The Kentenich year leaves a visible trace

On the 15th of September the Kentenich Year 2017-2018 comes to a close. It has given rich life to many communities, countries and dioceses. We looked back on 50 years after the death of our father and founder. 50 years of diverse and profound changes in our fast-moving time. 50 years of history after the completion of the Second Vatican Council, which was a new beginning of the Church, with many ups and downs, the fruits of which are not yet fully visible. With regard to his foundations, P. Kentenich spoke of the need for a community to be re-founded after about 50 years. The time of refounding is a time that requires in a special way the work of the Holy Spirit: the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost. He directs us to the future: with founding spirit and the courage to face the challenges of post-founder epoch. We need to be filled with "missionary spirit, ... to offer to all people across all borders – up to the periphery of society - the Covenant of Love as a path and hope". (That's what the memorandum of the Pentecostal Congress 2015 said, one year after we received back the Original Shrine.)

Redesign of the window in the Founder's Chapel

The idea of a redesign of the small window in the Founder's Chapel was born in the context of the Kentenich Year: fifty years after his being called to eternity. The symbolic expression has a Pentecostal motif: the Cenacle. Pentecostal flames will commemorate September 15, 2018. Together with the MTA picture and the crown, the cross and and the father symbol, the sarcophagus and the carpet at the place of death, the new glass window will complement the iconographic message with the Pentecostal promise for the future.

Mrs. Maria Kiess (Munich, Germany) is the artist who designed the window. The Bavarian glass painting factory Gustav van Treeck will be in charge of its production.



Unanimous in the Cenacle - cor unum

The circle designs the space where the outpouring of the Holy Spirit takes place. The place of Fr. Kentenich's return to the Heavenly Father becomes the space of the descent of the Holy Spirit. It is the spiritual space where Mary with the apostles implored, in holy longing, the promised Power from on High, this space of the "Cor Unum in Patre" will be the space for both realities: depth and sending, re-foundation and sending into our world.

Radiant center

The luminous center of the circle represents the light-filled inbreak of the divine into the past and the future. The divine inbreak from above also needs to be seen as a germinating force of the divine from below, from within the individual souls, and from there the breakthrough into the whole family (cf. Christmas Conference 1967).

Pentecostal flames - departure towards a wider horizon

"And there appeared to them tongues spreading like fire; on each one they settled down" (Acts 2:3). The circle breaks. Flames are rising. Seven flames stand for fullness [The seven flames mean fullness]. The Pentecostal Fire arises from the intermingling of the personal gifts and vocations of the individuals and all of our communities. A flame of the Spirit hovers over every head. That is the Pentecostal picture of Mary as St Vincent Pallotti liked it: "Mary Queen of the Apostles". The intermingling of personal vocations, charisms and gifts marks the beginning of the Church. It will also shape the re-founding and reconstruction of Schoenstatt in new generations, countries and cultures.

(From a statement by Father Ludwig Güthlein - movement director of the German Schoenstatt movement)