



**Fr Casimir Kozlowski, S.J.**  
**(1902-1968. In Zambia 1948-1968)**

**12 August 1968**

Casimir Kozlowski was born in Bochna, in the south of Poland, west of Cracow on 12 June 1902. He entered the Society at Stara Wies just after his fifteenth year in 1917. He was ordained in Cracow in 1930.

His first assignment was as socius to the master of novices (1932) and then prefect at Chryoviac (1933) but soon he was working in a parish in Antoniowka. He did his tertianship in 1936/1937 and afterwards was involved in various forms of spiritual ministry. He was superior of the community at Kolomyja (1938-1940) in the southeast near the Russian border.

When the Second World War erupted in Poland on 1 September 1939, he was arrested by the Russians and deported to Siberia. However, with the formation of the free Polish Army in Russia to fight the Germans under General Anders, he was soon released and became deputy chaplain of the army. Despite all the hardships, he managed to print some liturgical texts in Polish for his men. From 1942 he resided in the Polish embassy in Kubyszow but in August he left the country with Bishop Kawlina, the chaplain of the Polish Air Force.

In 1946 Bishop Gawlina obtained permission for him to leave the Polish Army and put him in charge of the Polish Catholic Mission in India, a post that was supported by the Polish Government and so acknowledged by the Indian Government. His job included the inspection of the Polish school, the teaching of religious education, moderating the men's Sodality and reviving the Eucharistic Crusade. By 1947 the whole operation was terminated, as the last of the Polish refugees left India. He was for a brief time military chaplain in England before he set out for Northern Rhodesia in 1948.

He was assigned to Chingombe where he was appointed superior and then after a number of years, he was transferred to Mpanshya as superior. He was constantly on the move visiting outstations and schools. Finally he was missioned to initiate a new parish in the new suburb of Chelston in 1967. Already the personnel connected with the new airport with all its ancillary services, were finding residences there and the population began to grow. Today it is a thriving parish with several large outstations. However after 30 years of being constantly on the move and adapting to various situations, the old engine began to wear down. He went down to Salisbury for medical treatment but died there rather suddenly on 12 August 1968. He is buried at the Jesuit cemetery of Chishawasha.