

Salesian College,
Battersea,
London.

Dear Confreres,

On the morning of Tuesday, 30th December, 1969, just as the Old Year was drawing to its close

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 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 typical of his South American origins. It is now both my duty and my privilege earnestly to request your prayers for his eternal happiness among the saints of God. Armando Milford was born at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on the 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 was completed at Foglizzo and he was ordained a priest on the 28th June 1925.

His story hereafter 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. This period marked the beginning 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 spells at Limerick and Burwash, he returned to the staff at Battersea. The years 1944-50 were spent at Bolton. Once again, and for the last time he came back to London and worked with great 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 good work he managed to do in London, during the difficult period when the college, during the Second World War was evacuated to Oxford.

Fr. Milford enshrined in himself many Salesian qualities - he took a great interest in the Past Pupils, their parents, and many friends and benefactors. In his interest in them and in the general warmth of the greeting which he always accorded them, he has left behind him lessons of great value to us all.

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