

BRO. THOMAS DOHERTY SDB.

Bro Thomas was born in Glasgow on the 17th October 1917. He came to the Salesians in 1936 as an aspirant and he began his novitiate year at Beckford in 1937 and he made his first religious profession as a laybrother in August 1938.

Bro. Thomas spent most of Salesian life in England at the house for disadvantaged boys at Blaisdon, Glos. He was constantly with the boys and he instructed them mainly in metalwork, as he was qualified in metalwork himself. Bro. Thomas was a happy man from Glasgow; he could work, he could play, he could sing – and many were the nights of rare joy in some community gathering after work when he would sing his. . "Glasgow belongs to me. . . " and a dozen others from his long repertoire.

In 1957, he sailed off to South Africa and at once soaked himself in the atmosphere. He taught the boys in the crafts section, played football with them well into his fifties, and could run with the best of them. As a Brother, he was ever faithful to his duties, his Salesian life for his Salesian boys, and the more they were in need of his help, the more it was given, freely, lovingly, without stint.

His last months were spent with the Sisters of Nazareth and, if at the end of their marvellous kindness they could not stem their tears, there had been many days of laughter and joy he had shared with them all, to make up for the sadness. It is little wonder that it was the Cardinal Archbishop of Cape Town, Cardinal McCann himself who led the great host of Brother Tom's friends at the Requiem Mass.

Brother Thomas was 62 and had been a Salesian for 43 years.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE.