



## *Fr Anthony King SM*

*5.4.1926 - 27.6.2023*

Anthony King was born in Sydney on April 5, 1926, the eldest of four children, the one daughter being the youngest; his parents were Dan and Molly King. His primary education at Randwick was with the Brigidine Sisters and junior secondary with the Marist Brothers. He completed secondary education at night school with the Marist Brothers at St Patrick's, Church Hill, Sydney.

Having commenced work as a telegram messenger in 1941, he was to continue for some years in the postal service.

Membership in a discussion group in the local (Coogee) parish and in the Legion of Mary led him to think of a religious vocation. After two attempts to follow this way of life he followed two Marist friends and entered novitiate at Armidale in 1954 with Fr Cecil Crocker as the novice master and was professed on Feb 23, 1955.

On Jul 9, 1960 Tony was ordained to the priesthood, his first appointment being as assistant editor of the Marist publication, *'Harvest'*, and after five years as an award-winning editor, a post he held until the end of 1971.

In 1972 Fr Tony joined the novitiate community at Villa Maria, Hunters Hill, at the same time lecturing and tutoring at the Marist seminary, Toongabbie. After a year he became socius to the novice master before becoming novice master in 1975 until 1982.

After a year's program in Boston, USA, Fr Tony became available for retreats and spiritual direction at Toongabbie and Villa Maria, Hunters Hill, a ministry for which he was soon well known and appreciated. In 1995 he joined Fr David Kennerley and Br Joe Lamb for the inter-provincial novitiate at Maryknoll in Hawkes Bay, NZ, and when the first international English-speaking novitiate was established in Cambridge, USA, he once again joined Fr Kennerley on the team, 1999–2000.

After a further ten years in the Villa Maria community Fr Tony moved to the Maryvale/Montbel community and in 2018 to Southern Cross Aged Care, Marsfield, where he died peacefully on Jun 27, 2023. May he rest in peace.