

**A REMEMBRANCE FOR THE
LIVING TO PRAY FOR THE DEAD.
REPRINTED FROM THE EDITION OF
1661. WITH AN APPENDIX ON THE
HEROIC ACT**

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A Remembrance for the Living to Pray for the Dead. Reprinted from the Edition of 1661. With an Appendix on the Heroic Act by James Mumford & John Morris

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JAMES MUMFORD & JOHN MORRIS

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A REMEMBRANCE FOR THE LIVING
TO PRAY FOR THE DEAD.

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A
REMEMBRANCE FOR THE LIVING
TO PRAY FOR THE DEAD,

By JAMES MUMFORD,

PRIEST OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS.

REPRINTED FROM THE EDITION OF 1661.

WITH AN APPENDIX ON THE HEROIC ACT,

By JOHN MORRIS,

Priest of the same Society.



Remember them that are in bands, as if you were bound with them.—*Heb. xiii. 3.*

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—
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INTRODUCTION.

JAMES MUMFORD, a native of the county of Norfolk, was born in the year 1606. His name is spelt in various ways. The Catalogue of the English Province S.J. for the year 1642, calls him "Momford." That for the year 1655 calls him, in the body of it, "Jacobus Momfordus," whilst in the index to the same it has "Mumfordus." Mr. Dodd, in a very brief notice of this Father, in his *Church History*, vol. iii., p. 321, calls him "Monford;" and Father Nathaniel Southwell, in his *Bibliotheca Scriptorum Societatis Jesu* (Rome, 1676) gives his name as "Jacobus Mumfordus."

He entered the Society of Jesus in the year 1626, made his noviceship at Watten, and was professed of the four vows on the 29th September, 1641. In the Catalogue of the Province for the year 1642, he appears as Father Minister of the English College S.J. at Liége, at the same time being Consultor of the College and teaching humanities. He was subsequently Rector of the College. In the Catalogue for the year 1655, he is entered as serving in the College

of the Holy Apostles, which comprised the Jesuit missions in the counties of Essex, Sussex, Norfolk, and Cambridge. He is stated to be then forty-nine years of age, and of weak health, with the mention of a goodly array of offices in which he had been previously employed, such as Rector, Confessarius, Spiritual Father, Socius to the Master of Novices, Minister, Consultor, Professor of Sacred Scripture and of Moral Theology.

About the year 1650 he was Missionary Priest at Norwich, the first of whose residence in that city we have any record. In those evil days every Priest in England lived in the constant expectation of confessorship, if not of martyrdom. Father Mumford had the honour of bearing insults and imprisonment for his Master. A few years before his death he was betrayed and apprehended at Norwich. He was paraded through the streets of that city by the *posse comitatus*, who carried his priestly vestments on their halberds, the Father being dressed in a Priest's cloak. His interior joy at being called thus to suffer for Christ was so expressed by the cheerfulness of his countenance as to make no little impression on the people. After some days' imprisonment in the common jail, he was sent by boat, handcuffed and manacled, to Yarmouth; a journey that occupied a day and a night. Norwich, however, conceiving its rights and privileges injured by the transfer, he was

brought back again, and, though kept in prison, was treated with less rigour. He had a separate cell allowed him, and the Catholics being permitted to bring him his breviary and other books, he occupied his time in writing his *Catholic Scripturist*, which was first published in Ghent in 1662, and has since been three times reprinted. After some months' imprisonment he was permitted to go at large on bail, but again and again he was obliged to reappear at the bar as the judges came on circuit, till at length, his accuser having ceased to appear, and no legal proof of his priesthood being forthcoming, he was liberated.

Father Mumford died in England on the 9th of March, 1666, in his sixtieth year, and the twenty-sixth of his service of the English mission.

Father Mumford had a most charitable love for the suffering souls in Purgatory, offering for them the satisfactions of all his labours and sufferings. To spread the same devotion he published a 12^{mo} treatise in 1641, at St. Omers, called, *A Remembrance for the Living to pray for the Dead*, and six years afterwards, at Liège, a Latin treatise entitled, *De misericordiâ fidelibus defunctis exhibendâ*. The latter was translated into French by Père Brignon, S.J., with Triessem's letters to Father Mumford (Paris, 1691). Besides these books and the *Catholic Scripturist*, Father Mumford wrote *A Vindication of St. Gregorie his Dialogues* (London, 1660), and *The Question of Questions, which,*