

10 July

Fr EDMUND WILSON

22 April 1922 – 10 July 2006



Willie, as he was known, was born in Manchester and was educated at the Mount. He joined the Society in 1939 and taught at St Aidan's from 1949 to 52. He returned to England for theology and was ordained in 1953. In 1958 he returned to Africa and went to Marymount where he first showed his building abilities at the new hospital there. He then moved to Kutama as chaplain for a year before going to St George's to teach chemistry and technical drawing.

Michael O'Halloran tells us Willie 'found a niche in the charismatic movement while at St George's and the community hoped he would not acquire the gift of tongues' as he was already loquacious without it.

Willie designed the community house at St Ignatius during this writer's stay there. Built on the side of a hill, the cellar – perhaps unique in the province? – acted as a foundation designed to stop the house slipping down the hill. It is a marvellous, seldom visited, structure in itself. He also, as mentioned, worked on the hospital at Marymount and designed the games pavilion and the new science labs at St George's.

After nineteen years at the college, he moved to Mount Pleasant where he was parish priest at Our Lady of the Way for eight years. He was happy there but the time came for him to move into semi-retirement at Monte Cassino as chaplain and he also ran his own carpentry workshop there.

Finally, he retired fully to Richartz House.