

Reflexion

"Be an apostle in the world like Father Joseph Kentenich"

Introduction (lecturer)

We see how extensive and complex our apostolic areas are. Each individual is called to fulfill his or her mission in an original way. Our question today, after 100 years, is not only: What does the Church need us for, but also: How does she need us? We let ourselves be inspired by our Father and Prophet.

Hymn: Your Covenant - our mission

Span The Church needs us as apostles, like Father Joseph Kentenich follow their vocation to holiness in daily life.

L1. Pope Francis writes: " We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves." ¹

L2. We read on the subject: "The union with Christ, becomes a continuous stimulus inducing to resemble Christ in daily life. Daily, at Mass, he goes up with Christ to the cross and in the course of the day, he fights tenaciously for the conquest of the divinized, moralized, spiritualized and soul-filled of the human being. Therefore, today's Catholic is receptive to holiness." ²

P. Kentenich says: "Holiness is delicacy and sensitivity to the voice of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit guides me. He wants to educate me, to prepare me for the great task of life that God has given me. To the extent that I now fulfill this unique task, I am holy."

— *Hoerde's goal, to the aspiration to the highest degree of perfection, moves us today to consider in a moment of silence, how the example and teaching of the Father and Founder help us, every day again, to decide for a holy life in every day life.*

Silence - instrumental music – Chorus

Port The Church needs us as apostles who, like Father Kentenich, entrust themselves to the Mother and educator.

L1. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI recommends: "Remain in the school of Mary." Let us be inspired by her teachings, try to welcome to keep in the heart that the lights that she, by divine command, sends us to the highest." ³

L2. Father Joseph Kentenich says: "Christ, the great educator, should be our example. As an assistant educator, she should help us and the ones entrusted to us, to become similar to Christ. Now, our task would consist of a double view: one to contemplate the face of the God made man and another look for the Mater Admirabilis, the Admirable Mother, the great educator of the people." ⁴

The Father and Founder also says: "For thirty years we see the Saviour working almost exclusively to educate his mother, to carve out of her the image that was contained in the plans of the eternal God of her from eternity. With what care he may have worked, with what devotion he formed the Blessed Mother!"⁵

— *In Hoerde and its context were not only placed the ideal of holiness in the center, however Schoenstatt was confirmed as an education movement. The organization must guarantee the best means for self-education. I consider on how these means help for me and how to receive them again as a gift from God through Schoenstatt.*

**Silence - instrumental music –
Chorus**

ENG The Church needs Christians who like the Father and Founder, radiate authentic joy!

Pope Francis writes: "The joy of the Gospel fills the heart and lives of those who meet Jesus".⁶ [...] "The Gospel, where the glorious cross of Christ shines, insistently invites to the joy!"⁷

L2. Father Joseph Kentenich says: "Being a Christian means being cheerful" We must preserve this joy in all circumstances of life. With what joy in limbo, there he also brings consolation to Saint Joseph, to the thief, to all saints of the Old Covenant. Where the Savior appears, he comforts. He also comforts his Mother. Like the heart of the mother, rejoiced in holy joy. 'Regina Coeli laetare!'

"It was a tremendous joy and the Lord had to perform a miracle so that she could bear the wave of emotions. [...] I want to join this joy and it should never fade in me and on my turn."⁸

He also says:

"See how important it is for us as artists of joy, as apostles of joy to learn and teach the art of discovering and enjoying these little joy!" Yes, in such a poor time of joy, it must be our essential task: taste the drops of honey of joy, wherever God wants to always offer them to us. This is the art of educating others for joy."⁹

— *During the welcome address in Hoerde, Alois Zeppenfeld challenged the young people to prove that they are young and cheerful people. In the beginning there is joy, there are people with a young heart. We want to radiate the joy that is rooted in the Gospel, where we act.*

**Silence - instrumental music –
Chorus**

Span The Church needs us as apostles that, as Father Joseph Kentenich, corporify the mercy of God.

