



**FEDERACIÓN  
APOSTÓLICA  
DE FAMILIAS  
INTERNACIONAL**

# **JANUARY 2022**

**The Family Federation is a new type of a free, apostolic community of Catholic married couples who live their secular calling in the world in a spirit of magnanimity, ...**

# What is magnanimity?

It means to have a great soul (anima magna). It is a soul that has overcome mediocrity, that aspires to the heights and sets high standards for itself. It is a greatness of soul that does not revolve around itself, but seeks to serve the brethren and please God. The person who always responds to this call to magnanimity will be a light and guide for others and elevates them to the great and live what Father Kentenich proposes: "Not simply the great and greater, but the greatest heights ought to be the object of our increased efforts."

But let us not be mistaken. Greatness of soul is not, in the first place, to perform great deeds, but it is to do all things with heart, with soul. It is to do with great love the small, everyday, routine things. "Doing ordinary things extraordinarily well" - that is what magnanimity is all about. For people who really love, there are no small things. They may seem insignificant in the eyes of the world. But in the eyes of God this is true greatness

We must be very careful not to confuse magnanimity with obligation. Do not impose an obligation where it does not belong, otherwise you educate slaves, that is, men who are good by mistake, and not by choice. That is why in our dictionary there should be as little as possible the words: "you have to do!"; instead there should be: "could you do?". Where duty ends, that is where magnanimity begins. Today the focus is put on duty. We put it on magnanimity. We appeal only to will, but not to duty. Demands based on honor and duty break down. But if we have matured on the basis of generosity and high ideals, then we will remain faithful. We have to see our mission and make demands, but demands in magnanimity.

Excerpted from "Reflections"  
Father Nicolás Schwizer N°177



# In the light of our General Chapter 2022

What does the text tell me?

Looking at our Federation: What comes to my mind and what do I tell myself? What do we – as a couple – aim at and what do we wish for our Federation?

## Heavenwards Nr 569ff

<sup>569</sup>I can think of nothing more beautiful on earth  
than to give myself to our family,  
to really be its child in body and soul  
and to devote to it all my strength.  
O God, may my right hand wither,  
should I forget you, Schoenstatt.

<sup>570</sup>Others can sing their communities' praises  
and develop there in their own way,  
but for me there can be no greater happiness  
than to generously strive according to our ideals.  
O God, may my right hand wither,  
should I forget you, Schoenstatt.

<sup>571</sup>From now on I may wear the brooch.  
It shall rejoicingly tell the whole world  
that I have been and will remain accepted  
in the family for which I was born.  
O God, may my right hand wither,  
should I forget you, Schoenstatt.

