

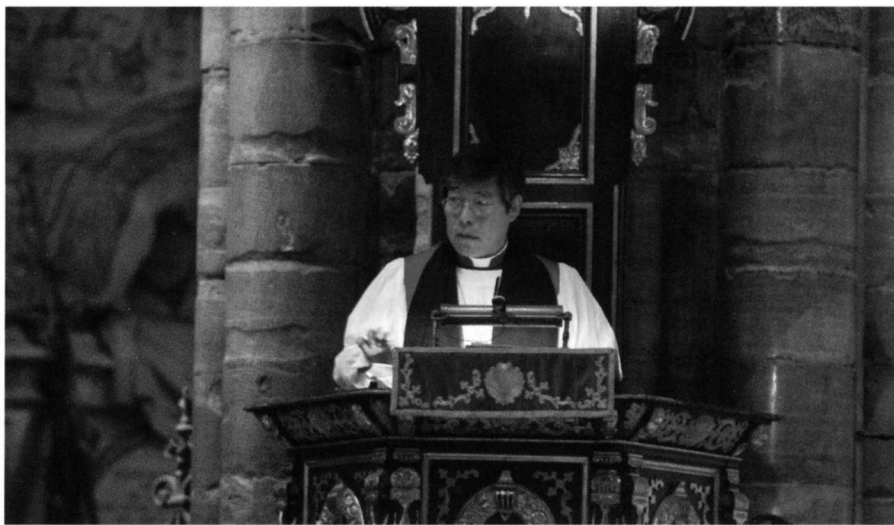


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120th ANNIVERSARY OF BISHOP CORFE'S CONSECRATION



The Rt Revd Paul Kim, Bishop of Seoul, preaching at the Sung Eucharist in Westminster Abbey

The 120th anniversary of the consecration of Charles John Corfe, the first Bishop of Korea, was commemorated at the Sung Eucharist in Westminster Abbey on All Saints' Day by invitation of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. It was a scene of great splendour as Bishop Paul Kim of Seoul and Bishop Christopher Hill of Guildford processed to the Sacrament with the Dean, the Abbey clergy and Fr Luke Lee, together with the thurifer, crucifer and taperers to the singing of "For all the Saints"

Mrs Hwang Won Kim read the Old Testament lesson in Korean, Bishop Christopher Hill read the New Testament lesson in English and Fr Luke Lee read the Gospel in Korean. Bishop Paul Kim preached and this is the transcript of his sermon:

If that is God's calling...

Good morning my dear brothers and sisters in Christ. I also bring many "special thanks" and "hellos" from the Anglican Church of Korea.

On this day, one hundred and twenty years ago, in this Westminster Abbey, a humble priest with his heart so full of love and a burning zeal for the lost, was consecrated as the first bishop of the Anglican Church of Korea. Today the person whom we have to remember and cherish in our hearts, of course, is Bishop Charles John Corfe.

At that time, nobody knew exactly what this ceremony meant, and nor could they have any expectations of what he could achieve in Korea. As I stand here and give my sermon, I am really touched by God's Love and Glory. I give thanks and praise to God. Please accept our prayer and service to you.

I would also like to take the opportunity to express my deep and sincere gratitude to the Dean of Westminster Abbey and those other honourable people who have allowed me to preach on this great occasion. It is my great honour.

When I try to picture Bishop Corfe in my mind, I see another disciple of Jesus, a servant, the same as one of the 12 disciples of Jesus who followed Him, when they were asked to throw away their fishing nets. Bishop Corfe, a highly respected naval chaplain and a Bishop whose reputation extends far beyond his own country - how did he become "The Person God Uses"?

First of all, Bishop Corfe had his crusader like attitude. Serving in the navy as a chaplain was a vocation for which he was so exactly fitted. In 1889, however, Edward White Benson, Archbishop of Canterbury, asked him to leave the navy and go to Korea as a missionary!

I was thinking about his position many times during my flight to London. How desolate was he in the face of that proposal? To many - if not all - the mission seemed a 'forlorn hope'. However, Bishop Corfe considered the Archbishop's proposal as God's calling to which he answered, as stated in Isaiah Chapter 6 "Here I am, send me."

Secondly, Bishop Corfe had a burning commitment to carry the Good News of Jesus Christ to the end of the "Orient". He dedicated his life in Korea - a purely strange land for outsiders... The "Far East" where no English missionary had been sent.

