

***The family Papp from Mosonmagyaróvár,  
European Large Family of the Year 2016,  
recipient of the award of the European Large Families Confederation***

The members of the family are: parents: Dorottya and György, children: Zsombor Mátyás (21), Imola Sára (16), Magdolna Réka (14), Ágoston Lőrinc (13), Julianna Virág (10), Zsuzsanna Flóra (10), Vince Levente (8), Anna Rózsa (6), Dénes András (4), Luca Viola (3) and Katinka Lilla (1).

The family Papp has an influence on their environment often without being aware of it. When having duties and problems, the parents at class or the members of the association can only think of the populous Papp family and they leave the difficulties behind. There are families who decided to have more children only upon their influence – if Papps can live such a harmonious life with 11 children, they could also manage one more baby. Through the pure example of life style, they consciously strive to emphasize the beauties and ever-growing pleasures of having a large family and to dissolve stereotypes connected to large families. They accept all invitations (reports, articles, lectures) held to those with different views, interests and positions, so as to express the deep faith that their 11 children are divine gifts and sources of all their blessing. Having attended numerous lectures and after extensive reading in the field, the parents ‘grew up’ by creating a wonderful family life, all moments of which are consciously filled.

They have learned that a child should be unwrapped like a present. The parents consider it important that their children not only fulfil obligatory duties at school, but they should take part in academic contests, singing folk songs, folk dancing, playing musical instruments, sports, and religious instruction. Reading is a central issue in the family. They try to make children’s eyes open to the colourful wide world with the help of arts. They all have time for theatre, cinema, talks, concerts and festivals.

The children take part in household duties and works around the house and thus they learn: “We reap as we sow”. It is important for the parents that the children spend time together, that they learn to care for each other. And they are also taught that they have not only duties but also rights, and that they should take a stand even for the rights of others at school or elsewhere.