



St Joseph's RC Church, Batley Carr



DEWSBURY SACRIFICES

CATHOLICS' WAR MEMORIAL New Altar Dedicated at Batley Carr

[Exclusive to the "News."]

As a war memorial to Batley Carr Catholics who have made the supreme sacrifice and to other deceased members of the church, a new altar, dedicated to St. Joseph, has been erected at St. Joseph's Church, and the Lady Altar has been renovated. The two altars enhance the beauty of the edifice.

It is only a short time ago Rev. W. J. Hayes (parish priest) announced the scheme, and sufficient offers were quickly received to put it into effect.

The new altar, which has been generously given by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lockwood, well-known parishioners, in memory of relatives and friends, is tastefully designed in dark oak. The statue of St. Joseph, which is one of the most beautiful in the district, is in gream and gold. Other fittings and decorations, including a handsome pair of candlesticks, are the gift of Mrs. J. Donovan, another parishioner. The woodwork has been executed by Messrs. Joseph Brooke and Sons, joiners, Batley Carr, and the decorations are by Mr. N. Ramsden (Dewsbury).

The improvements in the altar of Our Lady are due to the generosity of the Children of Mary and several other benefactors. An ornate scheme is in cream and gold gilt, and many of the statues and fittings are individual presents.

The dedication ceremony was performed on Sunday by Rev. Father Morrissey (Ossett), who preached at morning and evening services. Father Hayes sang the Mass of the Holy Cross, and a principal part in the choir was taken by Mr. Tom Cullen. Solo parts were also taken by Miss Mary Ann Howgate and Mr. Whelan.

WORLD WAR I

Pte AUSTIN NOLAN KOYLI - August 1914
 Pte JOSEPH KING KOYLI - December 1914
 L-cpl MARK DONOVAN KOYLI - March 1915
 Pte BARTHOLEMEW CONNOR Connaught Rangers - May 1916
 Sgt WILLIAM SPENCER KOYLI - September 1916
 Sgt CHARLES GALLAGHER King's Liverpool Rgt - March 1917
 Pte WILLIAM ROCK KOYLI - March 1917
 Pte JOSEPH ROTHERY West Yorks Rgt - April 1917
 Rifleman JOSEPH CONLON West Yorks Rgt - May 1917
 Gunner ERNEST NEWSOME RFA - December 1917
 Pte HERBERT CARR East Yorks Rgt - March 1918

DEWSBURY TERRITORIAL KILLED.

News was received yesterday that Lance-Corpl. Mark Donovan, of Crawshaw's Yard, Bradford Road, Dewsbury, a member of the First 4th K.O.Y.L.I., had been killed at the Front. The news was contained in the following letter received by his brother, Mr. John Donovan, builder and contractor, of Bradford Road.

3rd August, 1915.
 Dear Mr. Donovan,—I am deeply grieved to be the bearer of bad news to you. This morning I was called out to the trenches to your brother, Lance-Corpl. Mark Donovan, of the 4th K.O.Y.L.I., who had asked for a priest to give him the Last Sacraments, as he was very severely wounded by shrapnel shell. He was hit in the leg and an artery appeared to be cut very badly. When I reached him he was still conscious and he made his peace with God, dying at last fortified by the sacraments of the Church. His end was indeed happy, both spiritually and physically, for he had no pain scarcely at all, but sank from loss of blood. I myself laid him to rest in a little graveyard near by, and will see that a cross is erected and his last resting place kept as you could desire. May Almighty God give him eternal rest; and comfort you in the loss you have sustained. He died in a noble cause, and as a good Catholic should, prepared and willing to submit to God's Holy Will.—Yours, etc.,

MICHAEL J. MULLINS, C.P.,
 2nd W.R. Field Ambulance,
 49th Division.

The deceased soldier, who was about 32 years of age, and of splendid physique, fought through the South African War; and on the outbreak of the present hostilities he joined the local Territorials. He attended St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Batley Carr, and was well-known and highly respected in the district. Another brother, James, is serving at the Front in the 10th K.O.Y.L.I.



Pte Herbert Carr



Pte John T. Cogan MM



Rfm Joseph Conlon

From WWI Sgt CW Gallagher, Gnr E Newsome, Pte J Rothery and Sgt W Spencer are also on the Dewsbury Cenotaph. Pte B Connor, Pte A Nolan, Pte P Roche and Pte W Rock are on the Batley Memorial. The memorial was researched and created in 2019 by Tony Rivero and includes casualties from WWII Pte M Forde and Pte BP Roche and from the Afghan War Cpl S Curley.

SAD DEATH OF A BATLEY CARR SOLDIER.

VISITED BY THE KING,

HOPED FOR A PRESENT AT CHRISTMAS.

The circumstances attending the death from wounds of Private Joseph King, of the 2nd K.O.Y.L.I., are exceedingly sad. In our last issue we published a letter which Pte. King had written to his mother, Mrs. M. King, 34, Albert Street, Batley Carr, in which he said that on November 2nd a bullet passed through his leg and broke it; asking her to cheer up and saying that he hoped to be home for Christmas. We also published a letter from the Rev. E. F. Nugent, chaplain, written from the Base Hospital at Boulogne, in which that gentleman informed Mrs. King that her son had had to have his leg amputated as far as the knee. He hoped Pte. King would be much better in the course of a few days.

However, Mr. Nugent has now written dated December 14th, to the effect that Pte. King has unfortunately died from his injuries. He says:—"My Dear Madam,—I grieve to tell you that Private King died here on December 12th. We so hoped he was getting better, but he suddenly had a turn for the worse and died. I am sure he was prepared to go. I visited him several times, and I got to know him well. Everything was done for him to save him, and he had his leg off hoping that would save his life. He will be buried with military honours to-morrow morning. God bless and comfort you."

Private King's last letter home was written a few days before his death. It was addressed to his sister as follows:—"Dear Sister,—Thanks very much for your postcard which I received yesterday. I'm sorry I have not answered it sooner, but I've felt a bit bad in myself for the last two or three days. I've not yet received the paper that you said you'd sent. I shall probably be here about a week longer, and then they will send me to a hospital in England near my home, probably Leeds or thereabouts. To-day we had the pleasure of a visit from H.M. King George V., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Sir John French, and a crowd of other officers. The King enquired how I was getting on, and then passed on to the other lads. Give your warmest regards to all. Give my love to mother, father, and all at home, and tell them I expect to see them soon. Don't forget that I shall be pleased to receive a present from you at Christmas."