Upon leaving England, Bishop Corfe asked the Church to participate in daily prayers for all "Foreign Missions". And these prayers for mission in "Korea and elsewhere", saved many, as did Jesus' sincere prayer to God when He raised Lazarus from the dead. God led Bishop Corfe from a peaceful life in England - to the wilderness of Korea because Our Lord saw his passion for the great advancement of the Gospel.

Finally, we must admit that Bishop Corfe was absolutely humble and selfless - a life in God's hands and by Faith alone. He surrendered everything to God. He later recollected his life in Korea, saying "Think of me, therefore, as a skipper of a very small craft - a torpedo-boat if you like - with a crew of nine men." He must have had a feeling that he did not have anything in his hand but, left only with a huge responsibility - What was his mission? It was to create something out of nothing. So he turned to God and depended on Him as did the small boy David when he went to war against the Giant Goliath. "Nihil longe est Deo" / "There is no place too far for God" was Bishop Corfe's Confession of Faith on his two-months journey to Korea. He had faith that wherever he went, God always was with him.

Today, you and I are sharing the fruits of Bishop Corfe's faith, passion for mission and Christian commitment. You, representing the Church of England, have to have pride in him and need to succeed in his great Christian example of faith, while Korean Anglicans, including myself, should cherish great gratitude to him in our hearts and take on a new challenge for mission.

When I think of Bishop Corfe, who was equipped with a great sense of Christian duty under such harsh conditions, I feel very shameful as a bishop in Korea. I must confess that the Korean Anglican Church has failed to pay attention to the cries of others in great need. When I attended the Lambeth Conference last July, I was told that the Anglican Church in Myanmar was suffering. This resulted in my visiting Myanmar, the Philippines and Vietnam, to hold hands with brothers and sisters in Asia. At last, one hundred and twenty years after the Korean Mission was started by Bishop Corfe, the Korean church has taken a small step to do our missionary duty.

Now I can feel that I am in his shoes, which is God's grace. The Korean Anglican Church is indebted to the Church of England and to Bishop Corfe. The small seed of Christian faith which Bishop Corfe planted has grown well and borne fruit which will be transplanted somewhere else in the world.

The missionary initiative comes from God and GOD alone, and it is my deepest wish that you keep us in your prayers - always. Lord, please help us - debtors of the Gospel - to keep our "eye on the compass, keep our ship on her true course" - to continue Bishop Corfe's unending mission.

Thank you.

FIRST ANGLICAN FRANCISCAN LIFE PROFESSION IN KOREA



*After the life profession of
Sisters Frances and Jemma in Gumi.
From left to right - Pamela Clare CSF, Helen Julian CSF,
Jemma CSF, Stephen KFB, Bishop Solomon Yoon,
Beverley CSF, Frances CSF, Lawrence KFB,
Joyce CSF, Christopher John SSF.*

There was great joy in Gumi on 8 September when the Bishop of Busan received life vows from Sisters Frances and Jemma of the Community of St Francis. The sisters began their journey in the religious life with the Society of the Holy Cross in Seoul but left there in a search for a different form of community life. They settled in Gumi in 1999 at the Bishop John Daly Mission Centre, ministering there while discerning their future.

Having decided to be Franciscan sisters they began to develop relationships with the Anglican Franciscan sisters in UK and USA. They were accepted as members of the Community of St Francis in 2008. At the same time they developed as a sister community to the Korean Franciscan Brotherhood in Gangchon.

Four sisters from overseas came for this historic event. From USA came Pamela Clare who was the sisters' first Mentor Sister and from the UK came their current Mentor Sister, Beverley, the European Provincial Minister, Helen Julian and the CSF Minister General, Joyce.

The liturgy of Life Profession took place during the eucharist for the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Bishop of Busan, the Most Revd Solomon Yoon, presided and Fr Jonathan Kim preached. Normally life vows are received by the Bishop Protector of the province. The Gumi sisters are part of the European Province and the protector is Bishop Michael Perham of Gloucester. Unfortunately he was not able to be present and requested Bishop Solomon to accept the sisters' life vows on his behalf.

VISIT TO NORTH KOREA

Father Paul Mooney, the Chaplain of the English Speaking Congregation at Seoul Cathedral, visited the North Korean Free Trade Zone in December. He took a flight from Seoul to Yanji in China and crossed into North Korea at Wonjung on the Tuman River. The taxi ride from Yanji to Wonjung took two hours travelling along a well maintained, if rather icy, road. Having passed through the Chinese border post, he was taken by a small bus across a single lane concrete bridge over the river into North Korea.

