Fr. Manuel LOPES

Born in Casal Velho, Freguesia and of Proenca-a-Nova, Castelo Branco on April 17, 1904, he entered the Society of Jesus on September 23, 1921 in Oya, Galicia, Spain. He studied philosophy in Oya and did his regency in the College of La Gaurdia (1929-32) and in Caldas da Saúde, Santo Tirso (1932-34). He studied theology in Valkemburg, Holland, where he was ordained priest on 24 June 1937. He did his tertianship at Santo André, Karten, Germany (1938 - 39). He returned to Caldas da Saúde College, as a teacher. He took his final vows on 02 February 1940, at the College of Caldas da Saúde. In 1941, he was sent to the Zambézia Mission. He was part of the first group of Jesuits that took it up again, after the expulsion of 1910. He lived in Lifidzi. In 1943, he went back to Boroma Mission, with his blood brother, Brother Francisco Lopes. He founded the mission of Fonte Boa of which he was vice superior until 1951, the year in which he was appointed superior of Boroma mission. In 1954, he was appointed superior of the mission of Lifidzi and in 1960, he moved to the mission of Chiritze. In 1962, he was appointed vice superior of Marara mission and, in 1964, he returned to Chiritze mission. In 1967, he returned to Lifidzi mission where he stayed until his definitive departure from Mozambique, in 1976. Back in Portugal, he was assigned to live in Póvoa de Varzim, where he did his priestly ministry. He died on 13 May 1990, in Póvoa de Varzim.

(Cf. APSI, Livro das entradas; Necrológio)