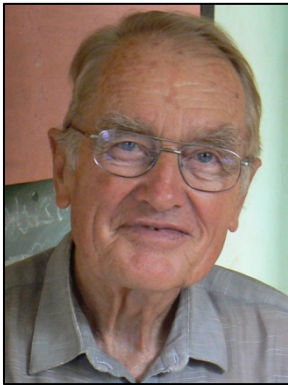


Fr Wolfgang Thamm

17 January 1933 – 30 March 2024

*Wolfgang Thamm was in his 92nd year of life, 72nd year in the Society of Jesus,
61st year of priesthood and 46th year in Final Vows.*

<i>Ort</i> 17 Jan 1933	<i>Ord</i> 27 Aug 1963	<i>Defunc</i> 30 Mar 2024
<i>Loc. Nat.</i>Neisse (Germany)	<i>Loc. Ord</i> Berlin (Germany)	<i>Loc. Defunc</i> Harare, Zimbabwe
<i>Ingr</i> 13 Sep 1952	<i>Grad</i> P4	<i>Date of Funeral</i> 3 April 2024
<i>Loc. Ingr</i> Jakobsberg, Bingen (Germany)	<i>Loc. Grad</i> Karoi (Zimbabwe)	<i>Place of Funeral</i> Chishawasha Parish, Zimbabwe
<i>Mag.</i> Mhondoro (Zimbabwe)	<i>Dies</i> 8 Dec 1978	<i>Place of Burial</i> Chishawasha Cemetery, Zimbabwe
<i>Stud.</i> Berdnaus (Phil), Heythrop (Theol.) Strawberry Hill (Educ.)		<i>Prov</i> SAP



Fr Wolfgang Thamm was born on Tuesday, 17 January 1933 in Neisse, Germany. He grew up and attended school in Neisse and Regensburg, and on completing his schooling entered the Society of Jesus on Saturday, 13 September 1952 at Jakobsberg, Bingen. He did philosophy at Berdnaus Kollege, Germany. He was a regent at St Michael’s Mission, Mhondoro, from 1958-60 and then proceeded to Heythrop in England where he studied theology. Whilst there, he played the violin in the college orchestra!

Wolfgang was ordained priest in Berlin on Tuesday, 27 August 1963 and then went to Strawberry Hill, London, where he obtained his teacher’s certificate before returning to Rhodesia in 1965.

His first appointment was to St Albert’s Mission in Zimbabwe, where he taught from 1966 to 1971. With the intensification of the war, Wolfgang moved to pastoral work at Karoi in 1972 and stayed there for fourteen years. It was there that he made his final vows in 1978. He moved to Banket parish in 1986 for six years before returning to St Albert’s in 1992, this time as parish priest. It was at this time that he became a province consultor in 1995, and remained as one until 2008. In 1999, he returned to Banket on the parish and remained there until 2012 when he took over the semi-retirement job as chaplain at Monte Cassino. His deteriorating health and lack of mobility finally led to his full retirement at Richartz House in 2017, although he continued to swim and celebrate the Eucharist on Sundays at Dandaro Home for the infirm and elderly. Always musical, he led the singing at Richartz during liturgies.

Alert to the end mentally, his eyesight and deteriorating mobility took a heavy toll on him towards the end, and he suddenly took a turn for the worst on Wednesday 27 March. He was resigned and at peace on the 28th, though he struggled and was clearly uncomfortable on the 29th. He died at 4 am on the morning of Saturday, 30th March 2024.