## FIRE for the CHURCH

### Day 6

# We are grateful for the FIRE OF LOVE FOR THE CHURCH



We are grateful for the **FIRE OF LOVE FOR THE CHURCH** that burned in the heart of our father and founder.

#### Impulse

Let an experience from the centennial celebrations motivate us:

"What pleases me most is what it has sparked in people's hearts. (...) On the anniversary itself, many people were speechless - myself included - but reliving it retrospectively...

- It was a fire,
- what gratitude,
- how we were guided,
- What a motivation for Schoenstatt and the Church!

It had a lasting effect on those who experienced it. It can indeed be said that the Queen has worked true miracles in the people's hearts.

#### Reflection

This fire for Schoenstatt and for the Church, which spreads, warms, and enlightens, first burned in the heart of our father and founder before it burned in the hearts of the other "Schoenstatt children. This fire gave him hope even in the most desperate situations.

This fire allowed him to radiate lightness, joy, and confidence in stormy times.

This fire is Mary, whom he trusted completely.

We are convinced that Father Kentenich has a prophetic mission, especially for our time, for our world, for the Church, and society, as he wrote:

"To this is added the conviction that the Virgin Mary, of whom we say with faith that she alone has conquered all heresies, now also has the outstanding mission of conquering collectivism. However, according to the Popes, this can only happen if love for her is spread profoundly everywhere. Once again, mechanistic thinking is the greatest obstacle to an effective Marian pastoral". <sup>4</sup>

Let our hearts be constantly rekindled with the fire of his love for Mary, mankind, and the Church in a totally organic way.

"Let us glow like brands of fire and joyfully go forth to the nations."

#### (My) A contribution today

What thought ignites me, and can I put it into practice so I can burn for the Church today?

**Prayer** (see the conclusion of the novena)

<sup>4</sup> J. Kentenich, 05.05.1952 a A. Menningen



Daily prayer at the end

Dear Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt, our international family was born in the shadow of the Shrine.

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

In the Covenant of Love, we unite 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 is our favorite place." A bold thought, nearly too

bold for the public, but not too bold for you. (...) 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 communicate your gift to the people.

Together, we want to seize every opportunity to analyze adequately the challenges of the extraordinary processes of change in the world and the Church.

Together, we want to make a conscious contribution to the capital of grace today and entrust all the people we carry in our hearts to you.

Together, gathered around you, we ask the Holy Spirit to guide us in all things so that your gift may bear fruit in the many needs of our time.

May all the Schoenstatt Shrines be places of divine grace. Give us a home, transform us, and send us forth.

In preparation for Covenant Day on October 18th, we place ourselves at your disposal once again by praying the "little consecration":

#### My Queen, my Mother...