

Salesian College, London.

Dear Confreres,

On Thursday, February 9th, at 1 am the soul of

BROTHER PATRICK McPARLAND. S. D. B.

passed peacefully to the Lord. He was born of good and holy parents at Cavanakill. Co. Armagh, on May 28th 1898. As a young man he felt the call of service to the Lord and after various wanderings, found his way to the Salesians. He was advised, as a late vocation, not to undertake any studies for the priesthood. This advice he accepted willingly and he was always ready to carry out any task allotted to him. He undertook some teaching in the lower classes, for which he had both ability and experience. He made his first profession at Cowley, Oxford, on September 17th, 1927, which he later renewed at Farnborough.

At Malta, where he taught for a year, there appeared the germs of a disease, which he must have carried for some years before he entered the Congregation. Every medical care was given to him and, on the advice of his doctor, he was assigned light work at Farnborough, where quietly he worked conscientiously for another two years.

However, the onset of winter saw a deterioration in his health and it was thought well to allow him to go home to his family in the hope that his native air might help him. He did, indeed, improve in health but he then suffered an attack of influenza which left him very weak. There was some hope of his getting better, when, during the night, he suffered a severe haemorrhage. He was able to alert his family by banging on the adjacent wall, but when they came to him he was unable to speak to them or to the priest they had hastily called, who administered the Holy Oils with one anointing. He had already gone to God. He must have been happy that he had always been faithful to his weekly confession and now would reap the benefit.

In his last letter he wrote to me: "Pray for me that I may get better, if it is the will of God." May the most holy and loving will of God always enter as a condition in all our prayers, a condition of peace and tranquillity in all the adversities of our life.

To your fraternal charity I recommend the soul of our departed brother, the conversion of this country and the spiritual needs of this House. Permit me to profess myself, in Mary, Help of Christians and Blessed Don Bosco,

Your humble confrere,

E. M. Tozzi, S. C. (Provincial)