

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Weekly Report – 2017-08-13 through 2017-08-19



### Australia

Archbishop Denis J Hart (responded to a Royal Commission that recommended that the legal protection for the privacy of confession be removed: “Confession in the Catholic Church is a spiritual encounter with God through the priest. It is a fundamental part of the freedom of religion, and it is recognized in the Law of Australia and many other countries. It must remain so here in Australia”)

Date reported: August 14, 2017

Source: <http://www.catholicerald.co.uk/news/2017/08/14/australian-inquiry-priests-should-face-criminal-charges-for-not-reporting-abuse-heard-in-confession/>



### Canada

Deacon Larry Worthen (said “I think that conscientious objection in Canada, unfortunately, hangs by a thread. There are many of us fighting for this right, but the concern is that in a society where killing a patient is seen to be a compassionate and merciful act, then those who refuse to do it are by definition uncompassionate and uncharitable. When you legalize euthanasia, and killing becomes moral, then that quickly becomes the norm, and those who deviate from that are seen to be outliers and unprofessional in their approach”)

Date: August 17, 2017

Source: <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/in-ontario-legal-assisted-suicide-could-kill-conscientious-objection-49721/>



### China

Bishop Emeritus Sylvester Li Jiantang (aged 93, **died of natural causes**, had been imprisoned in a labor camp from 1966 to 1980)

Date: August 13, 2017

Location: Taiyuan

Bishop Paul Xie Tingzhe (aged 86, **died of natural causes**, had been imprisoned in a labor camp from 1961 to 1980)

Date: August 14, 2017

Location: Urumqi, Xinjiang

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Two-elderly-Chinese-bishops-die:-Mgr-Li-Jiantang-of-Taiyuan-and-Mgr-Xie-Tingzhe-of-Urumqi-41526.html>

Gao Zhisheng (aged 53, human rights attorney; **UPDATE**: disappeared)

Date: August 13, 2017

Location: Yulin, Shaanxi province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2017/08/human-rights-lawyer-gao-zhisheng.html>

**Event: Two churches associated with missionaries Li Xinheng and Meng Lisi [who were abducted in Pakistan by ISIL and later killed] have been investigated by the government**

Uncle Z (detained for several days, released, not allowed to leave the city)

Brother W (detained for several days, released, not allowed to leave the city)

G (said that most parishioners were unaware of the missionary's connections with the churches, but have now begun ecumenical "unity gatherings" for mutual support despite theological differences)

Date: August 12, 2017

Location: Wenzhou, Zhejiang province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2017/08/exclusive-christian-divulges.html>

Howard Lam Tsz-kin (politician, abducted by two men on **August 10, 2017**, beaten, had 10 crosses stapled into his thighs, asked "Why don't you love your country and religion?" which is a version of a government slogan regarding state control of churches, released; **UPDATE**: arrested for making false statements to police)

Date: August 15, 2017

Location: Hong Kong

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Activist-'kidnapped'-and-'tortured-by-Chinese'-arrested:-the-police-doubt-his-version-41530.html>

Pastor Zhang (said "the government officials threw firecrackers at the [Christian] brothers and sisters who attended the [outdoor] gathering. A sister was hurt")

Date: July 11, 2017

Location: Ezhou, Hubei province

Source: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2017/08/hubei-christians-attacked-with.html>



**Egypt**

Marian (daughter of Nabil Habib, later said: “We had breakfast together, and we were joking with each other. He was exceptionally happy that day”, her father sent her home after the first liturgy to make tea: “I had just started the water cooker when I heard a big explosion. I thought of my father immediately. There was white smoke everywhere, and people were running around in panic. I was in shock, but I managed to run outside. I started asking everyone if they’d seen my father...He was just lying there, still holding tight to the keys of the church, even though the explosion had blown him meters away. I put his head on my lap. He gave me the keys and asked me to take care of my younger brother and sister. Then he closed his eyes and smiled peacefully, his face shining. Then he went to heaven...I go to church now each Sunday, my faith has grown. I don’t know what tomorrow will bring, but I do know that God will take care of me. I have felt God’s incredible comfort through these times. And I’ve felt the warm love of the Christian community. God takes, but He gives back more. I can’t repeat it enough, and I want the young adults around the world to know it as well. God is love. God is kind. God is merciful. I have experienced this in my most difficult hour”)

Date: December 11, 2016

Location: Cairo

Source: <https://www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/stories/father-died-arms-exact-spot-outside-church/>

