



# Morning Calm

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## THE ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL IN SEOUL

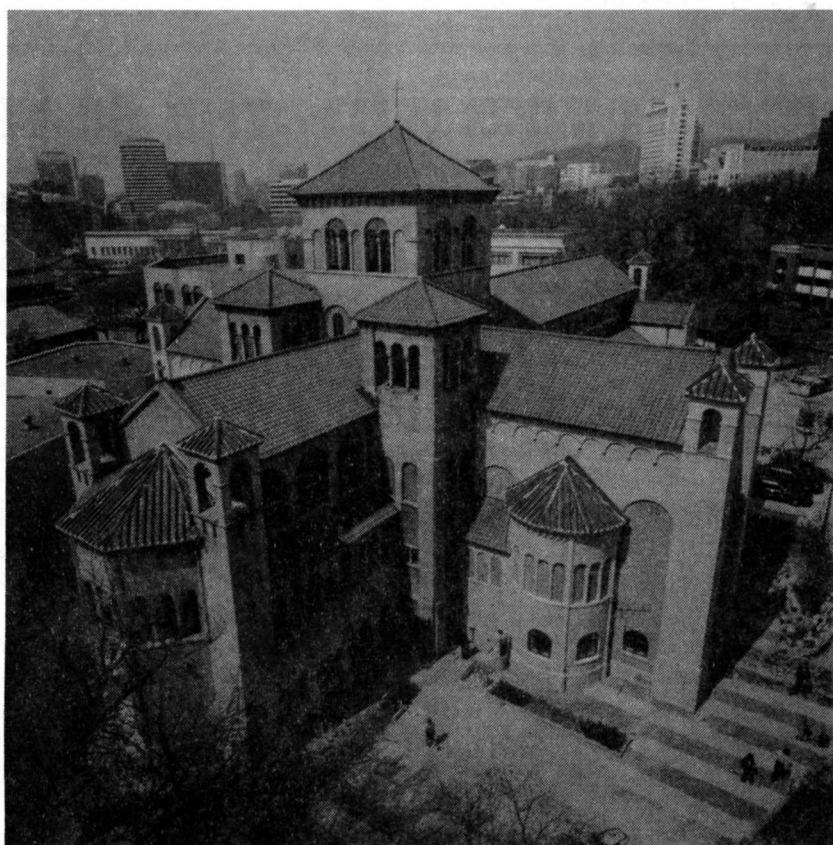
In May last year the Anglican Church of Korea dedicated Seoul Cathedral. The Cathedral Church of the Dae Han Sung-Kong-Hoe (the Anglican Church in Korea) is believed to be the first authentic example of Romanesque-style architecture in East Asia and has taken 70 years to build. The cathedral is not only the central church in the diocese but the symbolic Mother Church of the Anglican Church in Korea.

### Interrupted history

Close to Toksu Palace in the busy city centre of Seoul, this great granite building, with its distinctive terracotta-tiled roof, has been a landmark for many years. The cathedral was designed by the English architect Arthur Dixon under the direction of Bishop Mark Trollope, the third bishop of Korea. Regular services had been held in a church building on the site since 1891, shortly after the arrival of Bishop John Corfe, the first Bishop of Korea. Building began on the cathedral church in 1926, during Japanese colonial rule, and the central nave was erected. Due to Japanese restrictions on imports, and dwindling English contributions to the project, the cathedral was not finished. After liberation the original design drawings were lost. However, hopes of finishing the work were renewed after a British Anglican, visiting the country for the 1988 Seoul Olympics, said that he thought he had seen drawings for the cathedral at a library in Lexington. The new extension work was begun when the drawings were retrieved.

### An important witness

Aesthetically, the cathedral has been a model for Korea's traditional church construction. The Western Romanesque and Korea's traditional architecture are well matched. The Korean style of elevating the edge of the eaves, making the window frames and roofing with Korean tiles, and the



belfries, harmonise well with the Romanesque style and the Korean city surrounding it.

