

Salesians of St. John Bosco



Salesian House,
Surrey Lane,
Battersea,
London SW11 3PB

August 1983

Dear Confrères

FATHER THOMAS MURRAY, S.D.B.

The death took place in a nursing home in Dublin, after a long and wearying illness, on Wednesday, 15th June 1983, of Father Thomas Murray.

Father Thomas was born in Dublin on the 21st May 1917 and baptised in St. Kevin's church, Harrington Street, a few days later. He was 66 years old when he died.

He was one of the first boys to go to Shrigley in 1931, when he was 14 years old and he came as the son of a family strong in the tradition of sound Irish faith. He remained at Shrigley as a pupil for five years and on the 27th August 1936 he entered the Salesian novitiate which was then at Beckford, Gloucestershire and he made his first religious profession there on the 29th August 1937. His final vows were made at Oxford in September 1943. He completed his theological studies at Blaisdon, Gloucestershire and it was in Blaisdon that he was ordained to the priesthood in July 1946.

For the next eight years Father Thomas taught in Salesian schools in England. The year 1954 saw his missionary zeal put to the test as he was asked to go to South Africa and for four years he taught at Lansdowne (Cape Province). There followed a brief stay in London for further studies and then, after a further time in South Africa at Bremersdorp, Transvaal, he came back to Battersea. Until 1975, he was on the teaching staff there. It was not long before his health began noticeably to decline, due to arthritis and associated complaints. In 1975, he moved to Dublin, and he spent the rest of his days convalescing and under devoted medical care.

The funeral took place at the Salesian College, Ballinakill, Co. Leix, Ireland on Friday, 17th June.

With confidence I commend his soul to the charity of your good prayers.

Yours sincerely in Don Bosco,
Bernard Higgins, S.D.B.
(Rector)

Data for Necrology: Father Thomas Murray born in Dublin 21st May 1917, died in Dublin 15th June 1983 in the 45th year of profession and 36th of priesthood.

R.I.P.