



CHAPTER 2: A WAY OF GREATER LOVE (BLANK CHECK)

God in his wisdom and kindness has given us the royal gift of our free will. He would like us to return this will to him of our own free choice and volition. He wishes to receive it from us completely and in all its ramifications as a gift in return. In the life of the Blessed Mother we find this attitude. She, who is most like the Savior, and who understood him most deeply, resembled him in her lived “Yes, Father”. Her whole thinking and striving is aimed at the only thing which really matters in life: the will of God. Only through a constantly repeated yes to God’s wish and will can life finally be mastered. Therein lies the deepest happiness for every human being, therein he finds the fulfillment of the meaning of his life: that he can mature to an intimate transforming union with God, to a covenant with God, and to become a blessing for others.

The Essential Elements of the Blank Check:

Same as those of the covenant of love: The attachment to the Mother Thrice Admirable and her Schoenstatt Work, to her shrine, to the founder and his work, and to the community.

Realization of the Blank Check:

The demands of the Blessed Mother - her desire to mediate the fulfillment of God’s wishes by giving us readiness, strength, and courage:

- through inner promptings, dialoguing with her and God in my heart shrine, giving my very personal answer.
- through my neighbor- how can I satisfy the legitimate wishes of God, our MTA, my family, friends, co-workers?
- through the circumstances in which I find myself – the Blank Check helps me to preserve my inner independence and original self-reliance, to unfold and fashion my personal life according to the plan God has designed for me and for my family. Everything takes on a supernatural character if I focus my Blank Check on the will of God.
- through Schoenstatt grow into a deeper MTA-availability, ready for her tasks which begins with self-education

The threefold Blessing:

- source of security, shelteredness, and peace in all situations of life
- source of unflinching courage
- source of true everyday sanctity

Questions:

- What do I wish to do to deepen my trust in the Blessed Mother?
- How do I wish to offer my total surrender to the Blessed Mother? Formulate a short prayer.
- What contribution to the capital of grace will I bring as interior preparation?
- In which way can I fulfill the obligation of the permanent apostolate (full membership dedication)?