

# TUTOR GROUP MARTYRS

## **Class A - Ashley**      Blessed Ralph Ashley

Ralph Ashley served as a cook at Douai College France. He went to Spain in 1590 and became a Jesuit Lay Brother. He returned to England in 1598 and served with Father Edward Oldcorne. He was captured in 1604 and was terribly tortured and executed.

## **Class C - Clitherow**      Saint Margaret Clitherow

Margaret Clitherow was a butcher's wife in York. In 1574 Margaret became a Catholic and an active helper of the Douai priests. She also ran a Catholic school for her children and neighbours. Officers found vestments worn by priests in her house and so on 25<sup>th</sup> March 1586 she was crushed to death. She took a quarter of an hour to die. Her two sons became priests.

## **Class J - Jones**      Saint John Jones

John Jones was a Welshman. He appears in 1587 as a priest working among the Catholics in a Prison. This work was cut short when his disguise was discovered, and he was arrested and imprisoned at Wisbech Castle. However he did escape and made his way to the continent. He returned to England in 1592, and two years later was a prisoner once more at Wisbech. He was martyred on 12<sup>th</sup> July 1598. There was an hour's delay in his execution because the hangman had forgotten his rope. Father Jones made use of time in prayer and addressing the crowd.

## **Class L - Line**      Saint Anne Line

Anne Line and her husband were both converts and though both were disinherited because of their faith they managed to live quite comfortably until 1586 when a priest was arrested whilst saying Mass in their house. Her husband was imprisoned and Anne was left destitute. When Father Gerard set up a house in London for priests he put Anne in charge. However on Candlemass Day 1601 the officers arrived during Mass. The priest escaped but Anne was taken and condemned. She died at Tyburn on 27 February 1601.

## **Class P - Pritchard**      Blessed Humphrey Pritchard

Humphrey Pritchard was a barman at a public house in Oxford. He supported the underground work of priests in Elizabethan England. However he was captured and after examination and torture in London he was tried and executed at Oxford. He was taunted for his ignorance by some of the university men present at the execution. When he said that he died for being a Catholic, one of them shouted that he was unable to explain what being a Catholic meant. Blessed Humphrey replied: "What I cannot say in words, I will seal with my blood". He was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1987.

## **Class S - Sutton**

### Blessed Robert Sutton

Robert Sutton was born in Burton-on-Trent in 1545. He studied at Christ Church, Oxford, and converted to Catholicism in 1577. In 1578 Robert returned to England and worked for ten years saying Mass secretly in the houses of Catholic families in various places. He was arrested in Stafford in 1588 and was hanged, drawn and quartered there on 27<sup>th</sup> July. Before execution, he made a speech about the candle, which is given at baptism and in the hour of death he held up his handkerchief in remembrance of it, saying that he lived and died in the light of the Catholic faith. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1987.

## **Class W - Wall**

### Saint John Wall

John Wall was born in Lancashire in 1620. His parents were fervent Catholics and sent him, when he was thirteen, to Douai College in France. From there he went to the English College in Rome and was ordained priest at 25 years old. When he was 36 he was sent secretly to England to work as a priest in Worcestershire. For 22 years he ministered to Catholics, moving from place to place often using an assumed name to avoid capture. In 1678 he was arrested near Bromsgrove. He was condemned to death and was hanged, drawn and quartered on Red Hill in Worcester on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1679.

## Saint John Bosco

St John Bosco was born in Italy on August 16<sup>th</sup> 1815 and worked as an Italian Priest. John Bosco was the only saint with the title "Father and Teacher of Youth".

St John Bosco is remembered as man who dedicated his life to the service of abandoned young people.

He was driven by first-hand experience of the effects of dreadful poverty and hunger. Here at Blessed Edward Oldcorne we are inspired by Saint John Bosco's example in our relationships and encounters with one another.

