



# Morning Calm

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## DEDICATION OF BISHOP JOHN DALY HALL SUNGKONGHOE UNIVERSITY

BY THE MOST REVEREND MATTHEW CHUNG  
PRIMATE OF KOREA & BISHOP OF SEOUL

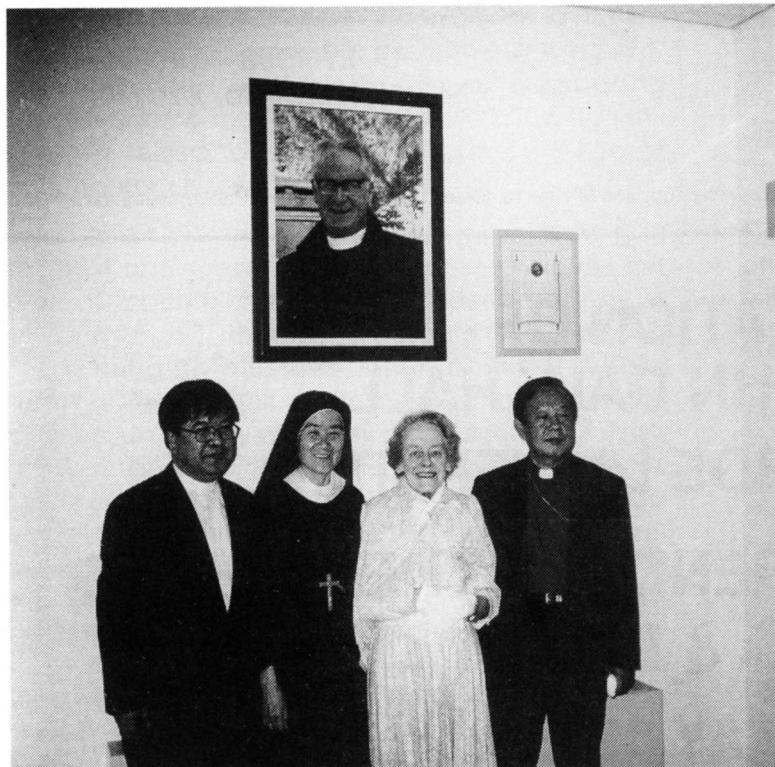
1ST MAY 1998



*Entrance to "Bishop John Daly Hall" showing memorial plaque.*

*L to R: The Primate of Korea & Bishop of Seoul The Most Reverend Matthew Chung; Miss Eilene Hassall, Hon. Secretary of K.M.P. Committee; Mrs Young Ja Kim; The Reverend Dr. Jae Joung Lee, President of Sungkonghoe University.*

# REPORT BY THE HONORARY SECRETARY ON HER VISIT TO KOREA: 23.4.98 - 4.5.98



*In entrance to Hall, standing under photograph of Bishop John Daly, also showing Scroll presented in 1996 to the President of Sungkonghoe, recording the raising of £20,000 by the K.M.P. Committee*

*L to R: Dr. Jae Joung Lee; Sister Catherine, S.H.C.; Miss Eilene Hassall; The Primate of Korea*

It was a great pleasure and privilege to be given the opportunity of visiting South Korea and I am grateful to members of the K.M.P. Committee for encouraging me to accept the invitation which came via Dr Jae-Joung Lee from the Council of Sungkonghoe University, to represent K.M.P. at the dedication of the Auditorium in the new buildings of the university, in memory of Bishop John Daly who was the last English Bishop to work in Korea.

The direct flight by Korean Airline was indeed a very comfortable journey and at Seoul Airport I was greeted by Mother Edith and Sister Catherine of the Society of the Holy Cross, and driven straight to the Convent in Seoul where I stayed in their Guest House during my visit to Korea. It was a real joy to be staying in such pleasant surroundings; my room looking out on to the beautiful Anglican Cathedral which is within the same compound. I shall never forget the kind and generous hospitality of Mother Edith, Sister Catherine and other Sisters of the Community, especially for their loving care of me, following the fall in my room when I injured my shoulder rather badly which limited my activities for the latter part of my visit. While staying at the Convent I was privileged to be able to share in the daily worship in their lovely Chapel.

On the Friday after my arrival in Seoul I had the pleasure of a meeting with the Primate, the Most Reverend Matthew Chung, to whom I was particularly grateful for sparing the time to see me and talk about the life and organisation of the Anglican Church in Korea and its mission outreach. It was especially good to hear of the annual increase in the number of Christians in all denominations.

I was also able to meet the Provincial Secretary, the Reverend Amos Kisok Kim, and his staff and learnt more about the work of the Anglican Church in the Diocese of Seoul. Fr. Kim will be coming to England in September for a year's study at Selly Oak Colleges and we look forward to welcoming him to one of our K.M.P. meetings in London. At lunch that day I was very pleased to meet Brother



*The Revd. Dr Jae Joung Lee addressing audience in Bishop John Daly Hall*



*Miss Eilene Hassall addressing audience in  
Bishop John Daly Hall*

*Seated: The Primate of Korea and the Rt. Reverend Mark Pae*

Sungkonghoe University and the dedication of the Auditorium in memory of Bishop John Daly and the naming of this building as "Bishop John Daly Hall". I was delighted to be able to represent The Korean Mission Partnership Committee on this very special occasion and to give a message, on behalf of our Committee, to the assembled audience. The K.M.P. Committee are delighted that the £20,000 which they raised in 1996 from the dioceses in England, in memory of Bishop Daly and was donated to the University's Appeal Fund, is thus commemorated. One can certainly give thanks to God for the life and work of Bishop Daly during his time in Korea and for his tireless efforts in helping to revive the former St. Michael's Theological Seminary which now forms part of Sungkonghoe University and for the steady flow of students coming to read theology and wishing to go forward to the ordained ministry.

