



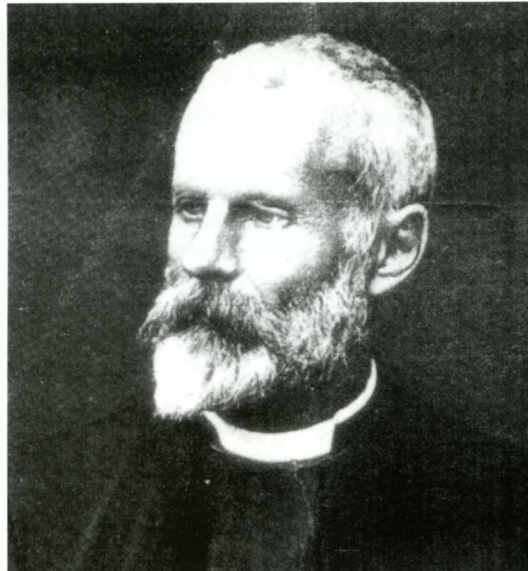
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## **120<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSECRATION OF CHARLES JOHN CORFE**

### **FIRST BISHOP OF KOREA**



**ON ALL SAINTS' DAY, 1st NOVEMBER, 1889, CHARLES JOHN CORFE WAS CONSECRATED AS THE FIRST BISHOP OF KOREA BY EDWARD WHITE BENSON, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY AND FOUNDER OF THE KOREAN MISSION, IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.**

To commemorate this event the Vice Presidents and Trustees of the Korean Mission Partnership, together with friends from Korea and Koreans living in USA, will attend the Abbey Sung Eucharist at 11.15 a.m. on All Saints' Day, Sunday, 1st November.

Preacher: The Rt Revd Paul Kim, Bishop of Seoul.

To be followed by a Lunch in the Abbey Museum.

(By kind permission of the Dean & Chapter of Westminster Abbey)

All friends and supporters are warmly invited to attend.

Please note that it will be necessary to have a ticket to gain entrance to the Lunch.  
All who take lunch will have an opportunity to make a donation towards the cost.

Lunch tickets available from:

The Revd Luke Lee, 101 Lark Vale, Watermead, Aylesbury. HP19 0YP



## **The Chairman writes...**

Dear Friends,

Charles John Corfe was a dedicated naval chaplain when he was called by Archbishop Benson of Canterbury to be the first Bishop of Korea 120 years ago. He was very popular not only with the officers but also with the ratings.. One rating said of him, "Our Chaplain easily bridged the great gulf that existed between officers and men of the Navy. He was in the truest sense and officer and a gentleman but in private talks in his cabin he became to us a wise counsellor, understanding friend and elder brother. His room for some of us became an oasis in the desert." His cabin was an "open house" to all. Bishop Montgomery, the Secretary of SPG, said 'he was a unique naval chaplain.'

Having completed 20 years in the Navy, he resigned in 1881 to go and serve in the North China Mission, but on his return three years later, the Admiralty did an unprecedented thing; it reinstated him with his seniority, obtaining an Order in Council to do so. By 1886 he was chaplain on H.M.S. Alexandra, the flagship of the Duke of Edinburgh, Commander in Chief, Mediterranean Station. When he left the Navy in 1889 to become Bishop of Korea, the Duke appointed him as his chaplain.

When it was known that he was going to Korea as Bishop, his naval friends rallied around and were anxious to help him. They formed a large representative committee of naval officers for "the Naval Hospital Fund for Korea", with the aim of having subscribers to the fund from every ship and in every dockyard. Admiral Colombo said "To his personal knowledge, the Duke of Edinburgh was first of all a sailor, and secondly a great lover and respecter of Bishop Corfe; and when it was proposed to his Royal Highness that he become the President of the Fund, he accepted the position with eagerness."

When Archbishop Benson sent for Corfe in 1889 he told him that no English missionary had ever yet gone to Korea – which was hostile to Christianity and had witnessed many martyrdoms as recently as 1870 – but he wanted him to leave the Navy and become the first Bishop of Korea. With true Naval devotion to duty Corfe consented. An Admiral tried to dissuade him saying it was a forlorn hope, but Corfe reminded him "If, in the course of duty, you got orders to attack a battleship in a dinghy you would obey." Perhaps in the eyes of Corfe it was something like a forlorn hope but he was ready to obey an order from the legitimate authority.

