



40th Anniversary Celebration 118 Couples Blessing, London 21st May 1978

France, May 20, 2018

By Jenny Lambert

Ten couples from the Ile de France, gathered together to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the 118 Couples Blessing, that took place in London, 21st May 1979.

We appreciated the greetings very much we received from Dr. and Mrs. Balcombe, our European leader and those of Jean-François and Hisako Moulinet, our French National leaders.

We were very blessed with the sunny spring weather as we had prepared several activities for this special day: a relaxing boat ride on the Loing Canal in the morning, taking us to the historic town of Nemours, followed by a celebration buffet, prepared by all the families, at our center in Chamarande, where we could also enjoy the lovely gardens and surrounding countryside.

After lunch we watched the video of our Blessing, which has taken on a special quality with time, full of Heavenly Grace, with the very moving congratulatory address from Mrs. Won

Pok Choi, to all the newly blessed couple

Seeing ourselves as young couples reminded us, despite the challenges that we have faced in our individual

families, of the heavenly grace and blessing that we have received over the past 40 years, and the great privilege of having participated in the most amazing providential events together



with our True Parents. We have certainly lived extraordinary and exciting lives! To mark the occasion, Patrice Huard took a beautiful photograph of each couple as a souvenir.

We all felt that the most important aspect of the day was to have the time to share our experience of 40 years of Blessed Family life and to renew our connection as a specific Blessing group. Several participants are now alone as their spouses have departed to the spiritual realm, and we should consider how we can continue to care and have consideration for each other, what our role is as elders of the community is, as some members are

now physically incapacitated, and how to bring harmony between the generations and transmit our internal foundation to our second and third generations.

Connected to this was the subject of writing our biography, which is a mission given to us by our True Father, and also a means of transmitting and testifying to God's grace, love and guidance throughout our lives for the future.

We are all keenly aware that we must keep up to date with the providence and are without question finding the way that God is calling each family to participate at this moment in time.

We ended our gathering with a feeling of gratitude towards God and our True Parents, as well as a deeper understanding of each other's dedication and lives through the 40 years.

We want to build on this and hope to maintain a regular contact with each other to consolidate our identity as a Blessing group through our 118 couples WhatsApp group!

We send our Love and gratitude to our True Parents on this occasion as well as our love and best wishes to our brothers and sisters and their families, of the 118 Couples Blessing throughout the world as we go into our 41st year!

