

15 November

Fr BASIL PADREDDI 30 September 1869 – 15 November 1920



Basil Padreddi was born in Cette Herault, France and joined the Society in 1887 in South Africa. But he soon moved to Holland to complete his formation, learning Dutch in the process and so preparing himself for work among the Cape Dutch. But in 1900, when he was in Dunbrody, he was dissatisfied with the dialect of Dutch the local people spoke and learnt Xhosa – the better to reach the local population more in depth.

In 1902 he was called to St Aidan's to fill a gap and became a teacher there for the rest of his comparatively short life (51 years). He was painstaking in all the humdrum daily life of a school and was much liked by the students even though he was quite firm on discipline. He died of 'double pneumonia'.