

## Heavenly Parent's Holy Community Family Federation for World Peace and Unification

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London, December 15, 2021

Dear Family,

## Proposed procedure and follow up for establishing the Cheonshimwon Special Prayer Halls in Europe

Thank you very much to everyone who joined us online and in person for the ceremonies on Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup> to (a) settle (establish) the **first branch Cheonshimwon Prayer Hall in Europe** and (b) to **bequeath the right to establish additional branches** in all other countries and communities who registered to take part. Fumiko and I felt the warm love and close presence of our Heavenly Parent and True Parents during the ceremony, and we'd particularly like to thank Pastors Franklin and Cecilie Fortune and the members of the South London community who hosted this beautiful event.

What is the meaning and purpose of the Cheonshimwon prayer hall? True Mother's intention is to bring the spiritual grace of Cheonshimwon prayer to all families, knowing that it will be difficult for most if not all of us to travel to Korea in the near future. It is important to note that Cheonshimwon prayer is essentially intended as a communal (group) experience, and that is why these branch halls are to be set up in public locations, rather than private homes.

What are the main elements comprising the Cheongshimwon prayer hall? These are (a) The Hyojeongwon (ancestor house) a smaller copy of the one on display in the original Cheongshimwon (b) Official portraits of True Parents, Hyo Jin Nim, Heung Jin Nim and Daemonim which should be printed and framed and (c) The eight (8) holy candles that are to be placed in front of the portraits and the Hyojeongwon, and which should be lit during prayer services. Please note that you may receive only one seed candle, which should be multiplied. These candles are only for use in the Cheongshimwon prayer hall, and are not intended or suitable for individual or private use. They do NOT substitute for other holy candles such as the recently-received candles of heavenly fortune.

In this letter we would like to clarify some of the next practical steps, and to offer some suggestions of how to maintain the spirit of prayerful attendance that we would all like to offer. Please permit me to use a list:

- All communities that registered and were represented during the bequeathal ceremony (whether live
  or online) have already received the authority and grace to establish their own Cheonshimwon prayer
  hall, using the holy items received from Korea. Some of you already did this during the bequeathal
  ceremony itself, and other communities are planning to set up their own prayer hall in the coming
  days, when the local members can gather.
- 2. It is recommended and highly preferable to establish all the community prayer halls within this calendar year, if at all possible. If it is not possible for any reason, including Covid-19 restrictions, then you may extend the period up until January 31<sup>st</sup> 2022, which is the final day of 2021 by the Heavenly Calendar. Bear in mind that Covid restrictions may get tighter rather than looser and try not to delay!
- 3. We encouraged all those present on Saturday to join us for the **requested 21-day devotion period** which began on the 11<sup>th</sup> and will finish with our midnight prayer on December 31<sup>st</sup>. All communities establishing a prayer hall should also make **their own 21-day condition of devotion**. This can be before your establishment date, or after it, or on either side. You decide all the details.
- 4. Even so, there are different practical situations in each nation:

- a. Ideally, the Cheonshimwon Prayer Hall is set up in a dedicated location, such as a prayer room within a church, and is not thereafter changed or taken down. This should be a place where members can visit freely (in normal times)
- b. However, in many instances the Cheonshimwon Prayer Hall has to be set up in a temporary location that also has to be used for other purposes. This is acceptable. However, it is recommended that in this case, suitable arrangements be made for storing the Hyojeongwon, candles and photographs when not in use. This could be a glass-fronted cabinet, for example (IKEA has several options for under 100 Euros) Or, you could purchase a flight case.
- c. In some cases, the Cheonshimwon prayer hall may have to be set up in a private home. In this case, the family that is "hosting" the prayer hall should make suitable times available for other members to be invited to visit and to pray.
- d. In all cases, the entire surrounding environment should be kept clear and pure.

## 5. Involving all of the community in Cheongshimwon prayer.

- a. We recommend that you set up a **regular roster of Cheonshimwon prayers**, especially during the initial 40 days after the establishment. This could be on Sundays, or AhnShi II, or on another basis. All members should be invited to participate, possibly on a rota basis.
- b. Another suggestion is **to assign one or more families to share the responsibility** or "care" of the Cheonshimwon. This could be by a group of families being assigned to pray by rotation; or in some cases they could host the Cheonshimwon prayers in their own homes. It is important that everyone share in this blessing and it not become just the responsibility of one family.

Sincerely,

Michael & Fumiko Balcomb

Regional President, Heavenly Europe & the Middle East