

St. George's Episcopal Church, Dayton, Ohio

has chosen Li Tim-Oi as one of two 'saints' from the 20th century to honour with a window in their building. The design recalls how she kept the faith in Maoist China, even when she was required to feed chickens instead of her fellow-Christians.

In August 2003 the Episcopal Church in the States agreed to include the Anniversary of her 1944 Priesting in their Calendar on 24 January.



Designed by Jane Collins, made by Willert Studios

The Foundation is also aware that Li Tim-Oi has been similarly honoured by windows in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, Chautauqua NY, and in St Paul's School for Girls, Brocklandville MD. In a frieze at St Gregory of Nyssa Church, San Francisco she is to be seen dancing with Eleanor Roosevelt.

When, on the Golden Jubilee of Li Tim-Oi's priesting in 1994, Archbishop Donald Coggan launched the Li Tim-Oi Foundation in St Martin-in-the-Fields Church, London, he also dedicated a Prayer Board in her memory. There, as in her life, she continues to carry the thanksgivings, pains and sorrows of many.

The Trustees of the Foundation:

Canon Ruth Wintle [chair], Canon Christopher Hall, Mrs Rita Lee-Chui, the Rev Dr Peter Leung, Mr Alan Lun, Ms Sue Parks, Mrs Christina Rees, Mrs Margaret Sentamu, Canon Bob Whyte, Mrs Jane Williams & the Rev John Wright [treasurer].

At her birth in 1907 Li Tim-Oi's father called her "Much Beloved". When she was baptized as a student, Tim-Oi chose the name Florence after Florence Nightingale. In 1931 at the ordination of a deaconess, she heard and responded to the call to ministry. She took a four-year course at theological college in Canton. She was made Deacon in 1941, and was given charge of the Anglican congregation in the Portuguese colony of Macao, thronged with refugees from war-torn China. When a priest could no longer travel from Japanese-occupied territory to preside for her at the eucharist, Bishop R O Hall of Hong Kong asked her to meet him in Free China, where on 25 January 1944 he ordained her "a priest in the Church of God". To defuse controversy, in 1946 she surrendered her priest's licence, but not her Holy Orders, the knowledge of which carried her through Maoist persecution. She resumed the practice of her priesthood in the Church in China, and in Toronto when she retired in 1981. She was awarded Doctorates of Divinity by General Theological Seminary, New York, and Trinity College, Toronto. She died on 26 February 1992.

李添嫻 牧師

Chinese script for 'Li Tim-Oi Priest'



This cross comes from a stone in Xian, which commemorates the arrival of the first Christian missionary in China in 635 AD.

THE LI TIM-OI FOUNDATION



The Li Tim-Oi Foundation assists Anglican women in the two-thirds world to train for Christian work in their own countries - in memory of the first Anglican woman priest, Florence Li Tim-Oi.



