



UNIFICATION CHURCH USA
HOLY SPIRIT ASSOCIATION FOR THE UNIFICATION OF WORLD CHRISTIANITY

National Celebration of True Parents' Cosmic Blessing

Michael Balcomb and Phillip Schanker
January 24, 2013

Memo: BFM 2013-01-24

THE NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF TRUE PARENTS' COSMIC BLESSING- FEBRUARY 16, 2013

Dear District and Local Pastors, Community Leaders, Blessed Families and Blessing Participants,

We are excited to announce the National Ceremony of the Cosmic Blessing of our True Parents on Saturday, February 16, 2013, simultaneous with the February 17 ceremony in Korea. We will welcome and celebrate couples and their families at "The Grove," a premier banquet facility in Cedar Grove, New Jersey, just 30 minutes from New York City.

We will offer an uplifting Blessing experience for matched 1st and 2nd Generation couples being Blessed for the first time, as well as previously-married couples and Ambassador for Peace and clergy couples. There will be a sumptuous celebration dinner, entertainment, official couple photos, and a celebration with dancing following the Blessing ceremony.

The Grove has ample free valet parking, well-equipped dressing rooms and many other amenities. All couples who have paid their Blessing fees will receive complimentary guest tickets for the banquet. Our New Jersey and New York churches are working together with National HQ to make this celebration meaningful and memorable for participating couples, their families and their friends.

Couples are welcome from throughout the nation, but participants should register now to let us know you plan to attend. This simple registration is separate from the application for the Blessing, and can be completed through the "Cosmic Blessing" page of the Foundation Day website at foundationday.unification.org or independently online at http://fs6.formsite.com/hsauwc/feb16_usa_cosmicblessing/index.html. Couples can also reserve banquet tickets for themselves and their guests. The deadline for registration is Friday, February 8.

Who Can Participate in the USA National Ceremony

1. Matched 1st or 2nd Generation couples who have completed their application and requirements.
2. Previously-married couples (including those with one partner in the Spirit World).
3. Ambassadors for Peace or clergy couples renewing their commitment through the Blessing

Main USA National Ceremony- "The Grove," Cedar Grove, NJ

The Blessing ceremony itself will take place on Saturday, February 16th around 9:00 PM NY time, simultaneously with the ceremony in Korea.

A. Location: The Grove, 691 Pompton Ave., Cedar Grove NJ 07009 <http://www.thegrovenj.com/>

B. Schedule

3:00 PM - Education: Meaning of the Blessing; required for 1st Generation couples, open to all

4:30 PM - Holy Wine Ceremony for First Generation Couples

5:00 PM - Celebration Dinner for Blessing participants and their guests

7:00 PM - Entertainment, Participants dress and prepare for the Blessing

8:00 PM - Couples Rehearsal

9:00 PM - Cosmic Blessing Ceremony

Following the Ceremony: Cake-cutting, photos, celebration, dancing and more.

Celebration Dinner

The celebration dinner is complimentary for couples who have paid their full Blessing fee. Each matched couple will receive up to eight additional complimentary dinner tickets for your guests, but please do not take more than you need or give them away to others. You must provide the name of each person

receiving a guest ticket when you register. Ticket orders can be amended or added to up until the registration deadline on February 8. Married couples who paid their Blessing fees will receive two additional guest tickets. All associated and guest couples are welcome to join the dinner.

Additional tickets can be purchased at the registration site for your guests, or by anyone who wishes to attend at a cost of \$35 each, but should be reserved before the February 8 deadline. Additional tickets can be ordered later, as long as they are available, at \$50 each. Guests are welcome to join the Blessing ceremony itself and celebration afterward at no cost.

Registration

All couples participating in the National Blessing ceremony should register immediately. To register, visit the "Cosmic Blessing" page of the Foundation Day website at foundationday.unification.org or register independently online at http://fs6.formsite.com/hsauwc/feb16_usa_cosmicblessing/index.html. Enter your couple's name and necessary information regarding dinner tickets. The deadline for registration is Friday, February 8.

Accommodations

For those needing overnight accommodations, you will find hotel recommendations near The Grove at the registration site, or you may wish to stay with friends in the area.

Things to Prepare for Blessing Participants

1. Blessing Attire

-- Grooms: Black or dark-colored suit, white dress shirt, red necktie

-- Brides: Wedding dress, white shoes

2. Ceremonial Items

White gloves, artificial bouquets and veils will be provided at the ceremony, but couples may prepare their own fresh bouquets. Fresh boutonnieres will be provided for grooms.

3. Wedding Rings

Each participant should prepare a Blessing ring. These may be ordered through the Japanese bookstore in New York by February 1. (Phone: 212-302-6216) For those unable to prepare official Blessing rings in time, be sure to bring a representative ring to exchange during the ceremony.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact your District Headquarters' office or contact us at BFAdmin@unification.org. You can also reach the National Blessed Family Ministry office from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM EST at (212) 997-0055.

We offer our congratulations to Blessing participants, and best wishes to all our members and Blessed Central Families.



Dr. Michael Balcomb
Executive Vice President



Rev. Phillip Schanker
Blessed Family Ministry