Dr Gifford in his eloquent sermon at the consecration said. , "To-day another leader in that great enterprise is to be consecrated in our sight and sent forth to Korea, ... For more than 20 years the Bishop-designate has been serving God most usefully, most happily, as a chaplain in the Royal Navy. He has still fourteen years to serve, in the order of nature, before he could be compelled to retire. Nothing short of the Archbishop's call which he humbly believes to be a call from God, would have led him to sever his connection with a work in which he has always had the greatest spiritual profit as well as the most real happiness. In leaving the service prematurely, and leaving it – as I may say from my own knowledge – amid universal regret, he forfeits his right to a full pension, and had only a retiring allowance of £100 a year on which to depend for sustenance in sickness or old age."

Corfe was very active in the nine months between his consecration and departure for Korea, inaugurating the Association of Intercessory Prayer insisting it was not only for Korea, but "for all the foreign missionary work of the Church". He laid the foundation for the Society of the Sacred Mission (SSM) which was originally known as the Korean Missionary Brotherhood. He enlisted the help of the sisters of the Community of St Peter, who, in 1892, sent six sisters to Korea. Corfe had a long standing connection with the church of St John the Divine, Kennington and he appointed Canon C. E. Brooke, the Vicar of St John's, as his Commissary. The monthly magazine "Morning Calm" began there and was edited by a priest of St John's. He then set sail for Korea, travelling through the United States and Canada, picking up Dr E. B. Landis, a keen young American doctor, together with promises of help from Canada.

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Corfe and Dr Landis landed in Korea at St Michael and All Angels Day in 1890 and were joined by Dr Wiles, the recently retired Deputy Surgeon General, who had offered him two years' service. There was not a single Korean Anglican Christian. Korea was not a colony of the British Empire. It was a mission headed by the Bishop with two doctors and medical work was started immediately. Two priests arrived shortly afterwards and work was started in Chemulpo and Seoul.

At the age of 45 he began to learn the Korean alphabet, the vernacular tongue and the Chinese characters which were very widely used in East Asia. He did not have any dictionaries or a trained language teacher.

Much of his time was spent travelling. He described in a letter the first Christmas Day in Seoul, 1890, "We walked the 24 miles from Chemulpo in seven bitterly cold hours – my beard and moustaches frozen together" He was also busy supervising the building of St Michael's Chemulpo. Conducting retreats for the staff and training ordinands.

In 1891 Newchwang in Manchuria, with the province in which it lay, was added to his jurisdiction. After a visit at Easter in 1892, he sent a priest there. This became a serious drain on Corfe's small resources, until after ten years it could at last be taken into the Diocese of North China.

The medical mission was a great success and tens of thousands of patients were treated. Some of them travelling hundreds of miles to receive treatment.

Corfe and his staff published a Tract on the Faith they preached, called "Cho Man Min Kwang" (Lumen), after a few years' arduous study of the language. It was the life and work of our Lord - brief, but very lucid, very concise and easily understandable - written in Chinese character and Korean alphabet. It was hailed with enthusiasm at the 1897 Lambeth Conference which Bishop Corfe attended – the Bishop of Chota Nagpur later having it translated into Hindi.

The missionary outreach carried on and after seven years hard work, two Koreans were baptized. When Corfe resigned in 1904, there were four mission stations, each with an able priest in charge and two hundred Christians. He was a very pastorally minded bishop and sorry that he could not master the skill of speaking colloquial Korean and be able to converse with all the members of his flock as he had been able to do when he was a naval chaplain.

He made a positive contribution in laying the foundation for the Korean Liturgy. He produced the first Korean Prayer Book and Catechism, and later still a revised Korean translation of the Bible. The Bishop could not speak colloquial Korean, but he schooled himself to a good knowledge of Korean and Chinese for writing and translation.

A small seed of the Gospel, sown by Bishop Corfe and his little team in the land of Korea in 1890, has produced much fruit. Now the Korean Anglican Church has become a Province of the Anglican Communion with 3 dioceses, more than 200 priests, one university, 4 religious communities and more than 60 social welfare centres up and down the country. It now sends clergy and laity to work in the worldwide Church.

