

FATHER HENRY HALL. S. D. B.

Fr. Hall was born in Battersea on the 4th August 1908.

He was a pupil at the Salesian College, Battersea and eventually he decided to ask to join the Salesian Congregation. He was accepted as an aspirant and he eventually went to the Salesian novitiate at Oxford in September 1924. He had a successful year and he made his first religious profession in September 1925.

After studying Philosophy and a period of practical training at Battersea, he began his theological studies and he was ordained in London on the 15th August 1934.

After ordination he taught in Salesian schools for some years. During the war he became a chaplain in the Army. After the war he continued to do some teaching and parish work. He was a very good teacher and a talented preacher.

Eventually he became incardinated into the San Francisco Salesian province and he worked in a parish for the rest of his life. He was visiting relatives in England when he was suddenly taken ill and soon afterwards he died. He was buried in the Salesian plot at Oxford.

Salesian Father Larry Lorenzoni in his reminiscences in the American bulletin has this note: "Two recollections of Fr. Hall are etched in my memory. The first happened at Three Rivers (California) two years ago. He had fallen in the dark down a rocky ravine and was badly bruised and his glasses gone. I shall never forget how grateful he was, when after combing brush and stones I finally found his glasses. Every time we met in the ensuing years, I unfailingly heard about the glasses I had found for him.

My second memory is at Fr. De Burgh's funeral. None of us will easily forget the Salesian homily Fr. Hall preached on that occasion. Under a sometimes gruff exterior, he had a truly gentle, sensitive soul.

Fr. Henry died suddenly on the 1st July 1982.

He will be remembered with sincere affection. May God reward him and grant him eternal rest.