



Your Gift for People

Novena for
October 18, 2023





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ORGANIZATIONAL RECOMMENDATION

This novena aims to contribute to networking in prayer. The digital form is available at

<https://schoenstatt.com/>

Start on October 9, 2023



SUGGESTION:

A nice experience is to install a personal acoustic signal, e.g. a ringtone on your cell phone at a certain time (at the evening blessing or at the historic hour of the Covenant of Love at 5.00 p.m.) to remind yourself.

Introduction

This word accompanies us in the novena in preparation for Covenant Day on October 18, 2023.

10 years ago, at the opening of the 100th anniversary of the Schoenstatt Movement, the Original Shrine was given to us by the Pallottines: a great gift for which we are extremely grateful!

At the same time, we look at the diverse life that has since unfolded around the Original Shrine and at all the graces and gifts that are given daily by the Mother of God.

Last but not least, we are grateful for the experience this summer when many young people of the 1,400 World Youth Day pilgrims from the international Schoenstatt family were able to be at the place of origin of Schoenstatt on their way to World Youth Day: Their emotion at being able to be in the Original Shrine for the first time or again is always moving.

Maria hurried over the mountains. The motto of World Youth Day has also a message for us: We have been given the Original Shrine so that we can pass it on!



Day 1

A Symbol from the Original Shrine:

THE SANCTUARY LIGHT



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When the National Socialists occupied Schoenstatt in 1940, it was 'red alert' for the boys. They hear about the ancient legend of the 'Ver Sacrum' - the Holy Spring and they too want to become a Holy Spring. They feel called to go their own way and consciously create a new world that stands in contrast to the prevailing ideology of National Socialism. As a sign of this, they place the Sanctuary Light in the shrine.

An Impulse from Life

One of the boys who was there at the time said: "We should be recognised by our sacrifice. This is our light, our fire. So we, fire ourselves, want to ignite our dark environment so that it can finally burn for our Queen. She is the sign of spring." They sacrificed much to become fruitful for Schoenstatt.

Pope Francis calls on the participants of World Youth Day to take the joy of the days of Lisbon home with them and to do good there: "We will only return shining if we love like Jesus. If we return home as egoists, the light we take from here will go out."

(M)y Contribution Today

What do I do to shape the world? Do I wait for

others to shape it with their ideologies or do I have the courage to live out of our mission and shine where coldness and darkness are rampant? Am I also on fire for the MTA, which needs our witness to so many who are waiting for it, so that her gift for people can bear fruit?

Prayer *(at the conclusion of the Novena)*



Daily Prayer at the conclusion

Dear Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt.

In the shadow of the shrine our worldwide family was born.

With our Founder, Father Kentenich, we believe that you settled here in a special way on 18 October 1914 and work miracles of grace.

In the Covenant of Love we know ourselves united



across countries and continents and place ourselves at your service.

“All those who come here to pray shall experience the glory of Mary and confess: ‘It is good for us to be here. Here we will build our tents, here our favorite place.’ (...) Whoever knows the history of our sodality will have no trouble believing that Divine Providence has something special in store for it.” (Founding Document)

Together we want to pass on your gift to people.

Together we want to use every opportunity to properly evaluate the challenges of the great processes of major change in world and Church.

Together we consciously put our contributions into the capital of grace today and commend to you all the people we hold in our hearts.

Together and gathered around you, we ask the Holy Spirit to guide us in all questions so that your gift bears fruit in the manifold needs of our time.

Let all Schoenstatt shrines be places of divine grace. Give us a home, bring about change and send us.

So we place ourselves at your disposal once again in the little consecration in preparation for Covenant Day on 18 October:

My Queen, my Mother ...