Bishop Makarios (**UPDATE:** released a statement regarding church closures "A full month has passed since the incident, during which we have exercised all attempts but we have not been successful. Using the same logic and justifications the [State] Security apparatus has prevented the Copts from practicing their [religious] rites in the village of Kedwan, Minya, claiming that it was because of objections of some opposing factions in the village, and that it was necessary to be considerate of their feelings. However, this means that there is no consideration for the feelings of the Copts, and those who do not ask for anything but to pray, as if the decision belonged to the opposing factions...We have more than fifteen places [of worship] closed on the order of the Security apparatus, despite the existence of formal requests that are imprisoned in the [desk] drawers. Also, there are seventy villages, farmsteads and hamlets without places for prayers...We are still waiting, and we will not despair")

Date: August 15, 2017

Location: Minya

Source: <https://www.copticsolidarity.org/2017/08/15/a-statement-issued-by-the-coptic-orthodox-diocese-of-minya-egypt/>



## Eritrea

Fikadu Debesay (wife, mother of three, arrested along with her husband in [May 2017](#);

**UPDATE:** **died in a prison camp**, body showed signs of torture, husband still detained, children cry and scream in their sleep)

Date: in the week prior to August 10, 2017

Location: Metkel Abiet

Source: <http://www.christianpost.com/news/christian-mom-dies-while-imprisoned-for-her-evangelical-faith-in-eritrea-195461/>



## France

Cardinal Robert Sarah (Ghanaian national, spoke at a Mass for the dedication of an historic park that commemorated the 1793 Vendean revolt "Your work is necessary! For our times seem to have been numbed! As we face the dictatorship of relativism, as we face a new thought terrorism that once again seeks to rip God from the hearts of children, we need to rediscover the freshness of mind, the joyful and fervent simplicity of these saints and these martyrs...Who shall stand up today for God? Who shall dare to confront the modern persecutors of the Church? Who shall have the courage to arise, armed only with the rosary and the Sacred Heart, to face the columns of death of our times, as are relativism, indifferentism and the contempt of God?...We are living in a world marked by the dictatorship of money, of benefits, of riches. The joy of gratuitous giving is everywhere despised and trampled...Even now, perhaps more than ever, the ideologues of the revolution want to annihilate the natural place for gift of self, of joyful generosity and of love! I am speaking of the family! Gender ideology, the contempt of fruitfulness and of fidelity are the new slogans of this revolution. Families have become the new Vendées to exterminate. Their disappearance is being methodically planned... They are ready to attack Africa with new infernal columns in order to pressure on families and to force on them sterilization, abortion and contraception. Africa, like the Vendée, will resist!")

Date: August 12, 2017

Location: Puy-du-Fou

Source: <http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2017/08/16/cardinal-sarah-the-new-revolutionaries-are-trying-to-destroy-the-christian-family/>  
and <http://todaysmartyrs.org/pdf/Documents/2017-08-13%20Homily%20by%20Cardinal%20Robert%20Sarah.pdf>



## India

Auxiliary Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas SFX (**UPDATE**: condemned a "shameful" state government television advertisement that attacked Christian missionaries: "We would like to know what the prime minister, who repeats 'with all, for the growth of all' as his slogan thinks of this blatant misuse of power by a chief minister [governor]")

Date: August 12, 2017

Location: Jharkhand state

Source: <http://www.ucanews.com/news/indian-ad-against-missionaries-irks-christians-civil-leaders/80006>

Pastor Amar Stephen (convert, beaten after RSS paramilitary members invaded a worship service in Mohanpur, Roorkee District, Uttarakhand state on August 8, 2017, said “They barged inside the house church and questioned, 'What is your business here?' I told them we were praying. They said, 'You are not praying, you are converting people.' I said, 'No, no. We are not converting. We are praying to the Lord, we are worshiping Him. Is taking the name of the Lord itself conversion?'...I was dragged to the police station held by the hands by the RSS activists. They took out a procession to a distance of about half a kilometer with an intent to shame. They shouted, 'Look, look here is the man who follows Jesus Christ. God who could not save Himself, how can He save the world? How can He save you?'”; **UPDATE**: beaten at his home, said “Some attackers were holding both my hands so I couldn’t move, while others in the mob beat me. At that time, I did not feel the pain of a single blow. I was praying to the Lord, ‘Lord please forgive them. Please begin your work in the hearts of these people’”)

