

FATHER JOHN KILKENNY. SDB.

The death is announced of Fr. John Kilkenny, a well-known member of the Anglo-Irish Province of the Salesian Congregation, which took place recently at Battersea. He would shortly have attained his 64th birthday.

Fr. John was born on the 15th March 1874 in Claremois, Co. Mayo. He entered the Salesian Novitiate at Burwash in 1900. He made his first religious profession on the 6th of May 1902. During that time he also completed his philosophical studies. He then went to the Salesian College, Battersea for two years during which he taught various subjects and helped to supervise the boarders. In 1904 he was asked to go to the Salesian House, Cape Town, South Africa and he eventually stayed there for eight years. He did his theological studies there whilst also teaching and helping in the Salesian Institute. Fr. John was ordained in Cape Town on the 28th September 1909. Fr. John left South Africa in 1912 and went to the Salesian House and School in Sliema, Malta where he did some teaching but mainly acted as the bursar of the house until 1921. When, in 1921 the first Salesian House was opened in Ireland at Copsewood, Pallaskenry, Co. Limerick, Fr. John was appointed bursar of the new complex. Later, when the Salesian House and Agricultural College started at Warrenstown, Fr. John was asked to act as the bursar there. In 1924 he returned to Pallaskenry as bursar and confessor.

Fr. Kilkenny left Ireland in 1927 and came to Battersea where he remained up to the time of his death. The following tribute to the late Fr. Kilkenny was paid by the Very Rev. Fr. F. Couche:

"He was much esteemed as a confessor, and as a gentle, amiable priest he was much appreciated. Fr. Kilkenny suffered a great deal from ill-health, asthma in particular, but always carried out his duties as far as possible. A few days ago he caught a severe chill which, unfortunately ended fatally."

Solemn Requiem Mass for the deceased was sung in the Sacred Heart Church, Trott Street, Battersea, and the interment subsequently took place at Morden Cemetery.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE.