

FATHER MICHAEL McGRANE. S. D. B.

Father Michael was born in Laghey, Donegal, on the 22nd October 1913 and he was baptised in St. Brigid's, Ballintra. After Michael had finished his secondary education with the Christian Brothers, he decided to test his vocation for the priesthood and he went to the Salesian school at Pallaskenry, Limerick. Pallaskenry was then a new Salesian Missionary College and Michael expressed a wish to go to the missions. A short time later an Irish-Argentinian priest called Fr. Usher came to the College and spoke about the Argentine missions. The result of his visit was that four aspirants, including Michael, volunteered to go to Argentina to initially do their Church studies there and then help to spread the faith in that country. Michael started his novitiate in Bernal in January 1935 and, after a successful year, he made his first religious profession on the 25th January 1936. He stayed at the same house for the next two years in order to study Philosophy. He then went to Buenos Aires for his teaching experience for three years. Then he went to the theologate at Cordoba to complete his final studies for the priesthood and he was ordained on the 25th November 1945 in Bernal.

Father Michael then went to Buenos Aires for one year as a teacher and one year at the Elementary School in Puerto Deseado. His health at this time was giving some cause for concern so he returned to the Anglo-Irish province in 1949.

Initially he went to the Salesian House at Pallaskenry, Limerick and he helped there in the Mission office for two years. He then moved to England and he spent the next two years teaching at Farnborough, then at Chertsey for one year and Shrigley for three years. He then moved to Ireland again - to Ballinakill and he taught there for three years.

Again his health deteriorated and he died on the 1st August 1965 in Donegal, Ireland. This apostolic young man who had left his home in Donegal to study for the priesthood and then generously offered himself for missionary work in a distant land had returned to his hometown to die. May this good, apostolic soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.