

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Events – July 1979

**Friday July 6, 1979**



### **Zimbabwe – then Zimbabwe Rhodesia**

Dr Luisa Guidotti Mistral (aged 47, Italian citizen, Women's Medical Missionary Association, arrested on [June 28, 1975](#) for treating an alleged guerrilla at her hospital; released on bail on [July 2, 1975](#), charges later dismissed; **UPDATE**: **shot dead** at a government checkpoint while driving the hospital ambulance)

[https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luisa\\_Guidotti\\_Mistrali](https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luisa_Guidotti_Mistrali) - with translation

**Thursday July 12, 1979**



### **Ethiopia: Addis Ababa**

Patriarch Abuna Tewophilos (aged 70, arrested by the Derg [Communist junta] on [February 17, 1976](#), later escaped but was recaptured; **UPDATE**: removed from prison, **executed**)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abuna\\_Theophilos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abuna_Theophilos)

**Saturday July 14, 1979**



### **Guyana: Georgetown**

Fr Bernard Darke SJ (aged 53, British citizen, teacher, **stabbed to death** during a riot between anti- and pro-government demonstrators, had been taking photographs for the diocesan newspaper)

Fr John Hopkinson SJ (headmaster, said “It is easy to label Fr Darke as a scout leader, as a photographer, as a teacher, as a priest, but the labels should not mask the unity and motives of a likeable and hardworking Jesuit striving to do all for the greater glory of God”)

[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/Guyana.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Guyana.htm)

<http://ignatiansolidarity.net/blog/portfolio-item/bernard-darke-s-j-1979-guyana/>

### Monday July 16, 1979



#### Uganda: Amuria

Fr Hans Tauber MHM (aged 61, Italian citizen, **killed**)

[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/Uganda.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Uganda.htm)

### Saturday July 28, 1979



#### Ethiopia

Rev Gudina Tumsa (aged 50, theologian, arrested in **October 1978** after refusing to attend a government sponsored religious seminar; jailed in **June 1979**, released after foreign appeals, refused to leave the country; **UPDATE**: abducted by the Derg [Communist junta], **murdered by strangulation**)

<https://dacb.org/stories/ethiopia/gudina-tumsa/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gudina\\_Tumsa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gudina_Tumsa)

### July 1979, date unknown

