



In Celebration of the Life of
Raymond Joseph Mas

March 10, 1952 – February 11, 2017



Seonghwa Ceremony
“A True Life of Mission”

11:00 AM, February 18, 2017
NEW HOPE FAMILY CHURCH
4801 Tesla Drive, Suite M, Bowie, MD 20715





Seonghwa Ceremony

OFFICIATOR:	Doug Burton
HYMN:	"Grace of the Holy Garden" <i>Led by Dan Fefferman & Otmar Weinmann</i>
INVOCATION:	Rev. Ernest Patton
READING:	Reading by Kristi Mas
BIOGRAPHY:	Reading by Victar Mas
TESTIMONIES	
SEONGHWA ADDRESS:	Rev. Michael Jenkins
WORD OF THANKS & FLOWER OFFERING FROM THE FAMILY	
HYMN:	"He Has Called Me" <i>Led by Dan Fefferman & Otmar Weinmann</i>
BENEDICTION & OG MANSEI:	Jim Boothby
FLOWER OFFERING BY ALL	
LUNCH RECEPTION	

Grace of the Holy Garden

Grace filling me with golden light, measureless blessing divine;

God gives eternal life to me, perfect rejoicing is mine.

Chorus:

Glorious the song ringing in my heart for my Father above;

Gratefully I give offering to Him, triumph and glorious love.

Joy surging like an ocean wave, flowing so deep in my soul;

Hope rises as I go in praise, knowing that man will be whole

High, limitless eternal life, touching the top of the sky;

Praise filling every part of me blessing that never will die.

You've chosen me to do Your will, thankful, I vow to be true;

I'm pledging in my heart of hearts; Father, my life is for You.



He Has Called Me

The Lord has called and I will go, where He
leads me I will follow;

The same in sorrow as in joy; with one heart I
follow my Lord.

For none on earth can turn me back, not even
death can stop me,

No none on earth can turn me back, not even
death can stop me.

To barren valleys piled with bones, I will take
the living message;

To Sodom's foul and wretched streets, I will
bear the word with love.

I bind my heart, my life to Yours, that it may be
an offering,

I bind my heart, my life to Yours, that it may be
an offering.

To You belongs our full acclaim, all glory power
and honor,

The world's contempt I do not fear, I will gladly
bear the cross.

Without esteem, without renown, I only wish to
follow,

Without esteem, without renown, I only wish to
follow.





Our National Messiah Mission to Turkey

BY RAYMOND & IRMA MAS

My wife and I are deeply grateful to God and True Parents for the privilege of representing them to the people of Turkey, whom we have grown to love deeply.

As representatives of Christianity to this Muslim nation, the course of overcoming historical resentment of both Muslims and Christians has been painful and difficult. In my case I have an ancestor who fought against Turkey's Ottoman Empire in an important naval battle. The King of Spain decorated him for bravery.

Saint Paul preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ in what was then the Roman province of Asia, now present-day Turkey. The land is drenched with the blood and tears of many martyrs. I made a pilgrimage to the seven churches mentioned in Revelations, all located in Turkey. Paul, who was born in present day Turkey, preached to many of the early Christian communities. I visited churches secreted away in caves, escaping Roman persecution, and stadiums where they were martyred. I could not help shedding tears for these brave souls, and wonder to this day if I could endure what they did.

And yet, today Turkey has few Christians (close to 99 percent are Muslim). Every morning on my way to teach English, I would pass the great domed cathedral of Haghia Sophia, which was for centuries the largest Christian



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church (until St. Peter's in Rome was built). I could not help feeling the deep historical pain of the Christians who "lost" Hagia Sophia to the Muslim invaders. To this day, they refuse to use the Turkish name for the city, preferring to call it Constantine's city—Constantinople.

The Christians of this great cathedral prayed for deliverance from the Turkish invaders, but they were all slaughtered in the very pews in which they prayed.

As National Messiah's we have been chosen to bear this historical resentment, and not be overcome by it. If we cannot do this, we condemn those who dwell in the hell of historical bitterness and hatred with no hope of liberation.

Divine Principle teaches us that Islam came about to correct the mistakes of Christianity, such as the deification of Jesus. But the Church refused to reform, and Heavenly Father allowed them to be struck by the Muslims.

Only through the Principle can we understand this. My Turkish students were shocked to learn that we teach that Jesus was a man, and not God. The Principle explanation of the "Trinity," and the "Four Position Foundation" showing that God is one, resonates easily with Muslims.





Our National Messiah Mission to Turkey

But the long and often painful history of Turkey is reflected in that of our movement. As the focal point of the struggle between Islam and Christianity, East and West, Turkey has proved a challenge to our work. We must repent to God, True Parents, and Heavenly Parents that we have had our share of failures and unfulfilled promises.

Our family stood on the frontline of the Turkish Providence for four years (with many visits afterwards), and maintain our deep heartistic connection until today. We are proud of our dear members who have faced unbelievable odds and crushing providential burdens, at the risk of their lives, and yet keeping their faith in God and True Parents. They are the saints of the new Turkey.

Despite our failures and inadequacies, Turkey was blessed with the visit of True Parents in May 2011. We feel so deeply grateful and unworthy that Turkey has the eternal benefit of this grace. May this incredible grace multiply down to the nation's future generations. May the Turkish soil where True Parents trod be God's eternal foothold.





A True Life of Mission

Ray joined the Movement in 1971 in Washington, D.C., and was called to mission in Bolivia, as the country's first American missionary, and served throughout Central Africa, and Uruguay. Ray and Irma are a 2075 Blessed Couple and National Messiahs to Turkey, where they lived and championed True Parents for many years. Ray was devoted to the cause of religious freedom, working for the International Coalition for Religious Freedom, Middle East Peace Initiative, and the Ambassadors for Peace initiative. He was also an avid reader and a great lover of music and singing.



The family of Ray and Irma Mas wishes to thank all our friends and community members for your support and loving prayers and for helping prepare a beautiful and sincere Seonghwa Ceremony for our precious Father, Husband, Brother and Friend.







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Seonghwa Ceremony of
Raymond Joseph Mas

New Hope Family Church

Saturday, February 18, 2017



