



Morning Calm

NEWSHEET OF THE KOREAN MISSION

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NEW SERIES NO. 6

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KOREAN CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

ANOTHER CENTENARY

As you probably know, St. Saviour's Church, Swindon, has always supported the Church in Korea. My husband and I throughout the years have had several Bishops and Priests to stay with us while visiting St. Saviour's.

We, too, like the Church in Korea, have been celebrating our Centenary. The final event was a Mass concelebrated by the Bishop of Malmesbury on the feast of Christ the King (November 25th).

One of the events during our Centenary year was a Flower Festival. One of the displays showed the 100 years link between our Parish and Korea, with a suitable card of explanation. Our last Korean Priest visitor was Fr. Valentine Han from St. Christopher, Pusan.

Eileen Beard
Secretary to St. Saviour's District Council,
Swindon.

AFTER THE CENTENARY

I gave my second talk to children in our Primary School here this p.m. on KOREA. Just think, when I asked them to give me the name of the Archbishop of Canterbury, there were two hands raised - "Mr Roberts" NO! "Dr Rumbold" NO! Then I asked them to give me the name of the FIRST BISHOP IN KOREA and about 25 hands out of some 45 went up - 'Yes': "John Corfe" Marvellous!

"HE BEING DEAD - YET SPEAKETH"

S.J.D.



ENCLOSED SPECIAL ISSUE TO COMMEMORATE KOREAN 'CENTENNIAL'

ORDINATIONS

Seoul

On the 31st May in his Cathedral, Bishop Simon ordained Moses Chu to the Priesthood and ordained to the Diaconate, Jeremiah Yang, John Chang and Paul Chu.

Taejon

On the 6th June in Chungju Church, Bishop Paul ordained Deacon Cyprian O.

Pusan

On July 17th in St. Peter's Church, Pusan, John Lee was ordained Deacon by Bishop Bundo.

MOVEMENTS

The Missionary Sisters of Saint Francis are back in Taejon City helping the new Church in Songchongdong.

Seoul

Father Moses Chu has moved from the Publications Board to be Assistant at Songnam.

Father Columba Lee is now at Ch'onhodong, having moved from the Catechetical Centre.

Two of the new Deacons have also moved: Jeremiah Yang is now Assistant at Puch'on and Paul Chu, Assistant at St. Augustine's, Sinchon.

Taejon

Fr. Theodore Lee has moved from Kwangju to Paesokpo and Father Boniface So has replaced him there. Fr. Augustine Kang is now at Songchongdong, Taejon and Fr. Augustine Pang has gone to Chinchon as Assistant. Father Stephen Ho has been appointed Priest-in-Charge of Chonju and Diocesan Secretary. Father Michael Kwon has moved to Ch'ungju and the new Deacon is the Assistant at Kwanghyewon.

Pusan

Fr. Michael Lee has moved to Chinju to look after the new congregation there. Fr. Ignatius Pak has moved to Grace Church, Taegu, Father Solomon Yun is studying in Canada, not teaching in the Seminary, and Father Albert Kim is working with the Missions to Seamen in Pusan. Fr. Harrison in addition to his work as Missions to Seamen Chaplain, helps in the Diocesan Office.

Fr. Abraham Kim arrived in England in September and is now studying at the College of the Ascension, Selly Oak.

COLLECTORS ITEM

One of our Korean Committee members on his visit to Korea for the Centennial Celebrations was presented with a stamp album containing the special issue for the event of our 100 won stamps and two beautiful first day covers. Not being a philatelist he would like offers over £10 for Korean fund. Please write to Canon H.G. Bear, 28A Belmont Park, London, SE13 5BJ.

LENT LABELS FOR THE KOREAN MISSION are available from the Office.

CHAIRMAN OF COURAGE

There are so many wonderful memories of the Centenary Celebrations in Korea, but some of the more personal ones are those that I shared with our Chairman, Father S.J. Davies

Anyone meeting him for the first time and knowing nothing about him, might well think – What a kind and gentle priest, a man who has obviously been able to sail through life sheltered from all its nastiness. He is indeed a most kind and gentle priest, but also a man of great courage and deep inner strength, and without these qualities he would never have survived the horrors of the Korean War and the dreadful sufferings as a Prisoner of War in Communist hands.



At the great service for the Re-Unification of Korea, celebrated beside the fateful Bridge of No Return, which leads to the border to the North, Father Davies was a splendid figure in his scarlet cassock of a chaplain to the Queen and all the dignity of a Church of England clergyman – but he stood out from all the rest of us. He was the only man present wearing the medal of a veteran of the Korean War. I felt so proud of him when I saw him accompanying the Archbishop of Canterbury in the car taking them over the Bridge to the Demilitarised Zone. (I heard later that the Old Soldier had not lost his survival tactics, and had offered the rather thirsty Archbishop some American chewing gum – an offer that was gratefully accepted).

I remember too at breakfast one morning, as we sat high up in the hotel restaurant, looking along the very wide and busy main street of Seoul, he said that he could so clearly remember being marched along that street during the war. As they marched, they had to clamber over fallen telephone wires and the rubble of destroyed buildings, and all the time he had fixed his eyes on the jagged mountains lying ahead of them to the north. What lay ahead of them? he had asked himself. Alas, he discovered what was there, and those who have read his book "In Spite of Dungeons" will know what he and so many others endured, but somehow with God's grace he survived.

To have been in Korea for the Centenary was a wonderful experience, which was made all the richer by being in the company of a kind and gentle priest, who also happens to be a very brave and strong man.

H.F. Capener

CENTENNIAL OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN KOREA



Centennial Eucharist 9th September 1990

CENTENNIAL EUCHARIST

*Thank you very much for your congratulations
for the centennial of the Anglican Church in Korea*

With your kind assistance and prayer,
all events of the centennial are finished successfully.

