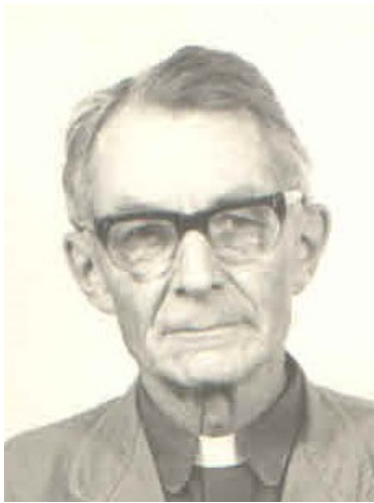


16 November

Fr LANGLOIS LEWIS 23 August 1914 – 16 November 1988



Known as Langley, presumably because we couldn't get our tongue round his French name (The Englishman, a family name coined at the time they were persecuted for being Hugenots), Langlois entered the Society on the same day in 1934 as his brother Pat. He was born in Bexley, Kent, and educated at Riverview in Australia where his mother took the children after their father died while swimming off the Belgian coast.

In theology he ran a 'Students' Mission League' to give information about the missions and told a contemporary of his great desire 'to get onto the Rhodesian Mission as soon as I can.'

His obituarist suggests he was one of the 'least known' Jesuits on the mission as he sent much time in faraway places – All Souls' Mutoko (12 years), Chikwizo (8 years) and even Mazowe. He only came to town to shop. He was a practical man and was once observed on a makeshift ladder changing a light bulb on the cross on All Souls' church 25 feet above the top of the tower. (The picture shows him with one of the All Souls orphans.) Mark Hackett adds; 'As a scholastic I was collected from Chishawasha to supervise the external JC exams at Mtoko. At night the mosquitoes were horrific. Langley's solution was simple. "Wait until they are about to land on you and then lift the sheet sharply to suck them in and then roll over in bed and squash them." I mention the story as it illustrates how cavalier the attitude was at that time about malaria. I found him a charming man despite this.'



His last posting was to Chishawasha where he looked after the books and did the outstations there and at Mazowe where he had been for eight years. He read a lot and studied Père Teilhard de Chardin in some detail.