

FATHER HAROLD MUSGRAVE. SDB.

Harold Joseph Langdon Musgrave was born of farming stock at Taunton in the county of Somerset on the 11th July 1882. As a child he did not enjoy robust health and his elementary education was received first of all at a private school at Cheddon in Somerset from 1887 to 1891. Then he went to the Primary School at Kingston in Somerset. He often told us in conversation how he was never any good at games and how his preference was for music and reading. His secondary studies were done initially at a boarding school at Wellington, Somerset from 1894 to 1897, and then at a day school in Taunton for one final year. In 1899 he was apprenticed to a large drapery establishment in Cheltenham. It was during this time that he came in contact with the Benedictine Fathers in Cheltenham. He began to read about the Catholic faith and eventually he was baptised as a Catholic in the Benedictine church in Cheltenham on August 3rd 1902. Full of the fervour of conversion, he joined the juniorate of the Mill Hill Fathers at Freshfield, and, after two years there he went to Rosendaal, Holland to study Philosophy and in 1908 he returned to Mill Hill where he started to study theology.

His contact with the sacred science of theology led his thoughts to higher things, to the contemplative life, so he decided to try his vocation with the Carthusians in Sussex. This only lasted one year and he began to look elsewhere. This led to his contact with the Salesians and he entered the Salesian novitiate at Burwash and eventually made his religious profession on the 15th September 1912. He then moved to Battersea and from 1913-15 he taught Music and acted as infirmarian there. In 1915 he went to Farnborough where he continued his Church studies and taught Music. In 1918 he was ordained a priest at Farnborough. He then went to Chertsey as a Music teacher but soon afterwards - in 1920 his early missionary aspirations were satisfied and he went to South Africa where he remained until 1931. He was stationed first at Cape Town until 1927 and then at Lansdowne where he was Rector of the house until 1931.

In 1931 he was back in England doing supply work in Battersea. The following year he went to Shrigley as confessor. In 1937 he was back at Battersea and in 1943 he went back to Shrigley as confessor and assisting with the Propaganda Office work. After three years as confessor to the students of Philosophy at Savio House he went to Beckford in 1956. His spiritual odyssey had started in Gloucester and now he was back home. He often spoke of Beckford as "This little corner of Paradise" On Sunday March 9th 1958 he went to Brownhill, Stroud, to say Mass for the community there. On March 27th whilst saying Mass he had a heart attack and he remained unconscious until he died on Maunday Thursday, April 3rd 1958. Don Bosco said. . "When a Salesian dies working for souls you may say that the congregation has gained a great victory" Fr Musgrave died in his priestly vestments, whilst holding aloft the Lamb of God. May that same Lamb of God grant him eternal rest and send many more labourers into his vineyard.

BROTHER LOUIS BONNICI. S. D. B.

Bro. Louis was born on the 11th February 1893 in Sliema, Malta, and he was later baptised in the Stella Maris Church, Sliema.

From an early age he came in contact with the Salesians, who had recently started their work for disadvantaged boys at St. Patrick's. Sliema. When he was seventeen he thought about the religious life and he asked if he might join the Salesians. After a short trial period with the community at St. Patrick's he was sent to the Salesian novitiate at San Benigno, Italy, in 1910. Having successfully completed the novitiate, he made his first religious profession in March 1912.

After his religious profession Bro. Louis was asked to go to the Cardinal Richelmy Institute, Martinetto, Turin, as an apprentice tailor. In 1914 he was asked to go to St. Francis Institute, Catania, in the Sicilian province, in order to teach tailoring to the boys there. In 1918 he was asked to go to the Salesian Professional Institute at Palermo for a year to start a tailoring shop there. From 1919-22 he was back in Catania, and from 1922-24 he was again at the Cardinal Richelmy Institute in the tailoring department. In 1924-27 he moved to Shanghai and from 1927-38 he was at the Aberdeen Technical School, Hong Kong, where he taught tailoring until 1932. He then moved over to the Printing department and worked in that department until 1938. During the difficult years of World War 2, Bro. Louis was in a Prisoner of War camp for four years - from 1941-45. In 1945 he was able to move back to Malta and he helped there whenever he could in the tailoring and printing departments. His health was deteriorating during this time and, after coming to London for further hospital treatment, he died in London on the 21st March 1958.

Bro. Bonnici travelled far and worked hard during his Salesian life. He was a good observant religious and in his teaching and his community life he was always anxious to help others.

May his kindly and good soul rest in peace. Amen.