The final event in my itinerary was the attendance at the most beautiful Sung Eucharist in the Cathedral on May 2nd which was the second anniversary of the completion of the Cathedral building and its re-dedication. It was a tremendous joy to be present at that Service, with a congregation of about 700. The Cathedral is certainly very much alive with daily Services and many activities taking place during the week. I was left with the impression that Christians in that country were totally committed.

So ended my visit to Korea which was a truly great experience and one I shall often look back upon with many happy memories. It certainly was a great privilege to see something of that lovely country and its delightful people.

Finally, my sincere thanks to the K.M.P. for sponsoring this visit and not least to Dr Jae-Joung Lee, President of the University, for the organisation of my itinerary and his help in many other ways during my stay in Seoul, and all other good friends for their most generous hospitality.

We must continue to pray that before too long North and South Korea may find a peaceful solution to their unhappy division and be re-united once again.

Christopher, S.S.F. who is helping to build up the Korean Franciscan Brotherhood in Inchon: also Brother Colin, S.S.F., the Minister Provincial for Australia/New Zealand Province who joined us on this occasion.

It was extremely nice to meet up again with Bishop Simon Kim, the former Primate of Korea, also Dr Freda Kim, his wife. I first met them in 1993 when they came to England for the dedication of the Icon in St. John the Divine Church, Kennington, in memory of Bishop Corfe.

Mother Edith and Sister Catherine took me on a tour of Kangwha island one day, where we visited a Home for elderly handicapped women who are cared for by Sisters of S.H.C. There was such a happy and relaxed atmosphere in the Home, and within the grounds they have a most beautiful Chapel.

Then came May 1st, the great day at

*EILENE HASSALL*

*Hon . Secretary, K . M . P . Committee*



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# THE "SHARING HOUSES" OF SOUTH KOREA

On our arrival at Seoul's Kimpo airport Kim and I were delighted and relieved to see the smiling faces of our friends, Father Guen Seok Yang, Sister Catherine and the Mother Superior of the Convent of the Holy Cross. That first afternoon was spent settling into our room at the Convent and then strolling under trees heavy with cherry blossom in the idyllic grounds of Toksugung Palace under a cloudless sky. The following day we were taken to see a very different face of contemporary Korea.

It was overcast and drizzling when we arrived in the midst of a sprawling sea of houses with distant views of mountains heavily shrouded in cloud. In the foreground, though, we could see that the steep plunging hillsides, once covered with a honeycomb of small overcrowded houses, were being bulldozed away. On all sides scenes of stark and confusing dereliction met our eyes. Once this area contained a community of some 5,000 people, today only 500 are left. Local land owners, we learned, had called in developers to rebuild the area with up-market apartments well beyond the means of local residents. The "remnant" are now housed in temporary accommodation thanks to the confidence inspired in them by the sharing house team.

Kim and I heard the story from Father Leonardo Song, who welcomed us to the Bongcheon-Dong "sharing house" from where he and a team of helpers organise a variety of programmes for young people, local residents and former political prisoners. Later Father Song introduced us to some of the families who have been forced to leave their homes. They spoke movingly of how Father Song and the "sharing house" have enabled them to survive and to continue to struggle and even to achieve some small victories for their embattled community. What we were hearing and witnessing is actually a story of hope.

Later in the week we went south to Taejon and to a second Anglican "sharing house" where we met Father Moses Yoon and his team. Again we were tremendously impressed and humbled by what we saw being done with young children learning foreign languages, with a "food bank" and with young homeless people. Moses himself and his staff are, like Father Song and his group in Seoul, incredibly energetic and tireless in their commitment to the poor and to the local community. The government provides salaries for 6 workers; the team divides these to pay 12 workers!! What struck us most forcefully though is the way this exacting and courageous work finds its inspiration and its dynamic in worship. It is the

daily worship of the staff and the people gathered round them that powers this Christian work of healing and service.

On Easter day when, to my delight, I was asked to preach at Grace Anglican Church at Taegu I spoke about Easter as an event not located solely in the past but an event to be experienced in the present too. I quoted some words of Harry Williams "Resurrection is a present miracle. A present miracle to be found within the ordinary daily routine of our lives." In the everyday reality of 20th Century Seoul and Taejon and amidst much injury and hurt Kim and I felt we had been privileged to witness two small and ongoing Easter miracles.

Coming home to Britain we bring so many memories of Korea with us. The fabulously beautiful mountains of Kyeryongsan National Park, vivid with azaleas and cherry blossom; the strange and haunting sounds of Korean State Court Music; the beauty of the poetry and of the people; the calm serenity of the Holy Cross Convent and our friends there and not least we bring home memories of God "eastering" in and through the remarkable "sharing houses" of Korea.

I feel we have so much to learn from these houses and from the theology that inspires them. Their story should be so much more widely known! They are something for the world church to celebrate and pray for.

*Canon D. O. Bell*

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