

A Rosary Reflection on “Mysteries” in Father Founder’s Life

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Father Founder's death 10 years ago, an “Abbot Pfanner Path” of 7 Stations was inaugurated around our convent at Wernberg. We invite you to walk these Stations in spirit and, doing so, reflect on 7 words of wisdom given us by Father Founder in the manner we pray the mysteries of the Rosary.

At each of the 7 Stations we pray 5 Hail Mary’s. After the first part of each Hail Mary (“... and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus...”) we recite the phrase marked in **RED**.

FIRST STATION

"If no one goes, I will!"

Today, this readiness might be called civil courage!

- 1) Where do I wish I had the courage to get up? To stand up?
- 2) Do I know about the power and strength that God gives me to sustain me on my path?

JESUS ... WHO ENCOURAGES US TO WALK OUR WAY WITH COURAGE

SECOND STATION

"How beautiful is God's world and worth to be merry in it!"

Abbot Pfanner had a good sense of humor and a close relationship to God's creation.

- 1) How able am I to perceive the richness of creation, and where do I feel that our earth is offended and in jeopardy?
- 2) Where do I see my personal responsibility for the preservation of creation?

JESUS ... WHO PUT CREATION IN OUR HANDS

THIRD STATION

"Our mission is the kingdom of God and that has no boundaries."

He welcomed everyone, man and woman. He had a broad understanding of mission.

- 1) How do I experience my vocation in everyday life?
- 2) How can I share this redeeming and liberating message with as many people as possible?

JESUS ... WHO PROCLAIMED THE KINGDOM OF GOD TO US

FOURTH STATION

"Lont nit lugg!"

Don't let go!

As a child, Wendelin Pfanner had learned that challenges make people stronger. Throughout his life he struggled with difficulties and obstacles and faced challenges as they came.

- 1) What memories come to mind of experiences that served to shake or strengthen my faith?
- 2) Am I aware of God's grace when it comes to staying power in difficult situations?

JESUS ... WHO GIVES US THE SOURCE OF POWER

FIFTH STATION

"When will the world realize that it must return to simplicity?"

Sustainability was an important topic for Father Founder and so was simplicity. Responsibility has to do with response, he lived it authentically.

- 1) How carefully do I deal with everything that has been created?
- 2) In my decisions, do I manage to give preference to what is necessary, healthy and sustainable?

JESUS ... WHO TAKES US BACK TO WHAT IS ESSENTIAL

SIXTH STATION

"Let the light of joy burn and keep it in your soul!"

In all difficult situations Father Founder realized how important it was to keep this indestructible joy alive. Joy was the motor ... the ardour.

- 1) Where do I burn from deep trust?
- 2) Am I ready to become permeable to live out God's fullness?

JESUS ... WHO IGNITES THE LIGHT OF JOY IN US

SEVENTH STATION

"If the heart is quiet, it is easier to pray."

Ora et labora et lege (read/study). Translated this means to find a good balance between prayer and work and to be aware that we remain learners. It was a challenge which also our Founder faced constantly.

- 1) Where am I asked to stop, to pause and to find more time and space for silence?
- 2) Am I trustful that in the depths of my heart I am looked at and loved?

JESUS ... WHO ALWAYS LETS US LISTEN AGAIN TO WHAT IS INNERMOST IN US