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AUSTIN MASTERS SSM



Born 13th May 1926

Professed 30th November 1951

Ordained priest 1953

Died 2nd February 2005

FATHER AUSTIN MASTERS SSM

The recent horrendous bombings in London remind me of the only time I ever visited 55 Bedford Gardens. I was a member of the General Synod at the height of the I.R.A. attacks on the Capital and staying with Fr. Austin Masters who was a Secretary at Church House. One night we stayed at the Korean Mission H.Q. and I remember looking carefully under the car before we drove off the next morning. A bomb had gone off only a short time before, just a few streets away.

As readers will know, the SSM connection with Korea was crucial when the Society was founded as the Korean Missionary Brotherhood. Although SSM soon developed along her own lines, our concern for the love of Korea remained throughout the years.

Fr. Austin became Chairman of the Committee after serving in the South African Province of the Sacred Mission where he was ordained. On returning to England in the late sixties he moved to our Lancaster Priory where for a time he was Chaplain at St. Martin's College. After studying for a year at the Irish School of Ecumenics he moved to London as a Secretary on the Board of Mission and Unity; 1971-77. It was then that he took up the Chairmanship of the Korean Committee.

In 1978 he moved on to Exeter as Diocesan Secretary for Mission and he was also a member of the Exeter Central City Team Ministry. Then in 1982 he moved to Hereford where he was a Residentary Canon with responsibility for Mission within the Diocese.

He finally moved to Clewer, near Windsor - where he had been Warden of the Community of S. John the Baptist - as resident Chaplain in 1993.

Fr. Austin was a big man. Tall with a shock of white hair, with the gift of the gab (to use a rather rude word), amusing, occasionally short tempered but always good company. His time in South Africa had prepared him to speak personally and cogently about life in what was then "The Mission Field". He hit the headlines when as Canon Treasurer of Hereford Cathedral; he was a member of the Chapter which was so strapped for cash that they decided to sell the world famous Mappa Mundi. Only the generosity of J. Paul Getty, Jr. saved the map for Hereford.

Sadly towards the latter part of his life illness struck. After quite a severe stroke he never regained his proper speech which proved very irritating and frustrating for him. But his sense of humour never deserted him. He retained his interest in and prayer for the mission of the Church to the end of his life.

He will be remembered with affection, and occasionally awe, by those who knew him well. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

FR. EDMUND WHEAT SSM

KOREAN FRANCISCAN BROTHERHOOD



Korean Franciscan Brotherhood - Chapel in daytime

Praise be to God! The friary extension and remodelling to the Korean Franciscan Brotherhood of friary in Gangchon is now complete. After several years of fundraising we were able to start construction at the end of September last year. Work on the extension was completed by about February and the remodelling of the old building and landscaping was completed in time for our blessing and official opening on May 12. We are now enjoying living in much more comfortable surroundings and able to welcome guests much more conveniently.

The extension is a two storey building of approximately 120sq metres and provides on the ground floor a chapel and community room/office. At the mezzanine level at the back of the building are toilets and showers and a link corridor to the old building. At the top of the stairs on the first floor are five rooms for brothers. There is a basement storeroom. The old building is used for kitchen, dining, guests (two rooms) and library in addition to two basement rooms. At the same time we remodelled the former exterior toilet building to make a workshop for handcrafts as well as a laundry.

This work could not have been completed without generous donors. In total, the cost of the new building, remodelling the old, converting the workshop, furnishings, landscaping and various unplanned items came to a total of 187,000,000 won (about equivalent to 104,000 pounds sterling). Among the many donations for which we are grateful was one from the Korean Mission Partnership of approximately 1,500,000 won.

Of course building construction is never straight forward and builders are for ever trying to cut corners or "improve" on the architect's plan. We are at the moment trying to get

them to come back to fix the basement which wasn't properly waterproofed!

Brother Stephen has been in England experiencing life in various SSF houses and also taking part in a pilgrimage to Assisi. We look forward to his return early next year. Brother Lawrence was ordained priest in spring this year and also we received a new novice, Brother Luke (Fr Kim Kyu-shik, formerly of Taejon Diocese).

