



**Fr Patrick Kinna, S.J.**  
**(1930-2005. In Zambia 1993-1995)**  
**31 August 2005**

Pat Kinna was born in Johannesburg, South Africa on 22 January 1930. He was educated in our college of St Aidan's in Grahamstown and was very proud of his school. He used to keep in touch with those who had been at school with him. It was 100% Catholic in what is a very non-Catholic part of South Africa. St Aidan's was not particularly noted for its academic results but for its catholicity. The Christianity was devout but muscular – boxing being its sport of excellence. He did a year in the university and then entered a solicitor's firm for three years.

He joined the Society at Harlaxton, UK in 1953 and did his juniorate at Roehampton with three years of philosophy at Heythrop. His regency was in his old school at St Aidan's. He was ordained in 1965 in Heythrop and completed his formation with tertianship at St Beuno's in Wales.

On returning to Rhodesia in 1967 he spent his first year at the university learning chiShona and then went to Mabelreign parish. In 1987 he had a sabbatical in the Holy Land and when he came back he was sent to work in Mbare.

In 1993 he went to be socius to the novice master in Lusaka for two years, where he left some fond memories. He returned to be minister at Arrupe College for a short time and in 1996 he was appointed to Our Lady of the Wayside parish where he remained till he went to the Cathedral in 2004. Within a year he was diagnosed with cancer and passed away on 31 August 2005.

Rodger Charles wrote of him: "I cannot think of any time he was unpleasant to anyone. Always cool, calm and collected, that wry smile on his face, and a ready quip on his lips. Gentle but tough, in a gentlemanly way, when needed. A perfect community man, always building up, never tearing down".

Fr Harold Barry said of him: "Pat was a retiring person who seldom made much noise in the province. My image is of a great listener and a patient person. I suspect he found it hard to put up with a great deal of what must have struck him as superficial talk in his life".

Mark Hackett noted that "Pat went first to Mabelreign where he was to spend the next 18 years of his life. He was a wonderful parish priest. What was his secret? Pat had time for people. He had gone through a difficult time but it was the charismatic movement that saved him".

He was vulnerable both physically and psychologically and had a drink problem but all of this helped him to empathize with others. He was a practical pastor, always concerned with people rather than issues. He seemed not to do much but he made things happen.

When the doctor told him that the cancer had grown again, he decided to have no further surgical treatment. He would treat it as he said "with the exercise machine, a healthy diet – oh! and prayer of course."