

Memories of Fr. James Loughran C.Ss.R

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Fr. James Loughran or Jimmy Loughran, who died in Sunderland in 1962.

Some years before his death before being moved to Sunderland he was in Birmingham and once when I was visiting there on a day when it was very busy for Confessions, I met one of the community coming in from the church, and he said Oh I'm furious with Fr. Loughran, he said I've just done my third stint, an hour, in one of the boxes, and I was coming out, walked around the back of the church, to the sacristy and I met someone I knew and I was just chatting to her. And she was telling me how good Fr. Loughran was, and I said oh that's good you've been to Confession to him today, and she said oh no, no, he wasn't hearing confessions he was standing at the back of church here and as people came in he was pointing out which boxes had fewest penitents and advised us to go there to make our Confession quickly.

The man I was speaking to was not fit for anything for the next hour or two.