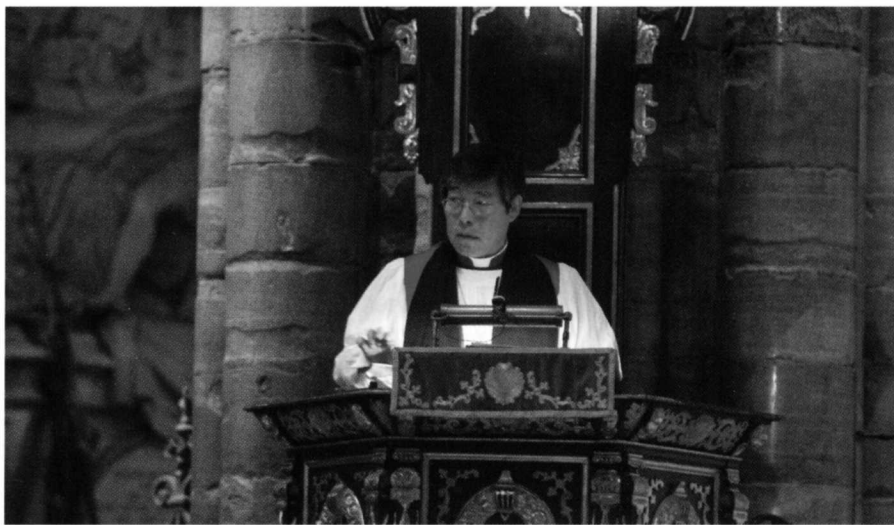


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120th ANNIVERSARY OF BISHOP CORFE'S CONSECRATION



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"?
