

Austrian Children's Workshop in Gafrenz, Austria - We are heroes of God

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July 8-12, 2023



We want to share about this year's Austrian Children's Workshop, which took place from July 8th-12th, 2023, in our beautiful workshop place in Gafrenz, Upper Austria. Twenty-three Blessed Children between the ages of 5 and 14 participated in this workshop. With the Workshop motto "We are heroes of God" it is our goal that the children learn to understand that they can do something good in their everyday life to be heroes for others. To achieve this, we must develop our hearts and be willing to cultivate the virtues in life. Due to the large number of participants and the huge age difference between the children, the children were divided into two groups during the teaching units, which were held every day in the morning. The teaching units consisted of lectures and interactive parts where the children could actively participate or fill out worksheets. The parents of the participating children gave the lectures.

As with every workshop, the children were divided into teams; this year, five teams were led by five young adults from Vienna. The program included team bonding activities, morning services by the team leaders, sports, campfires, swimming trips, game evenings, and team meetings. Moreover, there were working groups where each child could choose an activity, such as making music, baking, sports, and handicrafts. The music group, headed by Nathalie Waldmann, even composed an original song entitled "We are heroes of God" on two afternoons. We hope this song will spread across Europe and be sung in all communities and blessed families.

The children's workshop was organized and carried out by a group of committed parents who care deeply about the well-being of our 2nd and 3rd Generation blessed children. The importance of the children in making and maintaining friendships and their willingness to learn about God reaffirmed the importance of these in-person workshops. We received a lot of good feedback from parents and the participating children. For example, Kendra and Joachim Théry didn't want to go home at the end of the workshop because they liked it so much. Tiara Peters always likes the children's workshops because she can learn about God's heart and True Parents. Jonah Schenk showed the workshop video to his school friend and explained the workshop motto to him. It shows that our children can already do very diligent outreach.