L1 Pope Francis writes: "At times we are called to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father's action in our lives"

L2. Father Joseph Kentenich teaches: "Therefore, I build in all circumstances over the mercy of the Father. I do not rely on the good things I did We always refer to two titles. A big title

is the infinite mercy of God the Father, that loves the son, he does not love because he is good, no because the son did something. it is not so that we should be good, it is not so that we could not do something. But I do not invoke that. I always refer, in all circumstances, to infinite and merciful love of the Father, therefore, to a love that I did not deserve, a love that was granted to a degree that I cannot deserve."¹⁰

— *We want to consider and identify where and how I experience God's mercy, as acknowledgement of God's love in my daily life and communicate it to my brothers and sisters.*

Silence - instrumental music – Chorus

Port The Church needs apostles that as Father Joseph Kentenich, live the Covenant of Love with the Holy Trinity and the brothers and sisters.

Pope Francis says: "The culture of encounter is the culture of the Covenant. This means that God chooses, he promised us and in the middle of the way he made a Covenant with his people."

- L2. Father Joseph Kentenich teaches: "When we should be determined to unite member by member, branch by branch through love's bond! The Covenant of Love, with the loving Mother of God wants and should, in last analysis, to consolidate more and more a Covenant of Love with the Holy Trinity, fraternal Covenant of Love as a Covenant of Love with members and branches of the Church, but also Covenant of Love with all the people of the world! The heart - the love, the strength of love of the Church."¹¹

— *From the Original Shrine and from all the Shrines in the world, deeply anchored in God, we want to go to the encounter of the people. They can have other circumstances, have other ideas, but we recognize them as our brothers and sisters that we will welcome in the Covenant of Love. And we want to give testimony of God's love for them. Where particularly, is it needed more of my care and God's love for brothers and sisters?*

Final words:

- L1 We contemplate life with joy and gratitude that emerged and developed in Hoerde, which allows us, after 100 years, to place ourselves again at the disposal of Schoenstatt. Hoerde's youth contribute to that, but also the fallen in war, whose names are registered in the memorial plaque in Original Shrine.
- L2 We are grateful, because today we, in the same center - the Original Shrine, the Covenant of Love and, with new strength, we can get on the way, full of hope, heading for the future!

Caritas Christi urget nos!

-
- ¹ Pope Francis. Gaudete Exsultate, 2018, N. 14.
http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/de/apost_exhortations.index.html#apost_exhortations
- ² Dr. M. A. Nailis, Werktagsheiligkeit. Ein Beitrag zur religiösen Formung des Alltags Vallendar 1989 (Limburg 1937), 282 S. 16.
- ³ CELAM. Documento de Aparecida. Palavras do Papa Bento XVI no final da oração do terço. 2007, p. 158.
- ⁴ Josef Kentenich. Grundriss einer neuzeitlichen Pädagogik für den katholischen Erzieher. Pädagogische Tagung 1950, S. 241.
- ⁵ Josef Kentenich. *Unser Gründer spricht zu uns. Band III: Jungfräulichkeit*. Exerzitienvorträge von Pater Josef Kentenich zur Vorbereitung auf die Mitglieds-Lebensweihe der Schönstatt-Frauenliga, 6.-9. September 1951
- ⁶ Papst Franziskus. Evangelii Gaudium, 2013, N. 1, unter:
<http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/it/encyclicals.index.html>
- ⁷ Papst Franziskus. Evangelii Gaudium, 2013, N. 5, URL:
<http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/it/encyclicals.index.html>
- ⁸ Josef Kentenich, Ostern, 1925.
- ⁹ Josef Kentenich, Vollkommene Lebensfreude: Priesterexerzitien 1934, herausgegeben Vallendar, 1984, S. 113
- ¹⁰ Josef Kentenich, Romvortrag, 8. Dezember 1965, Romvorträge Band III, S.145.
- ¹¹ Josef Kentenich. Vortrag vor der Schönstattfamilie 31. 12. 1912. In: *Propheta locutus est*, Band II, S. 245-284