This year we celebrate 120th anniversary of Bishop Corfe's consecration. We give thanks to God for his sacrificial work in Korea and for all who have supported the Korean Anglican Church throughout those years.

Yours sincerely

Luke Lee

## NEWS SNIPPETS

**Sungkonghoe University:** More buildings are required to meet the high demand for places and the foundation stone for a new block, to house the seminarians, was laid on 19th June. The work is scheduled for completion in the autumn of 2010.

**Mission Website:** Our thanks go to Professor Francis Youseung Kim of Chung-Ang University Seoul, who has very kindly agreed to take responsibility for running the Mission's website. It is now possible to view almost all issues of Morning Calm which have been produced since 1988. The website address is:- [www.admin@koreanmission.org](mailto:www.admin@koreanmission.org)

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## **Laying a Foundation Stone for a New Age of Missionary Co-operation through the Korean Japanese Anglican Churches' Missionary Sending and Receiving Programme**

A report from Fr. Shigyeong (Stephen) Yoo, Rikkyo (St.Paul's) University Chaplain.

A member of the Korea-Japan Missionary Sending/Receiving Committee.

As at this Easter 2009 the total number of Korean Anglican Church priests sent to Japanese Anglican church dioceses and working in parishes or organisations stands at 14. This is the fruit of the first official sending and receiving period begun in 2004 and running until the end of 2009. A further 5 more are preparing to be sent bringing the numbers to 19 by the end of 2009 and perhaps even a few more may join them. Following the assessing of this first period from 2004-2009 we shall look in to a future second sending and receiving period.

First of all, if we look carefully at how Korean Anglicans have come to serve in the Japanese Anglican church we can categorise it in four ways.

1. From about 1980 there began to be formal exchanges between the Korean and Japanese Bishops and so, very naturally, exchange agreements arose between Dioceses.
2. In October 2004 in Fukuoka, Japan, a meeting to celebrate 20 years of formal exchanges produced a joint Bishops meeting at which the Japanese Bishops formally asked Korean Anglican priests to be sent to them and the Korean Anglican Church Partnership Missionary sending and receiving project was begun.
3. Arising out of the exchanges above, there are instances where some Korean Anglican priests have served in Japan and then moved to become an integral part of the Japanese Anglican church.
4. There are also Koreans with past links to Japan in some way who, through various ways, have received a call to serve there, received sponsorship from the Japanese church and, after training in Japan, have been ordained there.

Of the total of 19 Koreans already there or expected to be there by the autumn of 2009, 5 are working in direct cooperation between Dioceses, 10 who are working in particular projects, 1 who has moved into the Japanese church and 3 are being sponsored and trained in Japan. As can be seen from the above numbers breakdown, from 2004 more serve in organisations or projects than in inter-Diocesan exchanges. The reason for this is that those working in projects generally feel that they can carry more responsibility. Before serving in Japan the Japanese church alerts the Korean church to its practical needs, then through the Joint Bishops' Meeting and the local parish volunteers are called, approved, and recommended. Then when the Japanese side's approval of the invitation, welcome and designation to a Diocese had been received the sending is agreed.

In the case of the fourth category, those training and being ordained in Japan, I would like to point out that the present expression of this has a precedent from much earlier times. In Japanese colonial times (when Korea was annexed by Japan from 1910-1945) amongst those who were taken to Japan for various reasons there were those who individually joined the faithful and lived the spiritual life and some rose to be priests. One of these was Fr. Jang Joonsang who ministered in the Osaka Diocese before the War and after the 1984 formalization of inter-church relationships as its first expression he was remembered at the founding of the Japanese Korean congregation's St. Gabriel's Church as well as when the Ikuno activity centre was founded in this area where lots of Japanese Koreans live.

The significance and prospects of the Joint Missionary work.

Although these 19 Korean Anglican missionaries and ministers working in the Japanese field now represent 1/20th of the numbers of Japanese priests there is something more important than these mere numbers may represent.

