

FR. MICHAEL FITZGIBBON. S. D. B.

Father Michael was born in Ballyporeen, Co. Tipperary on the 29th June 1877.

He went to the Salesian College, Pallaskenry, Limerick as an aspirant and in September 1921 he travelled to Oxford, England in order to start his novitiate year. He made his first religious profession there in September 1922.

Following his profession, he started his philosophical studies in the studentate at Cowley and he finished the course in 1923. He was then asked to join the Salesian community at Battersea and for two years, in addition to teaching in the school he also started his theological studies.

In 1926 Bro. Michael was asked to go over to Ireland to help as the bursar in the recently opened Agricultural College at Warrenstown. He also managed to continue his theological studies during this year. For his final year before ordination he once more went to Battersea, where he again helped with the teaching as well as studying theology and he was eventually ordained a priest on the 22nd September 1928 at the Diocesan Seminary at Womersley.

After ordination Fr. Michael went to the studentate at Cowley, Oxford as the assistant and teacher of the aspirants there. In 1929 he went back to Pallaskenry again for a few years before he eventually went to help with the foundation of the Australian province and he remained there until his death at Melbourne in 1948.

Having served his God and God's people faithfully here on earth, may Fr. Michael now enjoy the vision of God for ever in heaven and unite with all God's faithful people in praising him for ever.