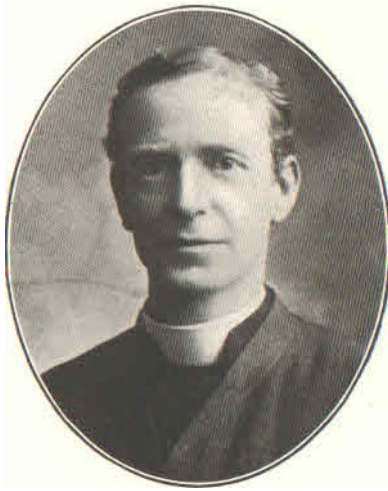


2 October

Fr ALFRED MEYER

16 November 1869 – 2 October 1918



The writer of these short lives is constantly assailed by the two little letters, TB. The number of Jesuits in the early years of the mission who suffered from ‘fever’ (malaria) or ‘consumption’ (TB) is distressingly large. Fr Alfred Meyer was one more.

Born in London and educated at our college at Stonyhurst, he entered the Society in 1887, one of four blood brothers who became Jesuits. He was ordained in 1902 after having spent six years at St Aidan’s but after becoming a priest he did not return to Africa. He taught Mathematics at Stonyhurst and at the new college of St Michael’s, Leeds, where he was a ‘founding father’. He later recalled the ‘rush’ of setting up the school with relish. They were happy days but the TB that troubled him asserted itself and he had to retire to Petworth, a home for invalid or elderly Jesuits, for a while.

He returned to college work at Beaumont and Wimbledon but with a constant cough – ‘sorry for being a noisy nuisance’ - but he could do nothing to help himself. He is remembered for his kindness and the way he pushed himself to work even though he was a sick man. He had to retire to Petworth again in 1918 where he died soon after.