

# Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark

12th May 2003

## PRESS RELEASE CORRECTION

### **Fr. John Hagreen, RIP**

Fr. John Hagreen, the eldest brother to two sisters was born on 24th May 1919 at **Hampstead**. His father, Philip Hagreen, was a widely reputed engraver in wood, whose particular skill was lettering. When his sight failed his wife, Aileen took Philip to Lourdes where his sight recovered. As a result they then they lived in Lourdes for a number of years having John and his sister educated at the local boarding school.

Shortly after the return to England at the outbreak of the War, John joined the army. During his military service he was wounded by shrapnel. In 1945 after demobilisation he decided to study for the priesthood. He undertook his studies at Osterley and Womersley. Following ordination on 8th June 1952 he served at Forest Hill for three years before being appointed to St. Peter's, Hove. After five years he went in 1960 to Our Lady of the Assumption, Northfleet where he also remained for five years. **Following the creation of the new parish of St. John Fisher, Kidbrooke he became the first parish priest. In 1975 he became the parish priest of Our Lady of the Rosary, Brixton, where he served for nine years.** In April 1984 he became parish priest of St. Andrew, Tenterden until 1997. In that year he was appointed as chaplain to St. Andrew's Convent, Edenbridge. In September 2001 he went to St. Thomas of Canterbury, Sevenoaks.

John served the Diocese through a number of Diocesan appointments. He was the Director of the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. He made a number of revisions to the CTS "A Guide to Lourdes" with a design on the last revision based on a woodcut by his father.

He also served on the Ministry to Priests Team the Art and Architecture Committee and the Marriage Tribunal. Ever active with a lively mind he had a letter published in "The Tablet" on the day of his death.

John was a gentleman. Above all he was a courteous, mannerly, devoted dedicated and prayerful priest.

He died in the Kent and Sussex hospital, Tunbridge Wells just after midnight on Friday 2nd May 2003.

May he rest in peace.

PRESS & INFORMATION OFFICER  
**This is a correction to earlier  
statement of 2nd May.  
Corrections are in bold.**

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14 MAY

**ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK**

Archbishop's House  
150 St George's Road  
London SE1 6HX

**Deceased Clergy Association**

*It is with regret that we announce the death of: -*

- 1 **FATHER JOHN HAGREEN who died on Friday May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2003. Funeral Mass to be celebrated at St George's Cathedral, Southwark on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2003 at 12 noon.**
- 2 Reverend Paul Wilkins of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton who died on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2003
- 3 Reverend Stephen Tynan of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton who died on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2003

*Members have undertaken to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the Repose of the Soul of each deceased member.*

**OBITUARY NOTICE FOR REVEREND JOHN HAGREEN**

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Shortly after the return to England at the outbreak of the War, John joined the army. During his military service he was wounded by shrapnel. In 1945 after demobilisation he decided to study for the priesthood. He undertook his studies at Osterley and Womersley. Following ordination on 8th June 1952 he served at Forest Hill for three years before being appointed to St. Peter's, Hove. After five years he went in 1960 to Our Lady of the Assumption, Northfleet where he also remained for five years. He became parish priest of St. Francis of Sales and St. Gertrude, Stockwell in 1975 where he served for nine years. In April 1984 he became parish priest of St. Andrew, Tenterden until 1997. In that year he was appointed as chaplain to St. Andrew's Convent, Edenbridge. In September 2001 he went to St. Thomas of Canterbury, Sevenoaks.

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