

FFWPU UK: Farewell Our Queen

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Farewell, Our Queen

Members of the Family Federation joined in the national period of mourning for her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II in many ways, starting with a 6:00am prayer vigil on Friday 9th September, the day after she passed. On Sunday 11th, Pastor William Haines delivered a [sermon honouring the Queen's life of faith](#) and devotion at our Lancaster Gate Headquarters.



Families in Scotland lined the route of the Queen's cortege from Balmoral to Edinburgh, and some families were able to attend the lying-in-state there. "It was a beautiful, solemn atmosphere" said Robert Williamson, from Dunfermline, "we were lucky here in Scotland that we only had to queue for one hour."

It was a different story in London where the queues built up quickly to 12 hours and longer. Still, many members decided that they would not be put off by the wait, including Keiko S., Masahiro S., Kyung Ja H., Luz A. and several others. Spurred on by this example, Fumiko and I joined the queue early Sunday morning, determined to make it and to greet the Queen one last time.



It was a long wait and a long walk indeed, more than 27000 steps in fact, but it was a beautiful sunny day as we made our way past many of the most famous landmarks in London. The queue was very good natured with people of all ages including young children and very senior citizens. Some had come from other countries far away just to be there, although our "queue neighbours" were from closer to home places like Finsbury Park and Bromley.

Finally, we crossed over Lambeth Bridge and made it into Palace Gardens where an endless "snake" of zigzag lines brought us closer and closer to Westminster Hall. Suddenly, we were through security and making our way down the same steps we had seen on TV to stand briefly at Her Majesty's coffin. We thanked the Queen for her decades of service and wished her well on the next stage of her journey into the loving arms of God, the Heavenly Parent. And we also prayed that God would permit her to continue serving the United Kingdom from Heaven - this nation has been so blessed and can give so much to the world. - Michael and Fumiko Balcomb