The 2nd missionary century
of the Anglican Church in Korea
will be the time to witness

“Jesus Christ: the life of our nation”

By your continuous concern and prayer
this church will continue to grow
in His name.

The Right Reverend Simon S. Kim

The Chairman of
the Committee for Centennial,
The Anglican Church in Korea

1890 CENTENARY IN KOREA 1990

For the Anglican Church in Korea the culmination of "The Centennial Year of repentance, reflection and renewal" was the great final Centenary Week in the capital city of Seoul, 24-30 September, 1990, commemorating Bishop Corfe's arrival and the commencement of the English Church Mission to Korea on Michaelmas Day, 1980.

The visiting group from England consisted of the Reverend S J Davies, Chairman of the London Committee of the Korean mission; Bishop Paul Burrough (who served as a missionary priest in Korea 1951-59) and his wife; the Reverend Mother of the Community of St. Peter, Woking, accompanied by Miss Brenda Martin, SRN; Miss J O Roberts, well known for her MU work in Korea; the Reverend Roger Tennant (who served in Korea, 1954-62) and his wife; Canon H G Bear, a Commissary for the Bishop of Seoul, and the Reverend H F Capener, a member of the KM Committee.

At 2 pm on Monday 24 September, Bishop Paul Lee, Seoul's first Korean Bishop (now retired), and the British Ambassador, Mr Wright, declared open the week-long Centennial Exhibition, wisely and strategically centred in a hall in the always thronged Subway Station. Very many thousands of Korean citizens dropped in to see it during the week.

Among the many fascinating exhibits and enlarged photographs from 1890 onwards was the silver pectoral cross worn by Mother Mary Clare of the Society of the Holy Cross, Seoul, who perished on the long enforced march into imprisonment under North Korean Communist guards in the bitter winter, November 1950. Mother Margaret Paul of Woking movingly told us, standing before Mother Mary Clare's photograph, that Bishop Cooper, also on that cruel march, was able to retrieve the cross and secrete it during his three year long internment in North Korea. Bishop Cooper somehow survived, as did Commissioner Lord of the Salvation Army, though Bishop Byrne, the RC Bishop, died on the march, along with some Carmelite nuns, and Father Hunt, one of our priests of the Korean Mission.

During the North Korean occupation of Seoul in the terrible early days of the Korean War, 1950-53, the Cathedral was desecrated and Bishop Cooper's house ransacked. Among his belongings thrown out into the precinct garden was a lovely three hundred years old crucifix with a mother-of-pearl facing bearing the date 1641. This was later found in 1951 by a trooper (one of the armoured Hussar Regiment now serving in Saudi Arabia), when British forces re-took Seoul. The Regiment took it in care, had it carefully repaired and years later returned it to Seoul Cathedral. There it was in the Centennial Exhibition, proudly displayed in a glass case containing, among other remarkable exhibits, a first edition of the New Testament in Korean signed "C.J. Corfe, 1903".

The photographs themselves were a wonderful history of the Korean Mission. One showed Bishop Trollope with Father Mark Hee-Jun Kim, the very first Korean-born priest; another the first Mission

Hospital in the early 1890s: with the devoted Dr Landis are patients clustered around a cast iron stove from England, the same stove in working order actually exhibited on the floor below the photograph!

The second memorable event was the Choral Concert by the St Nicholas' Cathedral Boys' Choir in the magnificent City Arts Centre on 25 September. To a huge audience the boys gave a recital of haunting Korean folk-songs and English and European polyphonic anthems and motets, some in Latin. We were not only enthralled by the boys' lovely vibrant singing, but also amazed by their fluent mastery of both English and Latin - and this without any word sheets or music sheets whatever!

On Wednesday, a Solemn Requiem was sung in Seoul's Romanesque Cathedral, a listed national monument now, completed by the indomitable Bishop Trollope in 1926. His great memorial brass lies in the floor of the Cathedral crypt chapel, before the Altar, where Mass is said daily at 7 am. Bishop Simon Kim of Seoul was the celebrant and Bishop Paul Yoon of Taejon preached to a packed congregation. The Mass was in honour of the Korean Martyrs, and after the service, Bishop Kim and the other Korean Bishops consecrated a memorial in the precinct gardens to the martyrs who include the English priests Father Lee and Father Hunt and Mother Mary Clare.

Thursday 27 September was a day given over to a Theological Symposium, following on from a lecture and discussion on the Wednesday evening, and including further lectures.

The Archbishop of Canterbury arrived on Friday, and on Saturday 29 September. At 6.30 am, Michaelmas Day, the Revd Clifford Smart, an English priest who has now given 35 years service in Korea, said the first Mass in the new chapel of the Sisters of the Holy Cross in Seoul, where the big re-planned convent centre is nearing completion under Mother Catherine's watchful eye.

In the Cathedral, too, early that Michaelmas morning, Mass was said and a sermon given recalling the arrival in Korea of Bishop Corfe a hundred years ago.

In the afternoon, Bishop Kim and the Archbishop of Canterbury addressed some 3,500 people at an open-air service "for re-unification and reconciliation" on the border. Afterwards, the Archbishop, under American Army escort, crossed the Imjin River and was taken through the demilitarised zone. Dr Runcie was accompanied by the Revd Stanley Davies, chairman of the Korean Mission, who was a prisoner in North Korea for two and a half years during the Korean War. They looked across from the final outpost to where North Korean guards were keeping the Archbishop under binocular surveillance.

Father Davies, realising that His Grace's throat was rather dry after his speech in the hot afternoon sun,