The Anglican Church in Korea sees the cathedral as a realisation of the Church's outreach in the country. During the liberation movement against the Japanese occupation in the past, the Church played an important role as a herald of Christian justice and good news. Today, the Church continues this tradition and the cathedral has contributed to the realisation of social justice, human rights, democratisation, and worked for the unification of Korea. It has also taken major ecumenical initiatives to restore unity and cooperation between the different Churches in the country.

*continued on page 2*

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### History retold

Visitors to the cathedral are constantly reminded of the Church's history and witness. In the main chapel the sanctuary has twelve columns to symbolise that the faith of the cathedral community is based on the life and faith of the 12 apostles. The font dates back to Bishop Corfe's time. A cross on the outer wall was never damaged, despite North Korean soldiers shooting at it during the Korean war. This inspired believers to keep the faith even in difficulties. A stained glass window installed in 1972 provides a memorial to the British Korean-war dead. In the transept on the north wall there are portraits of the nuns and priests martyred during the Korean war.

### To listen to God

Anglicans in Korea describe the cathedral as "a place where we can listen every day to the voice of God and the ceaseless sound of praying and praising, and experience sharing of love through the

mystery of Holy Communion. Using one-third of the budget for outside aid, the Church tries to serve society and to work for the people's development... In order to gather the fruits of peace, Seoul Cathedral sows the seed of mission and plants Christian love and justice. It helps outsiders, farmers, rural churches and the urban poor, ...through which the Church shares love with those in need."

The cathedral's position in the green zone of the city provides people with a space for meditation, relaxation and meetings, and also provides a venue for concerts, and other educational and cultural events. The completed cathedral holds a congregation of 1,200 people. With five Holy Communion Services every Sunday, and daily services, it is in constant use.

*With grateful acknowledgement to  
Anglican World*

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## LINKS WITH THE SISTERS IN KOREA

Last December I was asked by my friends if I would like to go with them to Korea. Phil had been in the Korean war and wished to go there on a sort of pilgrimage. Of course I said yes at this wonderful opportunity and after getting permission and going through all the formalities, we set off on April 2nd for Korea and the Society of the Holy Cross where we were to stay for the month. After a journey of more than twelve hours we arrived and were met by Mother Edith and Sister Etheldreda, whisked home to Holy Cross, supper and bed. It was such a joy to be there after waiting for so many years.

On Sunday we decided to go to the English speaking Mass in the crypt of the Cathedral: the Embassy staff and others came to this Service. Afterwards we were asked to coffee and when Phil said he had been in the Korean war, we were invited to the Embassy for coffee on the following Tuesday and were told about the celebrations and memorial Services for the Korean War Veterans which were to be held during April.

We went to the Eucharist in the Cathedral which was packed with Koreans. The Choir was superb - I think like the Welsh they love singing and have lovely clear, true voices.

It was a very beautiful Service and it did not matter not understanding the language, we were the Church the Body of Christ and therefore we were one.

On Tuesday we went to coffee at the Embassy and met Brigadier Parr who said he wanted Phil to take part in all the events and to receive his War Veterans Medal. We could not believe our good luck at being in Korea at this time. We were also invited to the Reception at the Embassy along with all the other War Veterans and their wives. To me it was a wonderful and unexpected privilege.

*Sister Angela, C.S.P.*

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*Letter from Sister Catherine, S.H.C. to Sister Joyce, C.S.P. Woking.*

I moved to the Mother House in March this year from St.Bona's to teach and give counselling to the students at the Anglican University. I feel I have become a Freshman again. I have come back to the teaching task after ten years. Things have changed a lot since then: even the name of the school and the system, etc have been changed. There are almost 1200 students, including Seminarians. over 40 faculty and 30 staff members. I work four or five days a week there. It is a promising task.

Would you kindly pray for the Anglican Province of Korea which is working on revising the Church Constitution and Rule? All the clergy and thirty Lay Representatives from the Province will have an open discussion on the revising part which has been made by the Committee.

