



Father Lawrence HANDLEY

(1916 - 1997)

*Died 29 May 1997, in Liverpool (England)
aged 80, with 61 years of Religious Profession.*

Father Lawrence Handley was born on 26 December 1916 in Heaton Norris, Stockport. He did his secondary school studies at Montfort College, Romsey. He went to Celle-sur-Belles in 1935 for his noviciate and he was professed on 8 September 1936. He studied for the priesthood at Montfort-sur-Meu and Leagram Hall. He was ordained on 8 December 1941.

His first appointment was to teach at the Junior Seminary Montfort College, Romsey. He remained there until 1954, although he had a short period teaching Philosophy in the Senior Seminary at Church Stretton and mission work when he was attached to Montfort House, Liverpool. In 1954 he was appointed in charge of Romsey parish. After 12 years of looking after the parish he left Romsey to work as assistant priest in Horwich, Bolton, before going to Ludlow parish where he had the special care of Craven Arms and Plowden. In 1972 he went to work in Liverpool, spending one year at St Oswald's, Old Swan. He is always remembered for his kindness, being easy to get on with, relaxed and popular. He was an accomplished musician. In 1975 he was asked to go to the noviciate (Ashurst) to be bursar, and he did the same work at Highgate (Senior Seminary) the following year. He then worked in various parishes - Todmorden, Andover and finally Totton - before going to Liverpool where he undertook various chaplaincy works.

Although he had been sick with cancer for many years and had had a number of operations, he remained cheerful. He continued to contribute something to the Congregation, for example doing translations for the Dictionary. He had a deep faith and loved discussing on any subject. In his latter years he had to write what he wanted to say on a slate. It must have been frustrating for him but he appreciated the irony of the situation.

He had been in hospital for some time recently before moving to St Joseph's Hospice a week before he died on 29 May.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE