

UPF and FFWPU UK: International Family Day and the UN Global Day of Parents

Robin Marsh  
May 31, 2025



**Universal Peace Federation - UK**  
*A Global Network of Peacebuilders*



**A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE, FAMILY AND FAITH  
MARKING THE  
UN'S INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES**



**31<sup>st</sup> May  
of 2025**

**2 - 5pm**

**43 Lancaster Gate  
London W2 3NA**

There will be lunch available from 1 pm  
The programme will start at 2 pm



Scan the QR code to register online

**Featuring**

- Introduction to UPF's Principles of Peace
- Interfaith Family Blessing
- Expert talks on family values

**Contact:**

Margaret Ali Director UPF-UK 07723024750	Robin Marsh SG UPF-UK 079562107680
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 [pa@uk.upf.org](mailto:pa@uk.upf.org)

The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) UK, in collaboration with Family Federation for World Peace and Unification - North of the Thames Community, hosted a special celebration for International Family Day and the UN Global Day of Parents on Saturday, 31st May, at 43 Lancaster Gate, London. This heartwarming event brought together families from diverse backgrounds to honor the vital role of parents and families in building peaceful communities.



The programme began with an insightful presentation by Rev. Dr. David Hanna, who explored the concept of marriage across different cultures and the universal principles upheld by UPF. His reflections highlighted how loving, stable families serve as the cornerstone of peaceful communities, strong nations, and a harmonious world.





A highlight of the event was the interfaith peace blessing ceremony, where couples rededicated their marriage vows and invited God to be at the heart of their family life. This moving ceremony was led by Pastor William Haines and officiated by Dr. David and Patricia Earle, with celebratory songs performed by Mrs. Betty Rodrigues.



The event featured practical wisdom from family life experts including Mr. Stephen Stacey and Dr. Wali Islam, who shared valuable insights on strengthening family relationships. A humorous video by Mark Grungor provided lighthearted perspective on marital dynamics.





One of the most touching moments was the presentation of Exemplary Family Awards to six outstanding families, including the Ildova, Kapelas, and Samushongo families. Each shared personal insights into the values that sustain their family bonds, with contributions from multiple generations.



The event concluded with the appointment of Ms. Shahd Karaeen as an Ambassador for Peace, recognizing her commitment to peacebuilding. Musical performances by Mrs. Betty Rodrigues and Mrs. Julie Dyer added joy to the celebration, which was livestreamed on YouTube for wider participation.





The celebration served as a powerful reminder that by nurturing love and unity at home, we contribute to a more harmonious world. As UPF emphasizes, the family is the school of love and the foundation for peace at all levels of society.







### Event Resources:

Youtube Livestreamed Recording: [youtube.com/live/2TorWVInMho](https://youtube.com/live/2TorWVInMho)

Photos: [Shared on UniversalPeaceFederation UK Facebook page](#)

Margaret Keverian-Ali: Director of Universal Peace Federation UK Mobile - 07723024750

Robin Marsh Secretary General - Universal Peace Federation UK

[www.uk.upf.org](http://www.uk.upf.org) @ ukUPF This email address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it.

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