

Today's Martyrs – June 1975

Monday June 16, 1975



Lithuania: Vilnius

Nijole Sadunaite (aged 36, factory worker, sister of Jonas Aloyzas Sadunas; arrested in an [August 23, 1974](#) KGB raid on her [Lazdynia](#) home for possession of *The Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*, detained in a ‘hot cell’ for seventeen days, interrogated for ten months; **UPDATE:** tried on a charge of libel of the Soviet state, said to the judges in the opening of her defense “I would like to tell you that I love all of you as my brothers and sisters and, if need be, without hesitation, would give my life for each one of you...A thief steals money, you rob people by taking from them that which is of greatest value – loyalty to their own beliefs and the opportunity to pass that on to their children...These and hundreds of other facts witness that the atheist purpose – to make everyone their spiritual slave – justifies any means: lies, slander, and terror. And you rejoice in your triumph? What remains after your triumphant victory? Moral ruin, millions of unborn fetuses, defiled moral values, weak debased people overcome by fear and with no passion for life? All of that is the fruit of your labors. Jesus Christ was correct when he said ‘You shall know them by the fruits’. Your crimes are propelling you to the garbage heap of history at an ever increasing rate of speed...What is due to Caesar is but the remains of that due to God. The most important thing in life is to free one’s heart and mind from fear, since concessions to evil are a great crime”)

Jonas Aloyzas Sadunas (aged 40, agronomist, brother of Nijole Sadunaite, arrested in a KGB raid on the home he shared with his sister, released; **UPDATE:** became the only person allowed to witness his sister’s trial)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL8415145M/A_Radiance_in_the_Gulag

http://www.lkbkronika.lt/en/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=588&Itemid=498

Tuesday June 17, 1975



Lithuania: Vilnius

Nijole Sadunaite (aged 36, factory worker, sister of Jonas Aloyzas Sadunas; **UPDATE:** concluded her defense on a charge of libel of the Soviet state, said to the judges “This is

the happiest day of my life. I am being tried on account of *The Chronicles of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*, which is struggling against physical and spiritual human tyranny. That means I am being tried for the truth and the love of my fellow man...I will joyfully go into slavery for others and I agree to die so that others may live...Thus let us love one another and we shall be happy. He alone is unhappy who does not love. Yesterday, you were surprised by my happy disposition at a hard moment in my life. That proves the fact that my heart is filled with love for my fellow man, since loving others makes everything else easy! We must sternly condemn evil, but we must also love our fellow man, even though he has erred. That can be learned only in the school of Jesus Christ, who is the only truth, way, and life for all...”, convicted, sentenced to three years’ imprisonment followed by three years’ internal exile)

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Wednesday June 25, 1975



Honduras: Los Horcones, Trinidad, Guarizama, Olancho

Fr Michael Jerome Cypher OFM Conv (aged 34, U.S. citizen, tortured and **killed** by the military after driving someone to the hospital, apparently had been suspected of supporting a land reform movement)

<http://medfordcluster.weconnect.com/Cypher>
<http://newsaints.faithweb.com/year/1975.htm>

Saturday June 28, 1975



Zimbabwe – then Rhodesia

Dr Luisa Guidotti Mistral (aged 43, Italian citizen, Women's Medical Missionary Association, arrested for treating an alleged guerrilla at her hospital)

https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luisa_Guidotti_Mistrali - with translation

June 1975, date unknown