

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the 6000 Couples

Michael Balcomb
October 14, 2022



Today, October 14th 2022, Fumiko and I and our "blessing classmates" from the 6000 Couple Blessing of 1982 celebrate our 40th Anniversary.

We send our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Heavenly Parent and True Parents for bringing us together and giving us God's eternal blessing. Tomorrow, we will gather together with members of the 2075 for a glorious and happy public celebration in the new city of Milton Keynes.

We can never forget that beautiful Autumn day in 1982 when we gathered at the Gymnasium. For most of us, it was our first visit to Korea. We stood for hours in long lines in the bright but rather brisk morning sunshine, and then we marched twelve abreast between True Parents. I can still feel that moment of bliss as True Mother splashed us on the cheek with the sweet-smelling holy water. In their benediction, True Parents called on God to bless us and remember us always, saying: "Please record them as husband and wife of goodness in Your eternal book of life and please allow them not to be afraid of any challenge or any persecution. Let them be the heavenly true husband and wife who possess wisdom, who march forward with only victory in mind with courage and pride."

But why did True Parents choose October 14th for the largest Blessing to that date in the first place? We all know at least part of the answer to that. There can be few more important dates in the providential calendar than October 14th, 1950, when True Father was freed from the Heungnam prison camp by advancing UN forces, with not a moment to spare. In a speech delivered on October 14, 2006, True Father said: "October 14, 1950 was a perilous day, and Heaven was compelled to create a miracle. It was on this day that I, the person with the seal of the True Parent of humankind, was to be publicly executed. There was no way that Heaven could ignore this. I declare this day, which bears such great providential significance, to be a historic day of victory. Through it, as the True Parent of humankind under the protection of God, I offer glory and respect to Heaven and blessings and love to the earth."

In short, without October 14th, 1950, God's providence would have ground to a halt. With no True Father, there could be no True Parents. With no True Parents, there could be no Blessing, no Unification Movement, no Heavenly Parent's Holy Community. None of us would have even heard about the Divine Principle and, of course, we would not be reading True Peace magazine. So, October 14th 1950 was in truth a day of resurrection for the whole world, and even for God.

What a privilege to share this day for our Blessing Anniversary!