: Wake up and wake each other! Please wake up all Schoenstatt! So that together we may wake up the Church!

This is what I wish for you and for me in these days of grace, family and mission. A warm welcome!