Firstly, in the past in Japanese Imperial times the Korean churches suffered under the colonial regime. Just before the outbreak of the war in the Pacific the English missionary priests who led the Korean Anglican church were all ejected from the country and under the Imperial government's religious policy a Japanese Anglican church Bishop was installed as Bishop of the Chosun Anglican Church. This was a sad time in our history. When the war finished there was no communication between the two countries but from 1965 some personnel were exchanged and from 1984 formal relationships were begun and appreciations and regret was shown and between Dioceses brother/sister relationships were established at all levels – theological study, young peoples and women's work, social ministry and mission studies – all began to be implemented. This overcoming of previous enmities is very significant. This was particularly brought out at the recent Lambeth Conference where the Japanese church supported the Peaceful Unification of Korea and supported the continuation of Japan's peaceful policy of non-aggression in spite of recent moves in Japan to change this. This gives new scope for joint missionary ventures.

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Secondly, since having its first Korean Bishop consecrated in 1965, the hundredth anniversary of the Mission in 1990, elevation to Province status in 1993, added to this a fully equipped Seminary in 2005 coinciding with Korean leadership and the 40 years of being an independent, self-sufficient church the Korean Anglican church has come a long way. Through this growth and development in the Korean Anglican church numbers of priests have risen. In one way the Church's involvement in the social democratic movement and social change, expansion in social mission, etc, has given the Korean Anglican church ministers much experience and with this training as a basis many have looked to the Japanese church as a place to work as missionaries. This experience will enhance the Korean churches long term mission strategy not only overseas but at home.

Thirdly, following the start of formal Korean/Japanese Anglican relationships, especially since the 70's when the Japanese church supported the Korean church, there is now a time when the Japanese church's lack of priests is being met by the sending of Korean priests but to the appreciative eye both churches' mutual desire and cooperation can be seen to be becoming one. In this way it is to be hoped that the Korean Japanese Anglican Churches will provide a space to organise joint projects in an expanding cooperative partnership.

Recently the missionaries working in Japan since 2004 under the title of "Korean Anglican Church Ministers in Japan" have been meeting once a year to fellowship, share their experiences and create a place where they can explore their missionary vision. At this meeting Korean and Japanese Anglicans from both sides attend, encourage and discuss outstanding questions and make this a place to jointly own visions of the future.

This year is the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Japanese Anglican church. At this important and deeply felt moment we give thanks for the privilege of being able to serve in the Lord's work there. Even though small in number, the Korean missionaries pray that when the Church celebrates its 200th anniversary they will be seen to have made a significant contribution to the life and work of the Anglican Church in Japan.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<i>President</i>	The Most Revd Solomon Yoon
<i>Vice Presidents</i>	The Rt Revd Christopher Hill The Rt Revd Robert Ladds
<i>Chairman</i>	The Revd Luke Lee (Commissary to the Bishop of Seoul)
<i>Hon Admin Secretary</i>	The Revd Martin Fletcher (Commissary to the Bishop of Daejeon)
<i>Hon Minute Secretary</i>	The Revd Nicholas Deane (Commissary to the Bishop of Busan)
<i>Hon Treasurer</i>	Mr Edwin Ward (Commissary to the Bishop of Busan)
<i>Morning Calm Editors</i>	The Revd Nicholas Deane Mr Edwin Ward
<i>Committee Members</i>	The Revd Roderick Leece (Commissary to the Bishop of Daejeon) The Revd Stephen Hardwicke Mrs Esther Partridge Revd Mother Lucy Clare CSP Mr William Say Miss Fannie Storr

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THE KOREAN MISSION PARTNERSHIP  
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Small Isles  
12 Greenvale  
Farnsfield  
Newark  
NG22 8DL

## THANKSGIVINGS AND INTERCESSIONS

Give thanks for Bishop Charles John Corfe, the first Bishop of Korea, who was consecrated in Westminster Abbey on All Saints' Day 1889 and for the life and witness of the Korean Church during the past 120 years.

For Paul, Bishop of Seoul, who will be preaching at the Service of Thanksgiving in Westminster Abbey.

For Solomon, Primate and Bishop of Busan.

For Michael, Bishop of Daejeon.

Give thanks for Sungkonghoe University and pray for the success of the building programme which is currently under way.

Pray for Fr Jeremiah Yang, the President and for all members of staff and the students.

Bishop Paul Lee, the 1st Bishop of Seoul, who is in hospital.

The Society of the Holy Cross in Seoul and for Sister Catherine SHC as she undergoes a course of chemotherapy treatment.

The Community of St Francis in Gumi.

The Order of St Benedict in Busan.

