



Day 8

A Symbol from the Original Shrine:

PETER AND PAUL



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They stand at the queen's side, very close to her "throne", the two princes of the apostles Peter and Paul, who first had to undergo a change before they could take this place. Discouraged "underachievers" became strong personalities, great saints. In their midst the MTA, the Queen of the Apostles! She is an Apostle because she has carried out every apostolate and surpassed them in her dedication: her yes to God's plans makes her the mother of Christ, whose paths she faithfully follows even to the cross. While the frightened disciples hide, their belief in the promises of Jesus is the only thing that stands firm, representative of all believers. In the Cenacle she implores the Holy Spirit upon the young church. Community arises around Mary, a new togetherness, a sense of mission that enables us to bear witness to the hope that lives in us.

Today our dear Mother and Queen chooses us as her apostles and instruments. Also weak, like the first ones? Yes, very much, but endowed with no fewer gifts of grace than the first. Today we are her apostles who can help in founding Schoenstatt always anew in the world. We have received a sacred inheritance, a mission, a treasure, a gift that urges us to pass it on to our Church and to the world today. Our Father tells us again: *"What you have inherited from your fathers,*

acquire it to possess it”.

An Impulse from Life

“I always carry my workplace-shrine with me, in my pocket. It is a key chain with an MTA picture. The beauty of this tiny shrine is that it is not just there for me, but it has an ‘apostolic effect’. There are often problems with the lifts in our hospital. To get by at least halfway, you need a lift key. Since the number of keys is limited, it often happens that someone asks me, ‘Could I have your key?’ (...) I am grateful to the Blessed Mother for this small workplace-shrine, that she reminds people of God again in such a simple, uncomplicated way. And I am also grateful myself that, even if I sometimes don’t realize it, I always work with and in a shrine and can hold on to it in the truest sense of the word.”

(M)y Contribution Today

What do I value most about Schoenstatt? I want to be attentive to the opportunities of today when today, as an apostle of the MTA, I can remind people of God again through a word or a simple, simple deed, so that her *gift for people* today can bear fruit today.

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 ...

