



The parish of St. Anne & St. Bernard



MEMORIAL – FROM JULIE

I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER BROTHER TOM
A DEAR AND TREASURED FRIEND
DIED IN 2010 AT AGE OF 98 YEARS



It was about 19 years ago, whilst working outside in our parish, and community for Sister Francis, of St Anne's Day Centre, were a group of us befriended and cared for the sick and elderly. Where I first met "**Br. Tom**".

We met on many occasions, that's when our friendship began to grow. I witnessed Tom, visiting, caring, and comforting, the sick, the bereaved, and all those who were isolated within our community. He reached out to them all in a **very special way**. He brought great **love joy** and **peace** within their lives. They couldn't wait for his visits, they loved him dearly, he truly made their **day**. Just his **presence** made everything right.

Tom was also a great **listener** and always had time to share. His gentle and kind manner was **inspirational**. No matter what the situation Tom's love of **God** and the **Holy Scriptures**. Gave him such a **wonderful gift**. He would leave you with the most **beautiful image** of what **God's love** was like for **you** and for **me**.

He was so at **peace** with his life, and so open to where God was leading him. Most days in all weathers Tom would walk many miles. Up to Rathbone Rd, back down to Stephenson's Court, Telford Court, Aron Lodge and many of the streets up and down Wavertree Road, and the Edge Hill area. He so loved and was so dedicated to his work, and his mission in life.

(THE LOVE OF THE PEOPLE)

(THE LOVE OF THE PARISH AND THE COMMUNITY)

He never let anyone down, and as the years went by our friendship grew and grew. He was always there for **me**. For all of us as he was such a devout and prayerful man, **(GOD BLESS HIM)**.

Then five years ago it was time for Tom to leave Liverpool and return home to Ireland. Where I was so privileged to help Tom with his packing, and to share in his last week here in Liverpool.

He would tell me of his great love of the people of St Ann's and St Bernard. His great love and respect for all those who had done such wonderful work throughout their lives, **Br. Matt, Br. Emmon, Br. Paul, Br. Edward, Sr. Frances, Sr. Catherine, Sr. Paullen** and all those who had shared in his life. Especially down in Grinfield Street, such a precious part of his life. Which was quite hard to live behind. They were his treasured memories.

Once in Ireland Tom settled at St. Patrick Nursing Home, were he had a great relationship with all the Brothers and staff he was really happy.

He never forgot us all here at St Anne's. We kept in touch by letter, and telephone. He always wanted to know how everyone was getting on down our end. Always praying for us all, he said he was always with us in spirit, especially on **Friday nights**. So when we too light our candles on Friday night, in union with prayer for our parish, may we always include "**Our Tom**". And thank and Praise God for blessing us with such a beautiful and holy man within our lives.

I thank and praise you dear lord for blessing us with the last visit to Tom, on the 19th December 2009. He was overjoyed to share with Fr. Peter all about St Anne's and St Bernards. And at the age of 98 and a lifetime of prayer, loving and knowing God, brought Great Wisdom, which made him the beautiful man he was. Memories I will cherish in my heart forever.

Throughout my life Tom you were my **teacher, my friend, a father figure and granddad** all in one!!

"Thanks you" for being part of my life.

"Thank you" for all the wonderful work you did for our Parish and Community.

Never forget you dear Br. Tom.

Love *Julie,*

and thanks from all at St Anne's and St Bernards

"God Bless You Always Tom"



"May he rest in peace"