



## Obituary of **FR. ANDREW CARROLL** of the Anglo-Irish family

Billie Farrell's journey began in Bennettsbridge, Co. Kilkenny on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 1931. He was the youngest of five children born into a very traditional Irish Catholic family. His siblings all predeceased him and he would laughingly say "*I'm now an orphan in my late eighties*"

Baptised William, he changed his name to Andrew when he entered noviciate in 1961. He made his first profession in Killucan in May 1962 after which he went to London where he excelled in his nurse training and qualified as a State Registered Nurse in 1965. In that same year he made his Solemn Profession in Hexham in the North East of

England.

He worked as a nurse in Perth Australia for four years, and in Hexham England for 12 years. In 1981 he came to Killucan, in Ireland as the Charge Nurse in the Nursing Centre. He returned to Hexham as bursar for a five year period.

In 1990 he left for Tanzania where he spent two years working with our Dutch confreres. While there he requested to study for the priesthood and was sent to study at the Beda College at St. Paul's Outside the Walls in Rome. The Beda was referred to by St. John Paul II as "*the college for old men*".

He was ordained in 1996 at the age of 65 with the ordaining bishop remarking that he "*could now apply for free travel and the pension*". He retained the name Andrew after his ordination as we are Camillian religious first and then priests or brothers.

He went to Hexham for two years. From there he returned to Dublin where he worked as chaplain in The Mater Misericordia Hospital and at St. Luke's. He spent the last 20 years of his life working in or from Killucan, whether as chaplain in Sancta Maria Nursing Home or in the community.

Andrew was a very quiet retiring man. He was to be found regularly in the chapel and was ever faithful to his religious duties. Wherever he worked as a nurse he was loved by both patients and staff. His faith and understanding of the religious life were exceptionally traditional, and he preferred to be told or sent rather than be consulted re appointments. For him the superior was the boss. However, it did help if what he was asked to do fitted into what he himself was happy with. Although quiet and retiring he loved a party or a sing song and possessed a good singing voice.

The last seven years of his life were very difficult for him personally as he suffered from dementia and diabetes. But he was cared for in community with great love and respect. His funeral Mass takes place tomorrow, the 7<sup>th</sup> of June in Killucan.

**Ar dheis De' go raibh h-anam dilis** (Literally: At right-hand-side of-god may be his soul faithful)