At Wonjung Customs Post his temperature was checked as a precaution against H1N1 flu. He was then escorted to an awaiting taxi and taken to the Rajin City area. The unsurfaced road was covered in snow and he was able to travel quicker than had been the case when he visited last summer when progress was very slow because of the many potholes in the road. The 35 mile journey to Sunbong and then on to Rajin City took something like two hours.

Rajin City has a population of 100,000 people. It has a major train station which was built during the Japanese occupation and is the nearest main rail station to the Russian border. The port of Rajin is ice free in winter and it is open all year. There is a weekly sailing from Busan in South Korea which mainly carries containers for onward transit by rail to Russia. He stayed in the Namsan Hotel in the city centre. It was built in the 1960s and has a Soviet-era Eastern European style. The hotel was reasonably comfortable but quite cold. Hot water was available in the morning for washing and the electricity came and went.

There are about 300 small and medium sized enterprises based in the special economic zone of which at least 30 are basically humanitarian assistance projects run by Korean-American Protestant Christian groups or pastors. Rajin has a major hospital, which has been refurbished by the German Catholic humanitarian programme. The sign in English says that it is the International Catholic Hospital but in Korean it is called the Peoples' Hospital. There is a large market near the centre of the city, with an open air section selling fresh food and fish and a larger indoor market selling manufactured goods mainly from China. At the time there was much confusion about the recent currency reform in North Korea and the indoor market was closed. As Fr Paul was walking behind the others in the market, a young teenage girl was following him and touching him from behind to get his attention and was presumably begging. She followed them right through the market till they got back into a taxi. There is also a large telephone exchange built by a Chinese company operating under licence from the North Korean government. Rajin also has a maritime college, a vocational trade school and quite a few schools at all levels.



Fr Paul visited a technical school and saw the equipment which had been shipped from China as a donation from TOPIK (the group formed at the time of the Anglican Peace Conference in 2007 and as part of its ongoing task has taken on the responsibility for humanitarian aid projects in North Korea). The school was just about to close for the long winter break when the students go out to work placements. Fr Paul says the students in the technical school were the most lively and happy people he met in Rajin-Sunbong during his visit. Many people, including the young, did not look too lively or happy, maybe this was because of the cold or simply malnourishment. One thing that struck him on this visit was the lack of 'political talk' about Kim Il-sung or Kim Jeong-il perhaps because of the concern with the currency reform.

Fr Paul says that life in North Korea during winter seems to be a matter of survival. Rajin reminded him of accounts and pictures he saw and read about parts of Europe after World War II and Rajin is a relatively prosperous area in the places outside of Pyongyang. Many people had small home made carts for transporting goods. Soon after the visit it was reported that Kim Jeong-il had visited the area and it has been subsequently designated as a special investment zone and orders have been given for the construction of new roads to the Russian and Chinese borders as well as new bridges across the Tuman River.

THANKSGIVINGS AND INTERCESSIONS

Give thanks for the life and witness of the Anglican Church of Korea over the past 120 years.
 For the wonderful service in Westminster Abbey to commemorate the 120th Anniversary of the consecration of Charles John Corfe to be the first Bishop of Korea.
 Pray for Solomon, Primate of Korea and Bishop of Busan.
 For Paul, Bishop of Seoul.
 For Michael, Bishop of Daejeon.
 For Fr Jeremiah Yang and all staff and students at Sungkonghoe University.
 For the endeavours of TOPIK to give humanitarian aid and service to the people of North Korea.
 The Community of St Francis in Gumi, giving thanks for the life profession of Sister Frances and Sister Jemma.
 The Korean Franciscan Brotherhood and especially Raphael as he starts his noviciate.
 The Society of the Holy Cross in Seoul.
 The Order of St Benedict in Busan.
 For the National Council of Churches in Korea and the WCC 10th Assembly Planning Committee.
 The Korean International Mission (KIM) which has been formed to spearhead the Anglican Church of Korea's involvement in world mission.

STOP PRESS: The Rt Revd Paul Lee, the first Bishop of Seoul, died on 26 March. An obituary will appear in the next issue.

R.I.P.

