

June 15

Fr HAROLD BURROWS 29 December 1886 – 15 June 1959



Born in Dulwich, London, into a devout Anglican family, Harold Burrows studied history at Cambridge and then theology at St Stephen's House Oxford in preparation for ordination as an Anglican priest. He pursued relentlessly the question of Anglican orders and concluded he had to move to Rome.

He 'wandered into Farm St' and became a Catholic in 1914 and entered the Jesuit novitiate the following year. Ordained in 1922, he went to Madurai in 1925 where he taught history until 1928. He then returned to the UK and taught at the Mount before going to St Aidan's and Kutama up to 1934 when he returned home again.

It became clear that teaching was not his metier. 'Engrossed in his subject he could not take into account those who were not interested.' He joined the parish staff at Bournemouth. He became a chaplain at the outbreak of war and returned to Bournemouth when it was ended. In 1949 he went to Manchester where he remained until illness brought him to retirement at St Beuno's where he died.

He was 'loveable, sincere and gentle, delighting in conversation and intellectually rigorous. He always took a quiet interest in you and your doings.' Deeply sensitive, he thought, for instance, the abdication of Edward VIII a tragedy.