



**Father Cyril J. MADDEN**  
**(1910 - 1990)**

*Died 18 February 1990, in Liverpool (England)  
aged 79, with 57 years of Religious Profession.*

The death occurred, on Sunday evening, 18 February, of Fr. Cyril Joseph Madden, S.M.M., at Park House Nursing Home, Waterloo, Merseyside, after some months' illness, at the age of 79.

Fr. Cyril was born on 26 December 1910 in Liverpool, where his family owned a paper-bag manufacturing business. He received his secondary education from the Jesuit Fathers at St Francis Xavier College. In 1931 he went to the Noviciate of the Montfort Missionaries at Celles-sur-Belle in France, making his first profession as a Montfort Missionary in 1932. His philosophy and theology studies were undertaken at Montfort-sur-Meu in Brittany, with a year's break in England when he taught at Montfort College, Romsey. He was ordained a priest on 4 March 1939 at Rennes in Brittany.

Returning from France, he was appointed to teach at Montfort College, Romsey, but with the forced repatriation, because of the war, of the English Montfortian scholastics, and the necessity of setting up an English Province, Fr. Cyril was appointed Novice Master at St. Joseph's, Ashurst, in 1942. Later years saw him again teaching at Montfort College, where he was Superior from 1951-54. For the next fourteen years he taught Canon Law and Ascetical Theology at St. Mary's Scholasticate, Church Stretton, Shropshire; for much of that time undertaking also the pastoral care of some of the country areas of Shropshire. When the Montfortian Scholasticate was moved to Heythrop Park, Oxon., in 1965, Fr. Cyril remained in Shropshire as assistant priest in the parish of Ludlow, where he had particular responsibility for the Cleobury Mortimer area. Here a lasting memorial to him is the little church of St. Elisabeth, whose building he supervised.

In 1973, at the age of 62, Fr. Cyril courageously offered himself as one of the founding members of a new venture by the Montfort Missionaries in Australia; and for the next sixteen he worked as an assistant priest in the parish of St. Paul's, Woodridge, in a newly-settled and rapidly expanding area just outside Brisbane, the capital city of Queensland. His advancing age never deterred him from the hard work required in setting a new parish on its feet, and it was only in the last twelve months or so of his stay in Australia that he permitted himself to slow down. It was a particular sadness for him when, in July 1989, shortly after he had celebrated his Golden Jubilee of Priesthood, the Montfort Missionaries finally withdrew from Australia because of lack of personnel sufficient to continue the foundation.

After some time spent with his family, Fr. Cyril was about to resume work once again, when, in November, 1989, he was taken ill and admitted to Walton Hospital in Liverpool. There his condition slowly deteriorated, and shortly after being moved to Park House Nursing Home, he died peacefully.

Fr. Cyril is remembered by all those who knew him as a gentle, considerate and very prayerful priest, and a "perfect gentleman". His love for Our Lord and Our Blessed Lady was an inspiration to all; and it was these things which gave him the strength to continue working energetically for the Kingdom of God well into his eightieth year.

Fr. Cyril's funeral will take place on Friday, 23 February, at 2.30 pm at Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, Crosby, Merseyside, where he will be buried in the Montfort Missionaries' plot in the graveyard.

**MAY HE REST IN PEACE**