

COVENANT DEVOTION

December 18

HYMN: O Come Divine Messiah

L: O Sacrament most Holy...

A: All praise...

L: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all.

A: The Lord is near!

L: The appointed time has come; God has sent his Son into the world.

A: Come let us adore him;

L: Lord Jesus, Son of David, the King of the new Israel, of redeemed humanity, you are King forever

A: We come here into your presence to worship and adore you

L: O Wisdom coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, guiding creation with power and love:

A: Come, and teach us to walk in the paths of wisdom

Rt: You heavens, sing for joy, and earth exult! Our Lord is coming; he will take pity on those in distress.

Lt: Come, and teach us to walk in the paths of wisdom

Rt: O Lord and Ruler, Leader of ancient Israel, you who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and gave him the Law on Sinai:

Lt: Come, and rescue us with your mighty power!

Rt: Lord Jesus, your words shall free us from hatred and discord. Your law reveals the goodness of God's heart.

Lt: Let the peoples of the earth overcome war and make them the new house of Israel that obeys your law.

Rt: Jesus our God, in you the law of Moses has been fulfilled. Your new law leads us to freedom.

Lt: Lord, you delivered the Israelites from bondage in Egypt. Come, give us the blessed New Covenant and on the path of this holy Covenant lead us into the land of promise.

Rt: Come, and rescue us with your mighty power!

Lt: O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people. Before you the powerful shall keep silence, to you all nation shall have recourse.

Rt: Come to save us without delay!

Lt: O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law:

Rt: Come to save us, Lord our God.

Lt: O King of all nations and keystone of the Church,

Rt: Come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

L: Let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ! We give you thanks for your wonderful presence among us sinful people. Give us a living faith that we recognize you when you are near us in the veiled forms of bread and wine. Give us also a great longing to see you in your great glory. But above all, let us be ready when You come again, that our joy might then be perfect. You who live and reign in the unity of the Father and the Holy Spirit, world without end.

HYMN: Maranatha

L: Dear Mother Thrice Admirable Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt, today on this covenant day, we come to you with thanksgiving and joy. With your unlimited, motherly love you have drawn our hearts to you. You shelter us in your heart and in your shrine. You always proved to be our wise, gentle and powerful Queen.

A: We dedicate our hearts to you, O Mary, in grateful fidelity.

L: You have erected a throne of grace in this sanctuary from where streams of graces may flow into the world.

A: We reverence you, O Queen, in grateful fidelity.

L: Many have experienced your love here in this shrine. You have trained them to be useful instruments of God in your hands.

A: We give ourselves to you O Mother, in grateful fidelity.

L: You have revealed to us your glories and your privileges.

A: We honor and praise you, your dignity and holiness, in grateful fidelity.

L: The founder generation of our Schoenstatt Movement dedicated themselves to you in a Holy Covenant of Love. We also entered into this Covenant and experienced your gracefulness and kindness.

A: The more we lived up to our consecration, to our Covenant of Love with you, Mother Thrice Admirable Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt, the more we were confirmed in our Covenant with God because the one who dedicates himself to you is God's own.

HYMN: My Life for Schoenstatt

Maria Apac-Smith

Ref. My life for Schoenstatt and Schoenstatt for the world. My love and loyalty are for our Schoenstatt Queen.

1. I dedicate my life as once our heroes did. Behind the shrine three crosses stand as witnesses, they had only one burning goal.

4. Given completely in the Covenant of Love, I sanctify myself for others I will strive. I have only one burning goal.

L: We renew and deepen our Covenant of Love with our Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt to draw down her blessings upon the whole movement. We kneel in spirit in the Shrine, united with all Schoenstatt children in the whole world. We call on the deceased of the founding generation of World War I, the heroes of the last great war, those who sacrificed their lives in times of persecution, and all members of the Schoenstatt family who gave their lives for the Mother Thrice Admirable and Queen of Schoenstatt. We renew our Covenant of Love with the Blessed Mother: My Queen, my Mother,

A: I give myself entirely to you, and to show my devotion to you, I consecrate to you this day; my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my entire self without reserve As I am your own my good Mother, guard me and defend me as your property and possession. Amen.

L: Seal them with the holy words that give us strength and courage in life and in death, "I love those who love me." Again, we hear your say: "prove to me by your deeds and actions that you truly love." We will therefore fill your hands with our little sacrifices with new zeal in this critical time when all foundations tremble and humankind detached itself more and more from God. With faith in Divine Providence, imbued with our mission, humbly united with your strength, we will faithfully serve your work for the benefit of our Holy Mother Church, whatever we do, be it done with you, for you, and through you, for the greater glory of the Triune God.

A: It shall be our greatest interest that your sanctuary may be for all times homestead, center, and power-station for our whole Schoenstatt Family. Attached to you and your shrine we will guard the spirit of the founding generation. Nothing may separate us from the crosses behind the Shrine. They challenge us at all times with the words. "If the seed falls into the ground and dies it will bear much fruit."

L: Fold your hands, O Mother, Omnipotent Supplicant, that the plans of God for the whole Schoenstatt Movement may be perfectly completed for the benefit of the world. Help that the movement may develop and find its completion as God has ordained it from all eternity so that it may fulfill its mission in the Church.

A: With heartfelt love we thank you, Mother dear.

L: We take a moment of silence to offer our contributions to the capital of grace.

(Silence)

L: Now we are invited to go the fire bowl.

HYMN: Yes, Mother, send us out *Maria Brantzen and Elisabeth Münz*

Ref. Yes, Mother, send us out from here. We want to go into the world, for you have loved and formed and let us all, sent by you we dare to bring your message to our age.

2. See the candle burns up brightly once the flame has caught its wick. In the dark, its light brings gladness. Set our hearts on fire! We shall spend ourselves as a light for our dark world.

4. When our courage sinks and fails us, we shall trust alone in you. You will show us the right pathway. See, we give ourselves freely now to you. Use us as your instruments.

5. Give a home to us forever in your shrine and in your heart, our Immaculata Mother! Mold and form our hearts, make us pure like you. Shine through us into the world!

6. Just as God once gave his people a bright rainbow as a sign, let us also be your witness. Send us as your sign, from your holy shrine! Lead our people heavenwards!