

May 15

Fr RICHARD WIBER

13 December 1906 – 15 May 1956

Born of German (von Weiber) immigrants, 'Dickie' was born in Muizenberg in the Cape. He was educated at St Aidan's, 'a cheerful, friendly child, who had the courage to face unpopularity when he felt he had to obey his conscience.' (We are not told what the issue was). He had 'social rather than intellectual' gifts.

He entered the Society in 1925 and did his regency at Wimbledon where he was a founding member of Donhead, the preparatory school. He was ordained in 1938 and in 1943 moved to the preparatory School for St Aidan's where he remained until 1951. He improved the surroundings of the school and developed contacts with the former students of the college.



Recalled to the UK, which was of course a foreign country for him, he was sent to Bournemouth on the parish where he was in charge of the St Walburga, a sort of outstation. He had always had a gift for drawing and when he was asked to edit the Bournemouth Catholic Record, he made the children's page 'the best part of the magazine.'

On 16 March 1956 he had a collision with a car when he was on his motor-cycle moving around the parish and sustained what seemed to be not life-threatening injuries but he developed blood poisoning and died two months later.