

## FFWPU UK: Let's Celebrate True Parents' Birthday Together!

Michael Balcomb  
January 20, 2023



**National and Local Pledge Services: Friday 27th January at or before 6am GMT**  
**Regional Birthday Celebrations: Sunday 29th January at 10am GMT**

Regional Celebration – Watch LIVE from London!



**UPDATE – 25/1:** You can download the official event banner in various formats by clicking on the links below:

[True Parents' Birthday Banner \(JPEG\)Download](#)

[True Parents' Birthday Banner – All Sizes \(PDF\)Download](#)

[True Parents' Birthday Banner – 2x A4 \(PDF\)Download](#)

**\*Updated Announcement on Celebrating True Parents' Holy Birthday 2023\***

Hello from London!

We are all looking forward to the celebration of True Parents' Birthday next week and Fumiko and I would like to update you on our plans in the Europe and Middle East Region.

**1) National and Local Pledge Services on January 27th [NEW]**

In honour of the actual day of True Parents' Holy Birth (January 6th by the Heavenly Calendar) we are encouraging all families and communities to hold a Pledge Service at or before 06am GMT on Friday, January 27th. This can be in-person, but it is absolutely OK for it to be held online by Zoom. The format is simple and short --

- Bow of Greeting to True Parents
- Cheon Il Guk National Anthem (optional)
- Recitation of the Family Pledge (all verses) in Korean and/or the local language
- Representative Prayer
- Cheer of Og Mansei

**2) Regional Birthday Celebrations on January 29th [UNCHANGED]**

This is a "multi-campus" celebration for the whole region. Each nation and community, or even small groups of families are encouraged to gather together for a festive celebration. These should be accessible to all, including first-time visitors. Holy Tables are encouraged, and everyone should dress smart. The local community is responsible for the opening worship portion of the service, and providing food and entertainment afterwards as desired.

**The start time is 10am UK time.** At about 10:25am GMT, we will stream a short Birthday Greeting from the Regional President which should be watched by all participants. Other ceremonial aspects of the service will be kept to a minimum. The whole service will be livestreamed from London for those who can't gather.

Each family, community and nation is respectfully reminded of the request to prepare **special donations of gratitude** for this day. These can be collected locally and there should also be an opportunity to make an in-person donation on the day.

Thank you everyone, and Happy New Year on Sunday January 22 (1:1:11 by the Heavenly Calendar)

Sincerely,

Michael and Fumiko Balcomb

*Regional Group President, Heavenly Europe and the Middle East*

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Dear Family,

Happy New Year! Fumiko and I would like to invite you all to join us in the EUME Regional celebration of True Parents' Birthday, **Sunday January 29th 2023 at 1100 CET** (1000 GMT) Let us honour and celebrate our True Mother on her 80th birthday and our True Father on what would have been his 103rd birthday. This will be an outreach-focused public programme, and all are very welcome.

Our plan is to have a "multi-campus" event with in-person gatherings in all our major communities. The overall host city will be London, England, and we thank Adza and Nittaya Mould and all the River South community for their hospitality. Each EUME community will host their own events on the day, during which the key components of the celebration (the Pledge Service and the Holy Day sermon) will be streamed live from London. The streaming portion will be less than 30 minutes in total. Each community will provide other elements including music, worship, entertainment, and a celebration lunch. The entire service from London will be streamed so that those who cannot gather will still be able to join from home.

In preparation, please note the following points:

1. **Dates:** This is the joint *regional* celebration of True Parents' Birthday and Foundation Day as requested by IHQ. True Parents' birthday this year falls on January 27th (January 6th lunar) and Foundation Day falls on February 3rd (January 13th lunar) but we have the freedom to select the most appropriate day, **January 29th** for our joint celebration. There will also be an *international* celebration of these two holy days later in May at the time of the opening and dedication of the Cheonwongung in Korea.

2. **Holy Day Donations:** As in previous years, all members, families, and friends are invited and encouraged to offer Holy Day donations. The suggested international guidelines remain at US \$210 / €200 / £180 for families and \$120 / €115/ £105 for individuals. Of course, any and all donations are welcome, and you may follow your own local /national guidelines.

3. **Holy Day Offering Tables:** All communities are encouraged to prepare a Holy Day Offering table which may include offerings of fruits (including persimmons, jujubes (red dates), chestnuts and pears) and other candies and cookies. Larger offering tables may also include meals for True Parents. All of the holy table can be shared with the congregation following the service. Families joining from home are also encouraged to prepare a simple holy table. Please take some nice photographs!

4. **Greeting Cards and Gifts:** All members and communities are welcome and encouraged to send a birthday card to True Parents if they wish. To arrive on time for the birthday, cards would need to be mailed by Friday, January 13th from Europe. But it is also appropriate to have members sign a card during the celebrations on the 29th, and send that card together with a group photo and any local gift the following day. The address to use is: Suh Hyun-ook, Cheon Jeong Gung, 324-275 Misari-ro, Seorak-myeon, Gapyeong-gun, Gyeonggi-do, 12461 Republic of Korea.

Thank you and look forward to seeing you on the 29th!

Sincerely,

Michael and Fumiko Balcomb

*Regional President, FFWPU Heavenly Europe and the Middle East*