



Day 5

A Symbol from the Original Shrine:

LIGHTFRAME



Day 5

A Symbol from the Original Shrine:

LIGHTFRAME

The luminous lettering surrounds the picture of the Blessed Mother with its warm glow. Even before the altar moved into the shrine - that was in 1934 - there was a wooden version, which was created with much dedication and love as a fretwork by Fritz Esser, a Schoenstatter from the first hour.

An Impulse from Life

As sacristan, Fritz engages himself with all his devotion for the Blessed Mother and her shrine. Everything in the shrine and outside in the flowerbeds should look beautiful. That is his very personal contribution. When the war ended in 1918 and he returned to Schoenstatt, he began his carving as a gift of gratitude to the Mother Thrice Admirable. Finally, the suffering of the war comes to an end. The Marian Congregation not only survived the turmoil of war, but even grew in all the battlefields and trenches: it continued to spread. The Latin phrase "*Servus Mariae nunquam peribit*" - "*A servant of Mary will never perish*" is like a profession of faith by the young Fritz Esser, who incidentally died of tuberculosis a few months after the light frame was installed. His legacy still shines to this day, not only here in the Original Shrine, but in every Schoenstatt shrine in the world.

(M)y Contribution Today

How do I bring my experience of the Covenant of Love or faith - today - to the point ... 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 ...

