

## NEW BOOK ON BISHOP TORREGGAINI

30 January 2004

### *Bishop Torreggiani: Instrument of peace* by Fr Patrick Colbourne OFM Cap



On Tuesday evening 17<sup>th</sup> February in Armidale NSW Fr Patrick Colbourne OFM Cap will launch his book on the life of Bishop Torreggiani the second bishop of Armidale NSW.

Commissioned by the Capuchin Province of Australia for the 100 centenary of the death of Torreggiani Fr Patrick has been searching the archives here in Australia, England and Italy, to bring us a window on the life of this extraordinary Capuchin Friar who joined the Order in the Marches of Ancona and the group of friars who came to minister with him in the New England district of New South Wales.

Torreggiani was born at Porto di Recanati in The Marches (Italy) on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1830. At the age of 18 he entered the Capuchins at Camerino and was ordained to the priesthood in 1853. Prevented from going to India, his first choice as a Mission, he went to Wales. There he attended the mother of Archbishop Vaughan on her deathbed. When a Bishop was needed who had pastoral experience among rural Irish migrants,

Vaughan secured Torreggiani's appointment to Armidale (NSW), where after being consecrated in Peckham on 25<sup>th</sup> May, he took possession of his See as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bishop of Armidale on 25<sup>th</sup> November 1879. He became part of the folk history of Australia, when saying Mass on Christmas day 1901, he was shot at by a madman carrying a pistol and sword. He died on 28<sup>th</sup> January 1904 and is buried in the cemetery of Armidale.

The Book is published by *Chevalier Press* in Sydney.