



Father Michael WORSLEY

(1915 - 1962)

*Died 21 March 1962, in Liverpool (England)
aged 44, with 24 years of Religious Profession.*

Father Michael Worsley was born in Liverpool, England, on the 3rd November 1915. He attended St. Bernard's School and later St. Edward's College. With the background of an exemplary Catholic home and the inspiring example of three uncles priests, it was no surprise that his thoughts too turned towards the priesthood. In 1931, he was accepted as a student at Montfort College, Romsey, Hampshire. After five years he took the cassock and went off to Celles-sur-Belle in France to do his Novitiate. He was professed into the Congregation on the 21st September 1937. He spent the following-three years in France, at Chezelles doing Philosophy and at Montfort sur Meu doing Theology. With the onslaught of war he was obliged to leave France in June 1940 with the other English confreres. Father Worsley continued his studies in England, at Leagram Hall, and had the joy of being ordained to the priesthood on the 19th of December 1942. His studies completed, he was appointed to Montfort College, Romsey, to teach Mathematics, a subject he was really fond of. Other talents were soon noticed and in 1945, at the early age of thirty, he was appointed Superior of the College. For three years he performed the exacting duties of Superior of the Apostolic School, a task rendered all the more difficult because of the troubled times that followed the cessation of hostilities. In 1948 he was moved to Liverpool and given the onerous duty of Provincial Bursar in a Province which was in the throes of foundation. For twelve years he wore himself out in the service of the Congregation and then in 1960 he undertook the added burden of Superior of the Mission House at Liverpool. It was as Superior of Montfort House that he met his tragic end, dying as a result of a stroke on March 21st 1962.

Father Worsley had long been known for his practical charity towards everyone, and it was in the exercise of that charity that he met his untimely death. On the 18th March 1962, Father Worsley travelled to Church Stretton to assist at the first Masses of the young Priests ordained the previous day. On the 19th he entertained to tea at Montfort House, Liverpool, a group of visitors from the ordination, prior to their departure by ship for Ireland. It was then that an unfortunate accident happened. One of the visitors fell headlong down a flight of stairs at Montfort House and sustained a fractured skull. Father Worsley anointed her, accompanied her to hospital and was with her when she died that same evening. The following morning, the police having been at Montfort House investigating the accident in the early hours, Father Worsley gave evidence at the inquest. Returning from the inquest, accompanied by Father F. X. Loughran s.m.m., Father Worsley took a stroke. Even then, his concern was not for himself. Rather it was for the comfort of his visitors. He turned and enquired whether perhaps there was not too much draught for them from the open window. On arrival at Montfort House, the confreres carried Father Worsley to his room. The Doctor was called and meanwhile Father received the Last Sacraments from one of the confreres. He was unconscious when taken to hospital, the very same hospital to which Father Worsley had taken the visitor the evening before, For a short time he rallied and responded to treatment, but his work on earth was done. He was beyond human aid. That same evening, the 21st of March, 1962, at 7.45 p.m., surrounded by his sorrowing relatives and a group of heart-broken confreres, Father Michael Worsley peacefully surrendered his immortal soul to God.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE.