

3 September

Fr FRANCIS JONES 18 November 1882 – 3 September 1965



Fran (left) and his twin brother Stan, also a Jesuit, were born in Arundel and both went to Mount St Mary's College and joined the Society on the same day in 1901. Fran was ordained in 1915 and became a military chaplain and was torpedoed though without serious damage. But he picked up dysentery

(an inflammation and infection of the intestines, which results in diarrhoea containing blood or mucus – Wikipedia)

Fran sailed for South Africa in 1921 and was at St Aidan's until 1925, when he moved St George's. He remained there until 1942. He then went to Cape Town to improve his health.

As a teacher he took a great interest in each boy and followed their progress after they left school.

From Cape Town he returned to England and spent time on the parish in Boscombe, next to Bournemouth where his brother was also on the parish. He was very regular in hearing confessions. 'He preached a good sermon, short and to the point ... without any vestige of oratory.'

He took a great interest in the art galleries in London. He enjoyed visiting old pre-reformation churches. He seems to have suffered from ill health all his time after being chaplain in the war and slept in armchair propped up with pillows as it was too uncomfortable to lie down. Yet he outlived his twin by about five years, eventually retiring to the novitiate in Roehampton