



Rev. Father Armando Milford, S.D.B.

SALESIAN COLLEGE,
BATTERSEA,
LONDON, S.W.11.

SALESIAN COLLEGE,
BATTERSEA,
LONDON, S.W.11.

1st March, 1970.

Dear Confrères,

On the morning of Tuesday, 30th December, 1969, just as the Old Year was drawing to its close, **REV. FATHER ARMANDO MILFORD, S.D.B.**, quietly and peacefully gave up his soul to God. And so, fortified by all the rites of Holy Church, and charitably assisted by the good Alexian Brothers at whose nursing home, Twyford Abbey, he died he ended, in enviable calm, a life marked always by industrious activity and by the impetuous and fiery enthusiasm characteristic of his South American origins.

It is now both my duty and my privilege earnestly to request your good prayers and suffrages for his eternal happiness among the saints of God.

Armando Milford was born at Rio de Janiero, Brazil, on 22nd May, 1894. In 1903, at the age of nine, he entered the Salesian School at Nictheroy, Brazil, and made his novitiate at Lorena from 1912-13. His final profession as a Son of Don Bosco took place at Lavrinhas, in 1919. He did his philosophical studies at Lorena from 1913-15, whilst his theological course, begun at Lavrinhas (1919-20), was completed at Foglizzo (Italy), and he was ordained priest at Turin on 28th June, 1925.

His story thereafter embraces in its first years, a complex of teaching and other activities in Italy and Portugal. For two years prior to his ordination, namely, from 1923-25, he helped with the philosophical students at Cowley (Oxford), England. This period marked the commencement of the long connection with the Anglo-Irish Province of the Salesians which ended only with his death. He taught at Battersea from 1928-32. After brief stays at Pallaskenry, Co. Limerick,

Ireland, and at Burwash (Sussex), he returned to the staff at Battersea in 1933. The years 1944-50 were spent at Bolton. Then once again, and for the last time, he came back to London and worked with tremendous conscientiousness and fidelity as a member of the teaching staff until, soon after his seventieth birthday failing health compelled his retirement. Here, too, must be mentioned the unfailing good work he managed to do in London, during the difficult period when the college, owing to the Second World War, was evacuated to Oxford. Stories, such as those of his directing the traffic during the upheaval after a "blitz" can only be fully appreciated by those who knew him and his gift for complicating the English tongue.

Fr. Milford enshrined in himself many fine Salesian qualities, not least among them a profound sense of the welcome which, in the tradition of St. John Bosco, should always be accorded to the Old Boys of our schools, to the parents of the boys, and to all our friends and benefactors. In his interest in them, and in the generous warmth of the greeting which he always accorded to them, he has left behind him lessons of great value to us all. Similarly, he was the father and friend of so many of his South American compatriots who found themselves visiting London, or working in this great city, and so often in need of friendly welcome and guidance. A host of such people to whom he was benefactor mourn his passing.

After Solemn Requiem Mass at Battersea on 9th January, 1970, the mortal remains of Father Milford were laid to rest in the Salesian plot at Morden Cemetery, Surrey.

May he rest in peace !

Pray, please, for him, for this community and for

Yours sincerely in Don Bosco,

Francis Treanor, S.D.B.

(Rector).