The Korean Franciscan Brotherhood in Gangchon.

### 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)

September				December			
4	Constance Trollope	KMP Secretary	1948	1	Hans Steenbuch, p.		
5	Andrew Shiozaki, p.		1910-34	4	Sydney Peake		1891
6	Thomas Smith, p.			6	Barnabas Koo, p.		1914-41
9	Isaiah Son, p.		1959-72	11	John Kim, p.		1937-41
12	Joseph Im, p.		1929-60	12	Rose Cooper		1934-39
14	Aidan SSF, p.		1981-82	14	Augustine Pak, p.		1929-56
15	Carlo Son		1956-84	15	Sister Ethel Mary CSP		1931-34
16	Timothy Fletcher, p.		1957-61	17	Cecil Cooper, bp.	4th Bishop of Korea	1908-54
18	Leslie Soul, p.		1932-38	21	Joseph Nam, p.		-77
18	Basil Choi, p.		1934-94	22	John Kim, p.		1924-64
21	Harold Firkins SSM, p.		1892-1904	26	Ann Barrow, dr.		1911-40
23	Paul Ko, p.		1937-62	26	Wilfred Gurney, p.		1903-
October				January			
1	Stephen Chon, p.		1938-63	2	Francis Sprent, p.		1895-190
4	Sister Helen Constance CSP		1920-30	4	Sister Esther SHC		-2006
5	Stephen Pak, p.		1964-92	6	Colin Harrison, p.		1988-90
7	Noah Cho, p.		1957-72	14	John Thomas, p.		1936-
7	Sister Nora CSP		1892-1919	15	Timothy Kim, p.		1977-89
8	John Drake SSM, p.		1898-1941	22	Andrew Suh, p.		1988-2006
8	Edward Carroll, p.		1934-41	23	Mark Park, p.		1968-94
10	Sister Isabel CSP		1892-1927	27	Paul Burrough, bp.		1951-59
11	Edward White Benson, bp.	Archbishop of Canterbury & Founder of the Mission	1889-96	28	Peter Kang, p.		-25
12	Luke Ha, p.		-2002	February			
15	Haru Inaba		1908-45	3	John Badcock SSM, p.		1896-1904
19	Lawrence Park, p.		1964-81	3	Austin Masters SSM, p.	KMP Chairman/Secretary	1971-93
20	Sister Hilda CSP		1927-30	3	Sister Tabitha SHC		-2006
26	Barnabas Kim, p.		1916-66	15	Sister Maria SHC		-2001
28	Arthur Turner, bp.	2nd Bishop of Korea	1896-1910	16	George Bridle SSM, p.		1897-1904
28	Sister Edith Helena CSP		1907-40	17	Sister Cecil CSP		1907-20
30	Josephine Roberts		1958-83	17	Edward Greene, p.		
31	Shin Duk Kyung Deuk Kim, p.		-96	20	George Morley, p.		1922-31
November				23	Michael Yip		1918-38
2	George Laurence, p.			23	Aidan Kang, p.		1949-9
3	Alan Messom, p.		1969-77	23	Michael Lee, p.		-64
4	Elijah Lee		1959-69	25	Basil Oh, p.		-2003
5	Francis Ahn, p.		1975-95	March			
6	Mark Trollope, bp.	3rd Bishop of Korea	1891-1930	3	Sister Faith CSP		1919-41
6	Sister Mary Clare CSP		1923-50	8	Sister Barbara CSP		1899-1939
7	John Ha, p.		1967-84	9	Paul Hirai, p.		1933-34
9	Cecil Chambers, p.			9	William Rees	KMP Secretary	1948
10	John Wiles, dr.		1891-93	13	Henry Fawcett, p.		1949-54
13	Frederick Doxat, p.		1892-98	14	Athanasius So, p.		1970-86
17	Frederick Wilson, p.		1910-	14	Leonard Warner, p.		1890-96
20	Charles Hunt, p.		1915-50	15	Sister Margery Noel CSP		1938-40
21	Arthur Chadwell, bp.			16	Walter Morse, p.		1922-32
22	George Hewlett, p.		1906-34	23	Stephen Yu, p.		1940-67
23	Luke Lee, p.		-61				
30	Sister Nora CSP		1892-1919				
30	Sister Beryl CSP		1936-40				