

7 August

2 April 1923 – 7 August 2013

### **Bishop Luís Gonzaga Ferreira da SILVA**

He was born in Rebordões- Santo Tirso, Porto, on 02 April 1923 and entered the Society of Jesus on 07 September 1939, at the convent of Santa Marinha da Costa, Guimarães. After his humanities' studies (1941 - 1944) he was sent to Braga, to the Philosophy Institute Beato Miguel de Carvalho (1944 - 1947), to study philosophy. In 1947, he was sent to China where he worked in Shiuhing and Macau. In 1950, he started his theology in Rome, still connected with the mission of Macau. From 1955 to 1956, he did his tertianship in Dublin (Milltown Park). He did not return to China, but instead, he was sent to Mozambique and, in 1957, he worked as parish priest at the parish of Our Lady of Fatima, in the city of Beira. In 1961, he was assigned to go Boroma mission where he worked as Vice-Superior. In 1963, he went to work in Lifidzi (Angónia), where he remained until 1967, as superior. Then, he was transferred to Vila Coutinho. In 1968, he was sent to Europe and stayed at the "Lumen Vitae" Institute for a renewal in pastoral theology. That same year, on 29 September, he was appointed Rector of the diocesan seminary of São João de Brito, located in Zóbué (Tete). He continued working as Rector of the Seminary until his appointment as Bishop of Vila Cabral (Lichinga), on 14 November 1972. He undertook his responsibilities as residential Bishop of Lichinga for 30 years. There, he tirelessly worked for the Church in that diocese. He took great interest in maintaining good relations with the Muslims in his Diocese. He promoted education and looked for scholarships for university students. He resigned at the age of 75, but the Pope asked him to continue until he was 80. As an Emeritus Bishop in 2003, he returned to Lifidzi mission to work as a missionary. He died on 07 August 2013 in Lifidzi.

(Cf. APSI, Livro das entradas; Necrológio)