



INTERNATIONAL  
**APOSTOLIC**  
**FAMILY**  
FEDERATION

# APRIL 2022

The Family Federation is a new type of free, apostolic community of committed Catholic married couples, who through generous striving and faith in Divine Providence live their secular calling in the world. In the spirit of the Evangelical Counsels, and **in close union with the Church....**

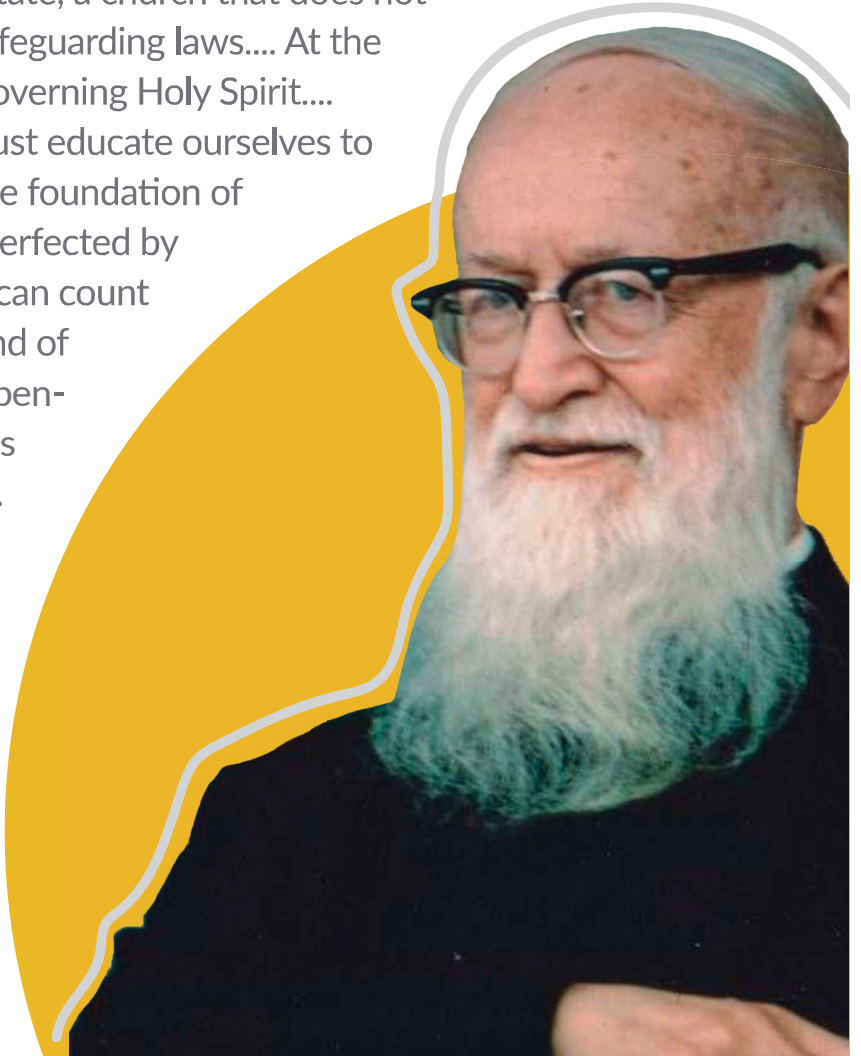
"The Church needs prophetic leaders who, without easy concessions in doctrine and life, preserve what is of essential value beyond time, and at the same time are flexible and receptive enough to creatively clothe the original spirit of Catholicism in new forms; forms that anticipate and give solidity to the Church of the future."

*Text by: Guillermo Carmona, in: "Schoenstatt, what is it?",  
Editorial Patris Argentina, Córdoba 2003*

A church guided by the Holy Spirit, the source of our trust and hope. Stability and security are not to be found in people, laws or structures, but in the power, inspiration, animation and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Such a church listens to the apostle's advice: "Do not quench the Spirit, do not despise prophetic speech, but test everything and keep what is good." (1 Thess. 5,19).

"It should be a church, become my church, that is governed through and through by the Holy Spirit, that is, a church that does not rely so much on the protection of the state, a church that does not rely so much on its own laws, safeguarding laws.... At the center of the Church is the all-governing Holy Spirit.... These are high demands. We must educate ourselves to be able to face them.... When the foundation of the three theological virtues is perfected by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, man can count on a unique security. It is this kind of security, which we have called "pendulum security," that comes to us from above and not from below. It is the security that shelters us in the heart of God, in His love."

*Father Kentenich, 1968*



On his tomb are two words that reflect his life and message:

### **Dilexit Ecclesiam - He loved the church.**

As his spiritual child, every member of the covenant is called to honor the life and message of the Father and Founder

## **In light of our General Chapter 2022**

What does the text say to me? Looking at our Family Federation:  
What comes to my mind and what do I say to myself? What do we  
aspire to - as a couple - and what do we aspire to for our Federation?

6We give you thanks for all the gifts  
which we have received in such abundance:  
for choosing Schoenstatt  
as the place of Christ's rebirth

7and the place where you radiate into the world  
the glories of our Mother,  
so that streams of love may pour forth  
to warm cold hearts.

8Use us according to your will.  
Through Schoenstatt may the wide halls  
of the holy Church be filled again  
and your praise resound to your throne.

9You may use us for your work  
and send us crosses, suffering and hardship;  
whether we meet with failure or success  
we want to proclaim your love.

