

FATHER MICHAEL BRENNAN. SDB.

From South Africa comes the news of the death at Nazareth House of a much loved priest, after twenty-five years in that land. Michael was born in Coxlodge, Gosforth, Northumberland on the 28th May 1905. Michael worked as a miner before going to Battersea as an aspirant in 1927. He later entered the novitiate at Oxford in September 1929 and he made his first profession there on the 13th September 1930. Michael studied Philosophy at Oxford for two years and then went to the Salesian Agricultural College at Pallaskenry, Limerick, not far from his parents' place of origin. He returned to England and, after studying theology at Blaisdon, he was ordained on the 16th July 1939. After ordination Michael returned to Ireland and he stayed there until 1952, where he was several times Rector of various houses.

Father Michael was a most genial personality, welcomed by everyone with a great heart for Sisters and children of all ages, the elderly and infants. No matter what the hour of the day or the gloom of the sky, it was always "The top of the morning to you! It's a grand morning, thank God!" and somehow it was, with Father Brennan's booming laugh and quite infectious optimism. In 1973 he suffered two strokes and eventually the Sisters of Nazareth, who had known and loved him for his care and concern for them for many years, took him and cared for him in return until he died there on the 21st February aged nearly 73.