

FR. AMBROSE ROSSI	(1893-1964)
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Ambrose Rossi was born in Cortenona (Como, Italy) on 25th April 1893. His father had a great devotion to Don Bosco - this good man left written in his final testament: "If I feel happy and at peace at the moment of death draws nigh, one of the main reasons is that my eldest son has given himself to the Salesian Congregation."

Ambrose spent his early school years in the College of St. Ambrose in Milan. He felt so much at home there that he wanted to spend the rest of his life with the Salesians.

In 1909 he entered the novitiate and received his cassock from the hands of Blessed Don Rua and made his profession at Valdocco on the 16th October 1910. He studied philosophy at Valsalice where Don Bosco's mortal remains lay enshrined. One of his companions there was Renato Ziggitti.

His philosophy completed, he was sent to England for his three years of practical training.

When the 1st World War broke out he was called up into the Italian Army and spent the next five years there. This experience, far from making him waver in his vocation, strengthened him in his resolve to continue his studies for the priesthood as soon as possible.

From 1919 to 1923 he studied theology in Turin and was ordained in the Basilica of Mary, Help of Christians on the 22nd September. On his ordination card he had written: "O Lord, teach me good sense and knowledge" (Psalm 119).



"RUPERTSWOOD" DECEMBER 1936

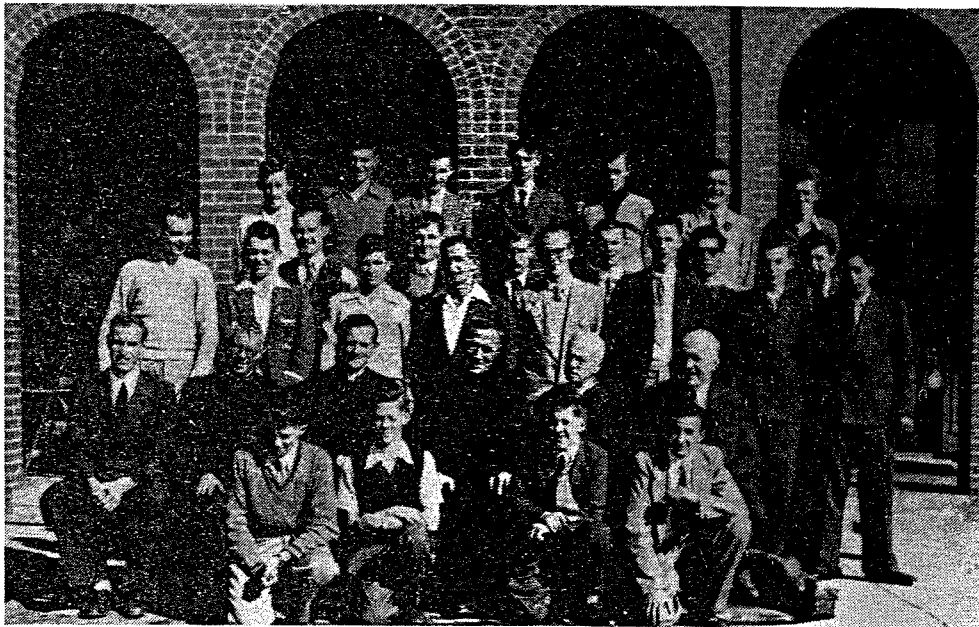
Back (l.to r.) Br. Sebastian Durando, Br. John Cooke, Br. Celestine Acerni, Br. Henry Gilman, Br. Francis Beyer, Br. Ludwig Aman, Br. Joseph Seufzger, Br. John Ledda. Front (l.to r.) Fr. John Biloni, Fr. Joseph Dunne, Fr. Ambrose Rossi, Fr. Michael Maiocco, Fr. Edward Power.

After ordination he was sent to the Aspirantate at Ivrea and, after one year there, he was appointed Rector (1925-1930). In this office he was in a position to give early training to dozens of young men who went off as missionaries to every corner of the Salesian world. When his term of office had expired he was appointed the first Rector of the Aspirantate for Brothers at Rebaudengo.

In 1932 he was named as Provincial for the United States, Canada and Australia, an office he held until 1941. He did much to organize this Province and won the affection and confidence of all the confreres.

From the United States he passed over to Mexico and then to the Province of Central America. He was appointed first of all to the House of Studies and then to the parish of San Salvador. He was responsible for building a magnificent Church to Mary, Help of Christians.

He returned to Italy in 1962 but was anxious to get back to San Salvador where he wanted to spend the rest of his Salesian life. He died on the 26th March 1964, and is buried in San Salvador.



ABOVE: Brunswick 1955.

Seated (l. to r.): Br. P. Dezani, Fr. J. Furlanetto, Fr. M. Swan, Fr. R. Ziggiotti, Fr. P. Zolin, Br. T. Supple.

LEFT: Fr. E. Rossetti (centre) with his brothers.