

Schoenstatt Girls and Young Women



to be a springtime for our world!

What is Schoenstatt?



Schoenstatt is a German word that means 'beautiful place.' In a little valley near Vallendar around the year 1914, a shrine dedicated to Mary became a place of profound grace for all those who experienced it. From this shrine a Marian movement of renewal within the Catholic Church formed and blossomed, and spread internationally. Schoenstatt is now established in over 35 countries worldwide, and proves to be a source of greatest blessings for the Church and world.

Who are the Schoenstatt Girls and Young Women?

The Schoenstatt Girls and Young Women is a branch of the Schoenstatt Movement that helps guide, educate, and form our girls and young women into pure and noble youth, after the image of the Blessed Mother. With Mary as our model, we learn to bear witness to the ideals of true womanly greatness and beauty. We do this through monthly groups meetings, retreats, summer camps, pilgrimages, and more!



Overview of the Schoenstatt Girls Youth Program

Girls belonging to Schoenstatt often meet in groups once a month for meetings to learn more about Schoenstatt, the Blessed Mother and their faith. The material covered in these monthly meetings is a supplement, not replacement for faith formation classes.

Typical group size is from five to fifteen girls though the groups can be more or less. The meetings are led by mothers and/or youth leaders in connection with the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary. Workbooks and materials are available from the Schoenstatt Girls and Young Women Office. The group contact person is responsible for communicating with the group members and making meeting place arrangements.



Please see other side for age levels in the SGYW!



The groups are divided according to age. Girls can join at any age as there is no prerequisite to belonging to their age group.



Mary's Little Crowns

Girls from 6-8 years old belong to Mary's Little Crowns. They strive to resemble Mary with the joy and dignity of a child worthy of a crown. This in turn gives Mary joy. In Sacred Scripture St. Paul tells his listeners, "You are my joy and crown." (Phil. 4:1) This basic biblical message is reflected in Mary who loves and cherishes us as her joy and her little crowns. The program material leads the girls to grow in love for Mary and the Church. It teaches basic knowledge of Catholic Marian devotion (for example: feast days, the holy rosary, names of Mary, pilgrimage places, Mary's virtues, etc.) and how Schoenstatt honors our Lady.



Marian Apostles

Girls between 9-12 years old belong to Schoenstatt as Marian Apostles. To be an apostle means to be a person who is given and sent on a mission. The girls strive to become apostles of Mary through their thoughts, words, and actions. The program material introduces the girls to the history of Schoenstatt, and the stories of young people who loved Mary and their faith. The girls take upon themselves basic commitments to the faith and strive to form their consciences in the choices they make.



Living RTA's

Girls ages 12-14 are introduced more deeply into our Schoenstatt spirituality and into the history of the Schoenstatt Girls' and Young Women which gave rise to the international ideal. They discuss in particular how to live in their everyday lives (with the challenges that adolescence brings) the three virtues that are connected with the RTA crown: purity, faithfulness, and nobility; especially through forming healthy attachments.



Ver Sacrum Patris Youth ~ Holy Springtime of the Father!

Girls 14 and older have the opportunity to join the official branch of the Schoenstatt Girls and Young Women. They strive to become reflections of Mary, and with her help bring Christ as springtime for our nation and world! By loving the Blessed Mother and imitating her, the Schoenstatt Girls and Young Women strive to bear witness to her beauty through their thoughts, words, and actions. Included in the program is self-knowledge and self-education, apostolic endeavors, opportunities for leadership training, understanding the true image of woman, growth into Schoenstatt's spirituality and preparing for a consecration to Mary known in Schoenstatt as the covenant of love.

How can I get involved?

If you are interested in learning more about a Schoenstatt group, including meeting places and times, please contact:

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More info about Schoenstatt on the web: www.schoenstatt.org/en
More about the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary: www.schsrsmary.org

