

5 Janaury

Fr EDWARD CRAWLEY 21 October 1871 - 5 Janaury 1911 (or 10?)



Born in London, Edward Crawley's first school was a small private one like so many in Victorian England, Bayliss House. He later moved to the Benedictines at Downside where he developed his talent for music though 'the display of his gifts in the direction of singing was somewhat hindered by the peculiar timbre of his voice.' He also learnt to speak in public at Downside despite there being no Debating Club there at that time. There were plays which are also a way of teaching clear speech.

When he was 14, he moved to Mount St Mary's, the Jesuit school near Sheffield and entered the Society in 1890. He did his theology in three places: St Beuno's in Wales, Hales Place near Canterbury and Fouviere, Lyons. He was ordained in 1905 and came to St Aidan's in 1906. 'With young children he had the happy gift of finding his way to their hearts.'

He was in charge of the college choir and was always ready to organise concerts and other entertainments. He taught English, History, Arithmetic and Bookkeeping for four years. The photo shows him with six St Aidan's Rhodes scholars in about 1910.

He was involved in a fatal accident at Gaika's Loop near Grahamstown in 1911.

ZMR IV, p 215.