FIRE for the CHURCH

Day 7

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Impulse

Let an experience from the centennial celebrations motivate us:

"I once arrived very late to an event at the Pilgrim Arena and looked for a seat in the crowd. Finally, an empty seat in a row of benches caught my eye, and I asked the people sitting there, who were from Puerto Rico if the seat was still free. One man replied that he had saved it "for a very good friend." Well," I replied and was about to continue, but he said, "No, come on! You are exactly the good friend that the Blessed Mother has sent me".

Reflection

Being welcomed in a completely natural way opens the heart and soul to supernatural gifts because grace is based on nature.

The fascinating thing about Father Kentenich was always his simple naturalness and genuine humanity. For many people, contact with our Father

and Founder became a profound heart-to-heart encounter, regardless of rank and name, origin, or character. He inspired trust and appreciated each person's dignity, which gave them a sense of security and protection from their own anchorage in God. Unexpected visitors felt expected, even sent by God, when they met him. And they experienced in him "a little piece of heaven."

What a burning, warm, and luminous fire of love for the Church will be kindled in us when we allow ourselves to be enkindled by Father Kentenich's charism, by his fire, and we burn with missionary zeal for the Covenant of Love...". Then, the Blessed Mother can draw many hearts to herself from the Shrine.

Apply the previous example: Who exactly is "the good friend that the Blessed Mother has sent me (today)"?

(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)



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...