

### FATHER WILLIAM MARRS. SDB.

Fr. William Marrs died on Saturday, November 12th 1960, at Mount Alvernia Nursing Home, Guildford, after a brief illness.

Fr. William was born, the youngest of seventeen children, in Manchester on the 10th April 1910, and entered the Salesian House, Cowley, Oxford as an aspirant in 1927. He started his novitiate year at Cowley in September 1929 and he made his first profession on the 13th September 1930. He stayed on at Cowley for another two years to complete his philosophical studies. For his period of practical training he went to Chertsey to help with the teaching and other youth work there. He endeared himself to the community and boys alike because of his kindly understanding of others and his unfailing good manners. The period of practical training was followed by studies in theology at Shrigley from 1935-6 and Blaisdon from 1936-39.

He was finally ordained a priest by Bishop Lee of Clifton in July 1939. Now a priest, he was appointed to the teaching staff at Chertsey, where he taught successfully until 1943. He then taught at Farnborough and, whilst there, he gave his priestly services to the R. A. M. C. depot, at Crookham, displaying his gifts for zealous pastoral work. In 1946 he was appointed as curate to the parish at Farnborough and given charge of Cove, where his imperturbable patience and kindness won him great popularity. In July 1960 he was given the administration of the Farnborough parish, and seemed set for a successful and fruitful career in charge of that parish. God however, determined otherwise. On September 14th 1960, Father Marrs entered hospital at Mount Alvernia, Guildford, where he became progressively weaker until his remarkable peaceful death, at the age of fifty-one on the 13th November 1960. He knew it was the end and there was no doubt that he was ready to meet his Maker.

The Solemn Requiem Mass and funeral took place before a very large and sympathetic congregation at Farnborough on the 16th November 1960. Council 185 Farnborough Knights of St. Columba paid a most reverent and pleasing mark of respect to the deceased priest, wearing their regalia and forming a guard of honour at the church and later at the graveside. Senior members of the Knights acted as pall bearers, a moving tribute to a priest who had endeared himself to them over the years.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE.