Reflections on the meaning of the newly founded "Heavenly Parent's Holy Community"

On May 19, 2020, there was a **Sunday Service for the Central European Region** with Regional Director Dr. Dieter Schmidt's sermon. Before his sermon, 2nd gen members of different countries of the region, as well as a Czech Protestant pastor reflected on the meaning of the newly founded "Heavenly Parent's Holy Community". Read here some of their conclusions:



<u>Jaqueline Nanys</u>, Hungary

I'm really greatful to be a part of this historical moment when we can call ourselves "Heavenly Parent's Holy Community. For me, this means two things: First, that we have Heavenly Parent, who is here for us and cares for us every single day, and second, that we have a community, an open community,

where we welcome anyone who wants to join, and we just love them and support them, no matter where they come from. I believe that these two things are really special to us. I'm really proud to be a part of this community, so I hope that in the future, with this name, we can truly succeed and have more and more people join us and get to know Heavenly Parent and True Parents!



Kwonnam <u>Czyszczoń</u>, Poland

We are very lucky to live in such a precious time where we can have the Heavenly Parent's Holy community. It means we can see Heavenly Parent everywhere, he is working in our lives, and he can truly be present in our lives, and not only as a father, but God as our mother as well. This is a beautiful perspective. It means that everything that we do we can do with our parent, Heavenly Parent. In the Heavenly Parent's community we can create an environment where we can see God in everyone, we can experience him through you, through me, through anybody!



Rev. Mikuláš Vymětal, Th.Dr., Czech Republic :

People cannot possess the truth. The truth is in God, and we can only follow the truth. Therfore we need to cross our comfort zone and meet with other people in order to know how to perceive the truth. That's why the Interreligious dialogue is very important. It can create friendship beween the different religions like Christianity and Judaism, Christianity

and Islam. By doing that, the religious people can show an example of reconciliation to society. I wish you God's abundant Blessings!

David Wurzer, Austria



The first time I heard the name "Heavenly Parent's Holy Community", I was surprised, because I didn't expect our name to be changed. But when I reflected I realized that True Mother is thinking differently, she is very smart and wise in what she is doing. By changing our name she redirects our focus. Because so many time we are focusing on ourselves. We think everything is happening around us. But with this mindset we cannot create a Heavenly Parent's Holy Commnity, a world of peace. Also, the idea of the HPHC is not new. Jesus said "Repent, because the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!" What is important now is that we redirect our focus and put God in the center. Then, with God together, we can create HPHC, where we can embrace each other and live together in a world of peace. So, I am very happy and very excited for the next years, and I really want to create a HPHC with all of you together!



Rebeca Kosmrlj, from Slovenia:

What does Heavenly Parent's Holy Community mean to me?

The name at first glance for me didn't seem anything special, but when I thought about it some more, I realized that actually each word in it is there for a purpose and represents a certain aspect of the organization itself.

With the word 'Heavenly Parent', meaning our creator, the omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient God, the whole concept of God becomes less foreign and distant. If I view Him as a Heavenly Parent, I feel like Him becoming more loving, He seems more compassionate and I can relate to Him better. Since we as children all originate from our parents, and as we represent the present, our children will be the future, the concept of a Heavenly Parent just shows another aspect of God which is His constant presence and Him being the past, present and the future. The interrelatedness of us being His children but also putting ourselves in His position when we become parents of our own children and raise them to be filial sons and daughters, enables us to become one with Heavenly Parent.

The word 'Holy' sets the standard and hints at the purpose of this whole community. There might be different organizations out there with thousands of different ideas and values, but by being a HOLY community – 'holy' meaning in a sense of dedicated to God –, we clearly devote our efforts to God, our Heavenly Parent and I feel that by that we show Him that we are here for Him and even if everyone else abandons Him, we as his Holy community will still strive to achieve His ideal.

Last but not least, the word 'community'. Over the course of our lives, we are always part of different communities, whether it be in our hometown where we

grew up, or in school, or later in different associations, interacting with different people. With a community being a group of people with shared attitudes and interests, I find hardly any other community that would embrace and connect so many different people, nations, and cultures as this one. I feel that by being a part of Heavenly Parent's Holy Community has given me the ability to embrace differences because I grew up with a mindset of looking from Gods perspective in which, if I quote: "there is no such thing as America, Korea, Africa or Europe. **God knows one heart, one love, one family of children and one world."**

Being a part of this gives me a sense of pride and shapes my everyday life because I am living every day by the values and beliefs I share with Heavenly Parent's Holy Community, for example: valuing each person's life and striving to see each human being as God's son or daughter. It also means, I have a community that supports me, I feel welcomed and accepted at and I don't have to spend a lifetime searching for my purpose.

Let me finish with a quote from True Father's Autobiography which says: "Religion is only a means to bring about God's perfect world; it is not an end in itself."

Thank you!