

FATHER CORNELIUS GREY. SDB.

The death took place, after a long and painful illness, on the 19th November 1962, in a Dublin Nursing Home, of Fr. Cornelius, younger brother of Fr. Edward Grey. SDB, of Cape Town, S. Africa.

Fr. Cornelius was born at Templemore, Tipperary, in the diocese of Cashel, Eire, on the 10th December 1892, and was within a few weeks of his 70th birthday when God called him home.

He entered Battersea as a student and aspirant in 1908 and began his novitiate at Burwash, Sussex, just before the first World War. A spell of ill-health interrupted his novitiate but he was eventually able to make his first profession in February 1916. He was perpetually professed at Battersea in 1919. At Battersea too, he commenced his philosophical studies before being transferred, on the opening of the first Salesian house in Ireland, to Limerick (Pallaskenry). There he helped tremendously in the early struggles of the new house and did his practical training. He commenced his theological studies at the end of the war and was ordained at Cashel on the 17th September 1925.

Whilst at Battersea, he had, from 1916-19, been very prominent and exceedingly popular as sacristan of the parish church of the Sacred Heart and he also assisted with teaching and other duties in the lower forms of the Salesian College. At Limerick, plunged as he was into all the pioneer activities of the new establishment, he was ever on hand to give what assistance he could and, in addition to school duties and his own studies, one found him engaged in carpentry and other occupations, supervising building operations etc and eventually, from 1929-30, in charge of the house. Then there began his very successful work as the director of the Cooperators and later, as priest in charge of Salesian propaganda. In this capacity he travelled extensively in Ireland for many years, endearing himself to all.

A man with the family flair for humour, his joviality was always a great asset to him, but was always combined with a true priestliness of character. His replies to correspondents were eagerly looked forward to for many years in the pages of the Irish "Help of Christians" and "Salesian Bulletin". One must too record his great services at Limerick in past years as a confessor.

His last, long illness, terribly painful as it was, was borne with characteristic dignity, courage and good humour, allied to a deep religious spirit of resignation to God's holy will, which edified all who visited him.

Father Provincial who was just concluding a visitation in Ireland at the time was able to preside at the Solemn Requiem and funeral, attended by over 60 priests and numerous friends, at Pallaskenry on Thursday, 22nd September.