



Father Peter RYAN

(1910 - 1989)

*Died 8 January 1989, in Liverpool (England)
aged 79, with 59 years of Religious Profession.*

With the humour typical of him, Peter Ryan (born 3 January 1910) said one day: "For my obituary, you should say just this: 'He was born in Liverpool of a deeply Christian family. He was a nice man. Pray for him!'" We might add that his family gave another of its sons to the Congregation, Joseph, who preceded him in death three years ago. Peter, after starting his education at St Edward's College in Liverpool, went to Romsey in 1927. He made his novitiate at Celles-sur-Belle and studied theology in Montfort from 1929 to 1936. He was ordained priest in Rennes. His first obedience was to the apostolic school in Romsey, where he taught from 1931 until 1938, while also managing the magazine "Queen and Mother".

In 1938, the number of English students being quite large, he was made a member of the teaching staff of the Scholasticate in Montfort, where he taught philosophy and acted as Bursar. The arrival of the German armies obliged him to leave France in 1940, and he was made superior of the English scholasticate which opened in Chipping. Two years later, he became Vice-Provincial, and later Provincial of England; he was to fill this office for eighteen years. In 1960 he was appointed superior of the Collegio Montfort in Rome, where young Montfortians came to study from the various provinces. When he returned to England after six years there, he was appointed chaplain to the novitiate of the Daughters of Wisdom at North Berwick, then at Newcastle. In 1971, he was recalled to Rome to be the superior of the General House. When he went back to England in 1974, it was to be chaplain to the Daughters of Wisdom in St. Annes-on-Sea.

Over the course of several years, his health began to fail. He had to have a leg amputated, and then he went to Montfort House in Liverpool, along with other elderly or sick confreres. He died on 8 January 1989, at the dawn of a new year. With his death, one of the pioneers of the province of Gt. Britain and Ireland has gone, the province that he marked with the stamp of an extraordinary personality. We have lost also a confrere who was amiable and full of humour, who loved the Congregation very much and served it well beyond the limits of his own Province.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE