

FFWPU UK's Seonghwa Ministry is now a part of the Blessed Family Department

Françoise Murphy
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The Seonghwa Ministry's brothers and sisters met in Lancaster Gate on the afternoon of Sunday 10th November. After an initial prayer and reading of True Father's words, Françoise welcomed everyone and gave an update on the ministry. A decisive move in the development of the Seonghwa Ministry (Shwa M) was its acceptance as part of the Blessed Family Department (BFD). Jeff Bateman, director of the BFD, was present at the meeting and acknowledged that the Shwa M was filling a much-needed gap. The BFD needs to include the care of our Blessed Families at all stages of life, from birth to the Blessing and to passing to the spirit world. Being a part of the BFD will also facilitate our financial situation, as now donations to the Shwa M can be made to the BFD and will be earmarked to our ministry.

Françoise then pointed out about the [Seonghwa Ministry page on the FFWPU-UK website](#), where a lot of useful information can be found about the Seonghwa tradition, the Holy Oak Memorial Woodland (Holy Oak MW), various charities dealing with bereavement, as well as some information about members who passed away. Unfortunately, not all of the UK members who passed away are mentioned on the website, and we wish very much for everyone to be acknowledged. We would like to eventually make a list of all of them, with a photo and a short bio, and we would welcome everyone's help to compile this list. Brothers and sisters also expressed their hope for loved ones who are not buried at Holy Oak MW to be recognised there. Keiko de Giles suggested that those families have a bench with a memory plaque. We would also like to have a framed list of all the members who passed away in the UK, which would be hung in the office of the Holy Oak MW.

We then reflected on the [very successful memorial service](#) that we held in the summer. The collaboration between Keiko de Giles and the West Country members with the Shwa M worked out very well. Apart from some hiccups in the delivery of the service, the whole event was much appreciated by everyone. Brothers and sisters especially loved the part in the service when members were offered the opportunity to freely express their feelings and experiences.

The rest of our meeting was spent going around and sharing about each other's situation. Some brothers spoke about how much they miss their wife and the feminine touch that they could not replicate, and how it had affected their children, as well as the upkeep of their home; one brother said that he would not dare to invite anyone to his house as it is such a mess. A few sisters said that they missed their husband and struggled to guide their sons. We all recognised how much a man and a woman are needed in taking care of a family. Since the passing of our loved ones, we have had to juggle so many responsibilities: job, housekeeping and caring for our children. We have had to take on the role of father and mother at the same time.

We concluded our meeting and planned to meet again between Christmas and the New Year in our various local areas, in each other's homes in North and South London or anywhere else. Christmas and New Year are always a difficult time for us all.