

Fr Brian Doro's life of service

Fr Brian Doro was a man of mercy and compassion for the most abandoned

- By FR JOHN HODGSON - As published in Horizons.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

REDEMPTORIST: Dalveen-born Father Brian Doro.

DALVEEN-born, the late Father Brian Doro lived a life devoted to the service of others.

At his funeral, held at the Redemptorist Monastery, North Perth, on February 27, his colleague Fr John Jodgson, originally from Wallangarra, spoke highly of him as a "redemptorist".

"... Who lived a life of incredible giving and left a deep imprint on the hearts and minds of those who were fortunate to meet him," he said. His eulogy is below: Brian Doro, the second child of Roy and Mary Doro of Dalveen, was born in Stanthorpe on March 21, 1941.

He was baptised in the Thulimbah Church and was educated at the Dalveen State School and by the Sisters of Mercy at St Joseph's.

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He professed his first vows as a Redemptorist on February 25, 1961, completed his seminary studies and was ordained on December 15, 1966.

Fr John Hodgson spoke in his eulogy about Fr Brian's fruitful ministry in Malaysia and Singapore after learning to speak Mandarin in Taiwan.

From 1984 for nine years he was chaplain in Changi prison, Singapore.

His ministry to those about to be executed became a specialist ministry that only very few others could ever understand or appreciate.

He served 23 years in South-East Asia, 16 of them with drug addicts and prisoners.



He was full of mercy and compassion for the most abandoned, especially prisoners and those addicted to heroin.

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With his health seriously affected, Fr Brian returned to Australia in 1993.

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Fr Brian will be remembered as a Redemptorist with a full-on personality and both charming and witty.

He was an incredibly hard worker, a devotee of Chinese culture, a gifted linguist and artisan, and enthralling storyteller and writer. He loved the Granite Belt. Some in the Toowoomba Diocese would remember his sister, Sr June Doro RSM, who served in our diocese for many years.

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