

## Mill Hill Missionaries

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12<sup>th</sup> Obituary of 2014

18<sup>th</sup> October 2014



We regret to inform you of the death this morning at 5.30 at his sister's home in Kilcreedy, Ballyhale, Kilkenny, at the age of 67, of

### Father Denis Treacy

May He Rest in Peace

Grateful to God for the gentle witness and exemplary service of a man dedicated to priestly ministry and mission we pray for him, and his family and friends who are naturally in shock upon learning of his sudden departure.

He was born at the Abbey Nursing Home in Kilkenny, Ireland on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1947, his parents being Luke and Mary (née O'Brien) Treacy, and was baptised in the Church of St Mary, Inistioge, in the Dicoese of Ossory, on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1947. He was blessed with having five brothers and one sister who held him in great esteem as the eldest.

Having finished his elementary education in Inistioge Primary School, in 1960 he entered St Joseph's College, Freshford where he completed his secondary education before moving into major seminary formation in University College Dublin and St Joseph's College, London. On 1<sup>st</sup> May 1971 he took the Perpetual Oath and on 18<sup>th</sup> June 1972 he was ordained priest at St Mary's Church, Clonmel by Bishop Mahon.

He was appointed to the Dicoese of Kisii, Kenya where he spent many happy years building up the local Church and in service of the Society's mission. During this time he initiated the mission at Magwagwa. In Kisii, Nakuru and Malindi dioceses, in the classroom and in the parish he proved himself to be a dedicated pastor influencing many people especially in their understanding the Faith.

In 1999 he was appointed Vocation Director for Kenya during which time he encouraged those applying to join the Mill Hill Missionaries to discern their future very carefully. His insightfulness and ability to assess personality and character were impressive and almost always accurate. During his time as a teacher at Rakwaro Seminary he developed cerebral malaria, a very serious illness from which he thankfully recovered.

In 2008 he was appointed to do mission promotion and fundraising in Britain as an APF-Mill Hill Organiser for the Dioceses of Brentwood and Northampton. He built up an extensive network of contacts and supporters across these dioceses and beyond, and was well known for his kind, unassuming and genuine ways.

Throughout his life as a Mill Hill Missionary he consistently demonstrated his commitment to the wellbeing of the people he served by giving gently and generously of himself to them. He was a shrewd judge of character, non-judgemental in his dealings with others, compassionate and understanding in his ways, and phlegmatic and unruffled in stressful situations. He has touched many people's lives by the kind and friendly manner he communicated the love of God to others. He will be sorely missed and remembered with deep respect and affection especially by his family whom he greatly loved and appreciated.

His mortal remains will be received into the Church of St Columcille, Inistioge at 6pm on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October. The Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the same church at 2pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October prior to the burial in the adjoining cemetery.

The previous obituary (11/2014) was that of Father Michael (Giel) de Rooij who died in Missiehuis, Vrijland, on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at the age of 95.

**Anthony Chantry** (General Superior), **Bernard Fox** (Vicar General, Councillor for Africa and Finance), **Brendan Mulhall** (Councillor for Asia), **Thaddeus de Deckere** (Councillor for Europe and the Americas, and Associates) Registered

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