

ONLINE MATCHING SYSTEM



October 2014 to January 2015 Newsletter

Dear Friends,



The blessing ceremony is upon us once again but the work in OMS continues. For those of you who have yet to find your heavenly spouse I would say this.

- Don't give up, remain positive.
- Keep God in your mind and heart at all times.

OMS is here for you. The more you spread the news of OMS to all single adult Unificationists around the world, the larger our candidate pool will become. I am reminded of the saying: when the student is ready, the teacher appears. I believe when individuals are ready, they will use OMS—once they know about it.

You are my best advertising. I am committed to do my best for you, so if there is something OMS can do better for you, please let me know. Also tell me about features that OMS may not yet have but that you would find useful. I take to heart suggestions people make. *Together* we will make OMS better. My sole interest is to give you the very best tool available, keep everything Principle centered, and yet, accessible to all who seek the marriage blessing.

QUESTIONS AND TOPICS FROM THE LAST FOUR MONTHS

As you might imagine, I get questions about OMS, Matching, and Blessing every day. I either answer them myself or find the best answer possible through our national BFM staff. I think it is important to make samples of both the questions and answers available to you through this newsletter.

WHY DO WE ASK YOU TO PROVIDE YOUR BLOOD TYPE AND RH FACTOR?

Sometimes a candidate wonders why it is important that we know their blood type and especially their blood Rhesus (Rh) Factor. The article below will explain why:

From: [KidsHealth](#) *About the Rh Factor*

Each of the four blood types is additionally classified according to the presence of another protein on the surface of RBCs that indicates the Rh factor. If you carry this protein, you are Rh positive. If you don't carry the protein, you are Rh negative....Read more [here](#)

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From: <http://www.mayoclinic.org> Rh factor blood test

The Rh factor test is done during pregnancy to identify a woman's Rh factor. In some cases, the baby's father might need an Rh factor test, too....Read more [here](#)

BE PROUD TO BE A FIRST GENERATION (1ST GEN)

Not too long ago, a young First Generation asked a matching advisor to approach a Blessed Child's parents as both young adults really liked each other and wanted to know if their parents would approve. There was a problem with this request that made the matching advisor contact headquarters. The young First Generation had not been upfront about their status as a First Generation; the other party simply assumed that the person in whom they were interested was a Blessed Child.

First Generation young people have not always felt comfortable or welcomed in an ever-growing Blessed Child community. They want to belong and do not like the negative stigma that some communities have attached to being a First Generation.

It is sad if a young First Generation feels that he or she has to hide their true identity just to "belong". First Generation individuals, and especially young people, should be proud of who they are. They voluntarily chose to become Unificationists. They have made the effort to study the Divine Principle and change their faith, becoming a member of a still very much expanding, but not always welcomed, movement. They should be looked upon as extremely precious individuals who deserve respect and care. Let's think this through: without First Generation there would not be Blessed Children!



We all have the right to be proud of who we are, whether First Generation or Blessed Children. Let's develop the humility to welcome and support each other—no matter our status—in our effort to grow and to become the best individuals we can be, so that God can truly be proud of each and every one of us.

WITNESSING TO OUR OWN SPOUSE

Recently a question was asked about the process of Matching and Blessing when a Unificationist witnesses to the person who becomes their spouse. The

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answer below was given by Marjorie Buessing, our interim chief while Crescentia DeGoede is on maternity leave.

Points of note:

1. The individual needs to complete the online Blessing Application.
2. The non-member does not have to have studied the Divine Principle for a year, but does need to have a clear understanding of the Divine Principle, the meaning of the Blessing, and the change of blood lineage. (No particular time period is required.)
3. The individual does need to be sexually pure for a year before the Blessing. This could include the time before they met.
4. The couple should have known each other at least seven (7) months before the Matching and Blessing.
5. The sincere desire to fulfill the blessing offering.

After the matching applications of both the Unificationist and the non-member have been completed, this match needs to be reviewed by the USA Matching Committee as soon as possible.

ADVISORS — PLEASE REMEMBER THIS



The story below is common and very unfortunate. I am relating it because it is important that it not be repeated when using OMS. It illustrates how all of us must be very considerate of others, always. To avoid unnecessary disappointment, I am sharing this with our candidates.

As a parent, we search for a potential spouse for our adult child on available sites. We pray about the individuals on this list and then we painstakingly decide to select a few we believe could really be the “one” for our child. At this point we might share about this with our spouse.

And then, *both* spouses will pray. We finally start placing phone calls or perhaps emailing the parents of these young people with the great hope that one response will be positive. Too many times we discover that none of the choices we made are available because candidates are either already spoken for or simply not interested in the matching process at this time.

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The problem is: their profiles remained on the websites with no indication that their status changed.

Help me so that this sad situation is not repeated by those who use OMS.

Please be considerate to the rest of the candidates and matching advisors:

If your candidate and you, their matching advisor, are considering someone based on a verbal agreement, let me know immediately so that I can temporarily turn the profile OFF on OMS—until a final decision is made. It is only fair.

If the request to consider is made through OMS the system will automatically make the profiles of both candidates temporarily unavailable until a decision has been made.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOUR MATCHING APPLICATION AND OMS

Please do not confuse the matching and Blessing applications completed on the BFM (Blessing and Family Ministry) website with one's OMS (Online Matching System) profile.

Though OMS works in conjunction with the BFM, we are a separate and private entity. OMS was created to help the matching of our Unificationist members by allowing them and their support team to search for a spouse from a pool of qualified candidates. That is all OMS does. OMS does *not* qualify anyone as a blessing candidate. For example, you will not upload on OMS certain private information as you would on the BFM site.

The BFM site is for you to prove to God and the world that you are indeed a candidate for a future Blessing. Once you are a qualified candidate through the BFM, OMS facilitates your ability to find your heavenly spouse.

As soon as you have completed your BFM application – Part I and it has been reviewed, your profile can then be activated on OMS. That is why—along with doing your BFM application—it is wise to also continue to review and edit the content of your profile on OMS, especially taking time on the essay questions. Once you are a BFM approved candidate, your profile on OMS is ready to go.

That is all for today. With gratitude always
for all of you,

Sincerely,


Anne-Marie



My dog and cat, 1 day after they met for the first time.