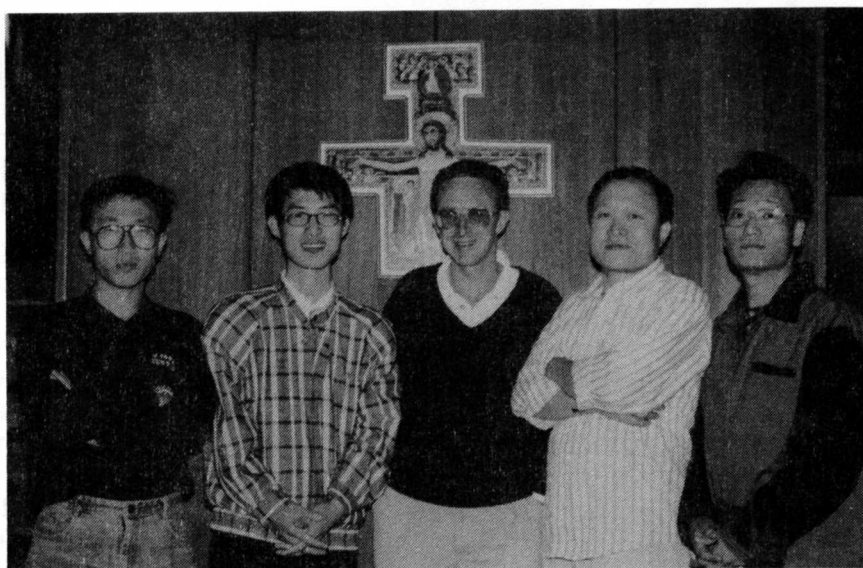
The Anglican University will have a Chamber Orchestra playing in Seoul Cathedral on Tuesday for its fund raising. Mr Francis Seungyon Kim, the President of Hanwha Corporation, has been elected the President of the Anglican University Corporation. Would you also pray for this big change? The Anglican Bishops have been President of the University Corporation over the past eighty years. However, Francis Kim is a very truthful and promising person. He generously gave us a big donation for our new Chapel.

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## 성공회 프란시스 수도회 KOREAN FRANCISCAN BROTHERHOOD



*Brothers Stephen, Lawrence,  
Christopher John, Andrew with  
visiting inquirer, Matthias.*

### Visitors

It was great to have no fewer than three SSF brothers visiting this year. Thanks to Brothers Daniel, Brian and Damian Kenneth for helping us feel "on the map". Daniel and Brian were here as part of their duties within SSF and Damian Kenneth because it seemed a good place to make a stopover. We look forward to more overseas visitors in the new year.

### Members

There are two postulants, Stephen and Andrew. They are both doing some study at a postulants' study centre run by the Roman Catholic church. In the new year they will be doing some ministries as part of their training. Our aspirant Lawrence is with us for three days each week, and with his parents the rest of the time. However early in the new year he will probably be ready to move in full time and be received as a postulant. And Christopher John on loan from SSF is struggling with learning Korean and making himself understood and understanding others. The novice Paul is having some time with SSF; in Stroud, Australia as part of his training.

### The future

Since starting our advertising programme we have had about five or six vocational enquiries from potentially suitable candidates. This is very encouraging. Our target group is those in their mid twenties. They've finished some tertiary education and their military service and after the trials of that are wondering what to do with their lives. So we try to keep in touch with these young men and to invite them to various events in our house.

### Cracks in the walls

It is a fact of life in Korea that every building built since 1945 has cracks in the walls. We are no exception. However ours seem to be opening. We are awaiting an engineer's report. It is quite possible that part of our house may need to be rebuilt as the

foundations are inadequate. However as our building is 20 years old many consider it too old for repair. Pull it down they say! Who knows what the future will hold. Incheon is a very pleasant location but it is perceived by Seoul residents as impossibly far away. Perhaps it is a good opportunity for a move to a more central location. So as Franciscans we end the year reminded that on this earth we have no permanent place!

