

Drumshanbo

COMMUNITY NEWS

DEATH OF FR. RAYMOND BARRY

There was widespread shock and sadness in the Community on hearing of the sudden death of Fr. Raymond Barry C.s.s.p last Wednesday morning.

Fr. Barry died peacefully in his armchair at the Holy Ghost Fathers residence in Dublin. He had been in robust health until recent months and was hospitalised on a few occasions but his sudden passing still came as a great shock.

Fr. Barry was a native of Drumherrif and following ordination spent 33 years on the missions in Sierra Leone. He then spent four years at the Holy Ghost Fathers head office in Rome where he acted as information officer for four years. On a number of sabbaticals he did pastoral work in several American cities and in Scotland before returning to Kimmage Manor.

In recent months he had been working on the Order's archives and in between never missed an opportunity to revisit Drumshanbo where he assisted Fr. Burke in parish duties, especially celebration of the Holy Mass in both St. Patrick's and the Poor Clare convent where he will be greatly missed.

A brilliant theologian, your correspondent had numerous discussions with him and his breadth of knowledge tempered by his experiences in the mission fields brought a clarity to the great moral and liturgical issues of the day that makes our missionary priests such a cherished and respected group.

Fr. Barry practised real Christianity and his sermons at St. Patrick's were always invested with the experiences of missionary work and his world wide travels. He was buried among his confreres in the Holy Ghost plot in Dublin on Saturday last surrounded by family, colleagues and a wide circle of friends.

Fr. Barry is survived by two sisters Mai Moroney (US) and Barbara (UK) nephews, nieces, his Confreres in the Holy Ghost Order and a multitude of friends. Ni raibh a leiteid Ann aris. Ar dheis De go raibh an anam.