

3 April

Fr WILFRED HOPKINS

12 October 1872 – 3 April 1941



Wilfred Hopkins was born in Erdington, near Birmingham and was rector of St Ignatius, Stamford Hill, when he died 69 years later. He was well known in the borough as he had been active in relief work there during the First World War. Hopkins entered the Society in 1892 and was ordained in 1906. He was at St Aidan's for five years from 1910 but, besides giving retreats during vacations, there is no record this writer has found of his time there. By 1916 he was at Beaumont College, in England, where he was to remain for 19 years.

Fr Desmond Boyle, later provincial, remembers him as being one who was slow to change his opinion. When he was in authority he expected to be obeyed. He was 'exacting on himself and on others. He gained their respect, even their affection'. He was kind and shrewd. He contracted pleurisy and left Stamford Hill for a while to recuperate at Beaumont but died there instead.