



Salesian College,  
Battersea,  
London, SW11 3PB

5th December, 1975

Dear Confrères,

Three times during this Holy Year, the good God has called a member of this community to Himself. Whilst happy in the assurance of the reward that awaits those whose lives have been lived 'in Christ,' the loss of one of the family is always tinged with sorrow. And so now, as I record the death, at the age of 71 years, of

FATHER EDWARD CHARLES JACKSON, S.D.B.

It is with regret at the departure of one who, in his priestly and Salesian life, was always a model of fidelity to us all. It is, indeed, for his constant devotion to Holy Mass and to his vocation that he will be especially honoured and remembered.

He was born in London and spent his boyhood in this Parish. He attended our Sacred Heart Primary School and, both as a boy and a young man, was most regular in his rôle as an altar-server in the parish church. Not surprisingly, under the influence of good Salesians in those days of the First World War, his vocation developed.

After a few years in the business world, he entered the college at Battersea in 1924, and from here proceeded to his novitiate at Oxford in 1926. For two of his years there, he was Assistant to the novices. There, in 1930 he made his final profession.

After short periods in Ireland and at Shrigley, he went to the Crocetta in 1934 to complete his theology. He was ordained priest at the basilica in Turin on 5th July 1936.

Early in the following year, he set sail for South Africa and worked there until 1953. He was, at various times, Catechist and Bursar in the South African houses, and was Rector of Lansdowne from 1949-53.

On his return to Battersea to take up the duties of Provincial Economer in 1953, he worked with great conscientiousness at his task until, in 1967, the beginning of years of failing health caused his transfer to lighter duties. As he was a man of wide interests, he found much to employ him happily in his quasi-retirement.

It may be mentioned here that, as a young man, he was a member of the Catholic Evidence Guild whose work was the giving of talks on the Faith in the London parks, and his interest in the teachings of the Church remained always with him.

That he had carried out during his life a far-flung apostolate of goodness and kindness has been very strikingly brought home to us since his death by the great number of letters and other tributes to his memory which we have received. They have come from Great Britain and Ireland and especially from South Africa. They tell, in their own special way, of acts of goodness and generosity which have left an abiding memory in the minds and hearts of the recipients. They tell, too, of intimate family occasions, such as marriages, which were made all the happier and more memorable for courtesy accorded and helpful co-operation received. Such goodness will undoubtedly, in its turn, have drawn down upon the giver the blessing and the love of God.

A series of collapses in the last few years gave obvious indications that his health was in sad decline. He made frequent recoveries, struggling hard and battling on. At last, it was obvious that he needed special care and, just a week or so before his death, he entered the nursing home of the Alexian Brothers at Twyford Abbey. There, fortified by the rites of Holy Church, he died peacefully on the feast of the Presentation, Friday, 21st November 1975.

To your good prayers, we commend his soul.

Yours sincerely in Don Bosco,  
Austin Malloy, S.D.B.  
Rector.

**Data for Necrology:** Fr Edward Charles Jackson. Born, London 6.11.1904. Died there 21.11.75. Aged 71 years. Professed 48 years. Priest for 39 years.

**R.I.P.**