

June 23

Fr BERNARD D'ADHÉMAR 24 October 1904 – 23 June 1980



Despite his French ancestry, 'Daddy', as he was inevitably called, was no expert in the language. He once translated a speech from Corneille's *Le Cid*, 'Relève-toi, Rodrigue', as 'Rodriguez, relieve yourself'. Born in London, he was educated at the Mount where he acquired the name 'Bunny' as he had a tendency to run for cover when trouble was brewing.

He entered the Society in 1922 and did his regency at his old school. He was ordained in 1936 and became an army chaplain in 1944. He met Rhodesian soldiers in North Africa and it opened his mind to a missionary

vocation.

In 1946 he was at St George's where he served as teacher for 28 years with some breaks in the UK at Barlborough, the prep school for the Mount. 'I think the boys saw beneath the rather stern exterior the genuine kind and gentle man he really was' (Peter McArdle). He served St Michael's, prep school to St George's, in his later years and his community used to worry about his driving there as he was experiencing black-outs. He hated fuss and when it was suggested he might have a blackout on the way, he was adamant it would not happen. 'God won't let it happen.' Some time later, as he prepared to go to St Michael's he felt unwell, lay down on his bed and died.

Daddy accepted the new liturgy but made no secret of the fact that he found some of it distasteful. He continued to use the old Latin breviary.