Give thanks and pray for all those who have loved and served the Church in Korea, especially those whose anniversaries occur at this time (dates are of service)

April			July		
2	Elizabeth So	1951-73	1	Noah Han, p.	1934-57
3	John Whelan, p.	1954-66	10	Sister Nora Lucilla CSP	1939-40
8	Athanasius Kim, p.	1929-50	10	Dorothy Morrison	KMP Secretary 1948-60
10	Moses Kim, p.	-81	11	Aidan Lee, p.	1963-67
14	Lionel Beere, p.	1924-41	14	Joseph Pownall, p.	1891-93
16	Eli Landis, dr.	1890-98	14	Albert Lee, p.	1920-50
19	Michael Lee		17	Sister Lois CSP	1892-99
21	Paul Chu, p.	1934-57	17	Moses Yoon, p.	-50
21	Cecil Hodges, p.	1910-	24	Timothy Cho, p.	-50
22	Thomas Elsam, p.	KMP Secretary 1956-71	30	Henry Arnold, p.	1915-42
24	Andrew Yilsaekyukil, p.	-44			
26	Maurice Davies, p.	1891-	August		
27	Kyongae Hwang, p.	1926-48	1	Hugo Lee, p.	-2001
28	Basil Simpson, p.		3	Paul Shim, p.	1949-87
29	Richard Small, p.		6	Archer Torrey, p.	1957-2002
May			15	John Daly, bp.	5th Bishop of Korea & 1st of Daejeon 1955-68
1	Sister Constance Irene CSP	1908-20	15	David Lee, p.	-88
1	Sister Phoebe SHC	1926-90	22	Mark Yoon, p.	1953-64
4	George Dallas, p.		29	Moses Lee, p.	1969-85
5	Timothy Choi, p.	-68	September		
6	Sister Alma CSP	1892-1906	4	Constance Trollope	KMP Secretary 1948
8	Stephen Kim, p.	-93	5	Andrew Shiozaki, p.	1910-34
10	Frank Weston, p.	1920-	6	Thomas Smith, p.	
11	Mark Kim, p.	1915-38	9	Isaiah Son, p.	1959-72
16	Paul Han, p.	-87	12	Joseph Im, p.	1929-60
17	John Park, p.	1964-99	14	Aidan SSF, p.	1981-82
26	John Lee, p.	-74	15	Carlo Son	1956-84
29	Hugh Pearson SSM	1897-1904	16	Timothy Fletcher, p.	1957-61
June			18	Leslie Soul, p.	1932-38
1	Hugh Embling, bp.	1926-30	18	Basil Choi, p.	1934-94
1	Frederick Hillary SSM, p.	1896-1904	21	Harold Firkins SSM, p.	1892-1904
7	Arthur Laws, dr.	1897-1930	23	Paul Ko, p.	1937-62
11	Violet Grosjean	1907-41			
12	Elijah Kim, p.	1950-91			
16	Florence Laws	1908-30			
19	Ae Eun Yoon SHC	-2003			
21	Thomas de Vall				
25	Augustine Cho	-2004			
26	Sister Margareta CSP	1892-1909			
28	Charles Goodwin, p.	1959-97			
28	Sister Rosalie CSP	1892-1919			
29	Stephen Cartwright, p.	1906-09			
30	Charles Corfe, bp.	1st Bishop of Korea 1889-1904			
30	Roger Tennant, p.	1954-62			

WCC 10th Assembly will be held in Busan

It has been announced that the 10th Assembly of the World Council of Churches will be held in Busan in 2013. The prospect of the WCC Assembly coming to Korea is already providing churches in the country with an opportunity to strengthen interdenominational cooperation, as was evidenced in a thanksgiving service held in Seoul on 16 September. The service, which was hosted by the Preparatory Committee for Korea's Bid to Host the WCC Assembly, and a time of celebration that followed were attended by more than 1000 participants from nearly all Christian confessions. Representatives of the government, including the chairman of the Korean Congress, the chief justice of the Supreme Court and the prime minister attended the event. They added their own words of encouragement to the many congratulatory messages presented throughout the day. In his message, Korean President Lee Myung-bak said that in preparing for the Assembly "the church in Korea will exemplify maturity through its cooperation and unity". Many voices expressed joy and the conviction that the Assembly is a divinely given opportunity for furthering the visible unity of the church.

Rt Rev. Dr Kim Sam-hwan, the president of the National Council of Churches in Korea said: "It is a gift from God to strengthen the Korean ecumenical movement, while at the same time it is a call from God to serve in humility the wider ecumenical movement worldwide".