With Prayers and Greetings from the Brothers

*Christopher John 최민준 Stephen. 김현 Lawrence Andrew*

*The above was received from Brother Christopher John after our January MORNING CALM came into print. Since then we have had this update letter from him:-*

There are no changes in membership since our Christmas letter and the brothers are all well.

The "dangerous corner" of St Francis House has been demolished. However there is plenty of space remaining. Unfortunately only a few weeks after the demolition we heard the news that a buyer was interested in both the land we are on and the land occupied by Dr Anna Park in the house in front of us. Where we live belongs to the Holy Cross Sisters who want to continue supporting us. St Francis House was originally established as St Anne's House for handicapped children - and built on the back part of Dr Anna's land which she donated to SHC. What will probably happen is that with the money from selling they will buy another place where we can live for the time being.

So we face some quite major decisions and changes in the near future! Thank you for your prayers and support.

*(Br) Christopher John, S.S.F.*

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# ICON

## CHRISTMAS CARDS - Orders taken now !



This Icon in the Church of St. John the Divine, Kennington, London, was dedicated in 1993 in memory of Bishop Corfe, founder of The Korean Mission, and Father Kelly: Co-founders of the Society of the Sacred Mission.

The photograph was taken by Liz Macey of Milton Keynes and published and produced by R.J.L. Smith & Associates, Much Wenlock, Shropshire. It is in colour and the greetings inside are "Christmas Greetings and all good wishes for the New Year". They are available from the Secretary of K.M.P. Miss E.M. Hassall, Lewis Cottage, The Palace, Hereford, HR4 9BJ. Price 20p each, with envelope & postage and packing, 45p for 10 or add appropriate amount.

These cards are also available without greetings and can be used as Notecards same price!

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Jane and Archer Torrey JESUS ABBEY,  
Box 17, Taebaek, Kangwondo 235-600  
Rep. of Korea

May 1997

It has been a fantastic month with a new class of postulants and many distinguished visitors. There are 8 men and 9 women in the new class and they are very sharp. We had a Life in the Spirit Seminar for them which went well.

We have had a visit from Deaconess Lee, a very special friend who is keenly interested in the Abbey, the Grange, and the Moon Gok church. She has persuaded everybody that the rebuilt Moon Gok Church (it burned down) should be done in rock to match the Abbey! She is also encouraging us to switch from Holsteins to Korean cattle. No one has come to take Tom Skytte's place as manager of our dairy so we believe God wants us to make the switch. Bro. Min has a new tractor to match his enthusiasm for moving ahead with many other urgent projects there.

Another exciting visit was from Pastor Romain Zannou of Benin in Africa. He inspired us to seek to know God in a more intimate way. He led President Kerekou to the Lord and they want to adopt a Christian economic system for Benin to replace the Marxist one which was tried and failed. We gave them some key names to contact for details on what a Christian economic system would be.

While in Seoul Archer spoke twice: first to the international adult Sunday school group at the Yoido Full Gospel Church, a marvellously warm fellowship, and then to the "Friends of Jesus" group at the Anglican Cathedral. Except for the transepts, the Cathedral was packed. What a thrill to be in the newly finished cathedral, started so long ago, and to see so many old friends! There were some who helped us start the Abbey, living with Archer and Ben in the tent, 32 years ago. More and more Archer is back to his old activities, travelling, writing, and even doing a bit of hiking. Thanks be to God for health!

Bunny came for a visit but couldn't stay more than one day! Han Dong University really keeps her busy with teaching, and student activities. We've been in touch with Sam's family by 'phone and were happy to know he's top of his class in several categories.

Our brothers, and carpenters from the village have put a beautiful red cedar shingle roof over the old common room. It blends in well with the thatch on the lower roofs.

We recommend Brad Long's new book on "Receiving the Power." We prize the power of prayer, and can see the amazing way your prayers have helped us. Please pray for North Korea's desperate situation.

*Archer Torrey is Archdeacon of Kangwondo, Diocese of Taejon*

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