

# Memories of Br. Anselm Colam C.Ss.R

by Fr. Beverley Ahearn C.Ss.R

Brother Anselm Colam who died in Erdington in 1965.

Before Br Anselm joined the Redemptorists, he earned his living as a Window Dresser at some of the big firms. He would set up the whole show that they wanted in their main windows facing onto the street, and that was something he brought with him to the Congregation, because, when I knew him he was sacristan and he had been sacristan in a number of our houses. My recollection of him was with just a few roses and a few leaves he seemed to be able to give the impression of having an altar massively decorated with flowers. He just had the touch of how to do it, but that was his early life, his early training in business before he joined us.

I remember once he said to me that he used to find it difficult at times in community, and that he always liked to have a move in Tri-Annum after about three years when the new appointments came out. He always felt he made a good start, but that he was very highly strung and he could find it difficult at times to live with people for any length of time, but moving from one community to another he found it gave him the best way of coping with this tension.