Rev. Dr Cho Yong-ki, of the Yoido Full Gospel Church, stated that "this is an opportunity for the Korean churches to serve the world churches". He expressed hope that it will also be a catalyst "for the Korean churches to work for the glory of God's Kingdom, transcending denominational and confessional boundaries".

Archbishop Kim Hee-joong, chairman of the Committee on Church Unity of the Korean Bishop's Conference said the Catholic Church in Korea will "contribute its prayers and support so that the fruits of the Assembly can contribute to fostering world peace and greater unity among churches around the world."

The mayor of Busan stated that the city "stands ready to welcome with open hearts the participants of the WCC Assembly". He ensured the city's support for the Assembly "to be successful in all respects". Busan, on the south-eastern coast of the Korean peninsula, is the second largest city in South Korea with a population of more than 4 million.

Han Seung-soo, who was Prime Minister at the time of the meeting, stated that "the coming of the WCC to Korea symbolizes the significant standing of the Korean churches in the world and as such the Korean government will lend its full support in making the forthcoming Assembly a resounding success".

In a videotaped message the WCC general secretary, Rev. Dr Samuel Kobia told the audience that he wanted to thank them "wholeheartedly" for issuing their invitation. "The Busan Assembly will be a unique opportunity for churches around the world to encounter the vitality of the churches in Korea, to experience a new horizon of ecumenical cooperation and to join the deep, abiding witness of the Korean churches for peace and reconciliation", Kobia stated in an earlier letter of congratulation.

Judging from the energy and enthusiasm that emanated from the 16 September event, Korea is getting ready to welcome the world with one heart, one body, and one spirit. The National Council of Churches in Korea will form the Korean WCC 10th Assembly Planning Committee in October 2009.

(Daniel Dong-Sung Kim reported from Korea.)

NEWS SNIPPETS

Bishop Joseph Lee, the former Bishop of Busan, has volunteered to go to Mongolia and is now head of the Mongul Cultural Studies Centre.

The Korean International Mission, known as KIM, has been launched. This has been inspired by the laity.

New KFB Novice Raphael was admitted to the noviciate last September. Br Lawrence, who is now novice guardian, is overseeing his formation. Please remember them both in your prayers.

Br Christopher John SSF will be back in England from May to August. In May/June he will be leading an Australian group on a tour of places in southern England which have Franciscan connections. From June to August he will be writing the dissertation which will complete his work in his Masters in Franciscan Studies.

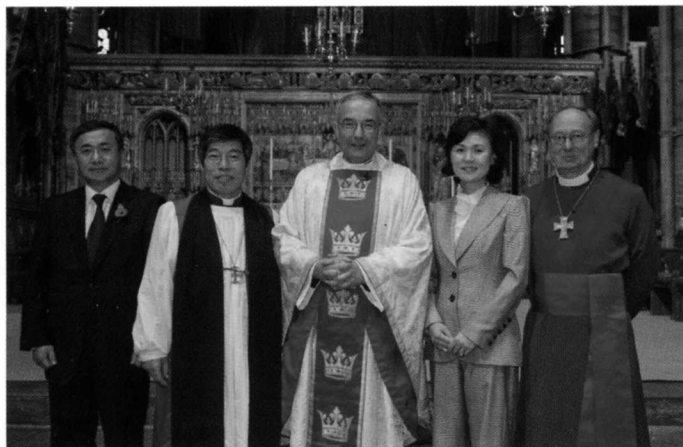
Chuncheon Joint Mission The City of Chuncheon, which is near to the Franciscan Friary at Gangchon, has had an Anglican Church since 1933 and more recently a House of Sharing. The Seoul Diocesan Retreat House is located next to the Friary. These four bodies have formed a joint association for fostering a joint approach to mission.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<i>President</i>	The Most Revd Solomon Yoon
<i>Vice Presidents</i>	The Rt Revd Christopher Hill The Rt Revd Robert Ladds
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THE KOREAN MISSION PARTNERSHIP
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Mr Won Woo Lee, the Consul General of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea and his wife, with the Bishop of Seoul, the Dean of Westminster and the Bishop of Guildford.



The Bishop of Seoul with Corfe family members.



The Bishop of Seoul makes a presentation to the Dean of Westminster.



Mrs Hyang Won Kim reading the Old Testament lesson.



The Bishop of Seoul speaking during the Reception in the Abbey Museum.



Some members of the congregation before the High Altar.