For the future our plans are to



After Brother Lawrence's first Mass; in the Kfb Friary chapel with Brothers Christopher John and Luke along with Lawrence's family and Anyang Church members

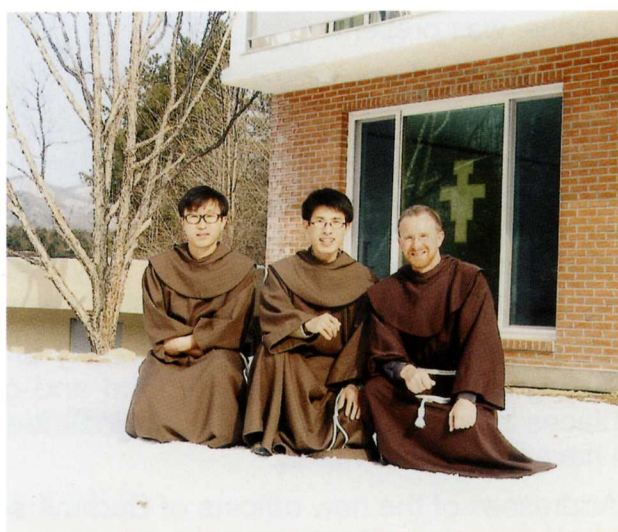
consolidate our community life. There are several vocational enquirers in frequent contact. We want to build up more regular programmes of parish visiting and other forms of meeting people. We are still revising our translation of the "Daily Office SSF" and also plan to catalogue the library.

It's been a busy period but exciting. Please remember us in your prayers, as we remember you in ours.

CHRISTOPHER JOHN SSF



*After the KFB Friary blessing
(left to right: Luke KFB, Lawrence KFB,
Frances KFS, Jemma KFS,
Christopher John SSF*



*In the winter outside the friary (left to right) Brothers
Stephen, Lawrence and Christopher John)*

FATHER MICHAEL DAVENPORT



*Fr. Davenport meets Leo Song after
31 years*

At the last meeting of the K.M.P. Committee held in May, Fr. Davenport announced his resignation from the Committee, also as Commissary to the Bishop of Taejon. Fr. Davenport's presence at meetings will be greatly missed. His well-balanced, courteous opposition - historically founded - to the ordination of women to the priesthood was unanswerable. He was the longest serving member of the Committee, going back to 1972 when the H.Q. was at 55 Bedford Gardens, London. He and his parish of St. Benet Fink in North London have been strong supporters of the Korean Mission during these years and he and his wife have been most hospitable to many visitors from Korea.

In October 2002 Fr. Davenport went out to South Korea and represented the K.M.P. Committee at the Round Table Conference held in Seoul. While out there he was able to renew old friendships and form new links.

Of course Fr. Davenport and his parish will continue to support the work of the Anglican Church in Korea, and our gratitude goes to Fr. Davenport for all the many ways by which he and his congregation have supported the Anglican Church in Korea.

*S.J.DAVIES
President K.M.P. Committee*

The former Honorary Secretary & Treasurer writes:-

This is the last issue of MORNING CALM for which I am responsible as I am now in the process of handing over all the work I have been undertaking for the Korean Mission Partnership since 1993, when I took over the work from the late Canon Austin Masters, though I had been assisting him from 1990. I have seen many changes during these years, the most important, of course, being in April 1993 when South Korea became an autonomous Province within the Anglican Communion. The Archbishop of Canterbury, then the Most Reverend and Rt. Hon George Carey, handed the Primatial Cross to the first Primate of Korea, the Most Reverend Simon Kim, at an inaugural Service held in Seoul Cathedral on April 16th at which the K.M.P. Chairman, then the Reverend Sam Davies, was present.

It was during that year that the Korean Mission Committee added the word 'Partnership' to its title.

During the past 15 years I have made many friends through correspondence; telephone calls and a visit to South Korea. In 1998 I was delighted to accept an invitation from the Council of Sungkonghoe University to represent the K.M.P. Committee on May 1st at the dedication of the Auditorium in memory of Bishop John Daly and the naming of this building as 'Bishop John Daly Hall'. It was due to Bishop John Daly that the former St. Michael's Theological College, which is now part of Sungkonghoe University, was revived after the war years.

My stay with the Sisters of the Society of the Holy Cross in Seoul was most enjoyable and I was very grateful to them for their kind and generous hospitality and for enabling me to visit other places in and around Seoul. I shall look forward to keeping in touch with them and many other links I have with South Korea.

Addresses of the new officers of Committee are printed in this leaflet.

My good wishes to you ALL.

EILENE HASSALL