Date: August 10, 2017

Location: Muzzafarnagar, Uttar Pradesh state

Pastor Mahendra Pal (aged 45, arrested on forcible conversion charges on July 25, 2017, released, charges dropped; **UPDATE**: attacked by seven Vishwa Hindu Parishad extremists who also are employed by the village president, re-arrested, charges dropped, said “Police were under pressure by the RSS and VHP activists in the village...The Lord spoke to me from Isaiah 41:10 – I am waiting on Him for the doors to open. Very recently, a Muslim brother also has come into faith. When we gathered to worship as church, it was being filled by at least 150 attendees, on non-Sundays too. Even the rich and the Hindus from upper castes came into light, hearing the gospel”)

Date: July 30, 2017

Location: Nawabganj, Bareilly district, Uttar Pradesh state

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2017/08/pastors-india-put-trust-god-amid-persecution/>

Fr Cedric Prakash SJ (**UPDATE**: said on the 70th anniversary of independence “Thanks to the visionary leadership of Dr B Ambedkar, this was ‘the idea of India’: which like a beautiful tapestry would preserve, protect and promote pluralism and respect the rights and freedom of every citizen...The country today is a far cry from what is envisaged in the Constitution. The rulers today seem to have no qualms of conscience in destroying democratic values...minorities in India have never had it so bad!”)

Date: August 15, 2017

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/For-Jesuit-activist,-India-is-still-ruled-by-tyrants-after-70-years-of-independence-41546.html>

Dr John Dayal (**UPDATE**: said that Prime Minister Modi's Independence Day speech “left most people disappointed...His critics have come away convinced that he has no plan, or no inclination, to really stop and punish those responsible for the lynchings that have followed the ban on beef and cattle trade, on targeted violence against Muslims and Christians, and those who are eroding what we call the secular fabric of India”)

Joseph Dias (**UPDATE:** said "Because of the delay in outright condemning violence by the far right fringe, not many would believe it even if the PM Modi is serious in the Independence Day message")

Date: August 15, 2017

Source: <http://www.thetablet.co.uk/news/7651/0/indian-pm-s-independence-day-address-leaves-christians-disappointed-as-targeted-attacks-continue->

Rita Haorei (**died of natural causes**, denied burial by village Baptists for having become a Catholic)

Fr Vialo Francis (said that five families in Rita Haorei's village have suffered discrimination for having changed from Baptist to Catholic)

Rev Raja Peter Chiru (said "The basis of the problem comes from a slogan — one village, one denomination — that some tribal groups follow. I do not approve of it. It is a condemnable slogan")

Date: August 7, 2017

Location: Leingangching, Manipur state

Source: <http://www.ucanews.com/news/christians-protest-baptist-catholic-row-in-india/80042>

Pastor Harjot Sethi (husband of Arvinderjot Sethi, beaten during a Gospel outreach meeting by Hindu radicals, said "I thought I would die these men came rushing at me as soon as I started speaking and I was hit on the head. I passed out temporarily which only excited the RSS [paramilitary] goons more I am told. The attackers started beating me more intensely whilst I was on the floor" , his mother said "My son was simply sharing God's message of hope through accepting Christ our Lord and Savior. The hooligans waited for him to start speaking and rushed to kill him. They were armed with weapons and were beating him hard and any others that tried to stop the violence. I was terrified and had to watch from afar unable to do anything. I feared for his life but God protected my son who survived the vicious attack despite being hit on his head with thick metal poles. I praise God for his mercy and protection")

Arvinderjot Sethi (wife of Pastor Harjot Sethi, slapped around by Hindu radicals during the attack on her husband, escaped, ran to the police station)

Date reported: August 18, 2017

Location: Dabli Rathan village, Hanumangarh district, Rajasthan state

Source: <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/indian-pastor-and-team-beaten-by-rss-extremists-till-bleeding-during-outreach-in-rajasthan>



## Iraq

Archbishop Habib Jajou (said "There were many, many people under the control of ISIL and who have been brainwashed. We hope ISIL will be uprooted from Iraq, but we are afraid of a new ISIL. There are millions of illiterate, youth and children, on the streets, begging,

it's chaotic. There are two parts of the population - one of those is living according to the sixth, seventh, or fourteenth century, the mentality is very old")

Date reported: August 17, 2017

Location: Basra

Source: <http://www.aina.org/news/20170817121542.htm>



## Ireland

Niamh Ui Bhriain (Life Institute, **UPDATE**: commented on the pro-abortion group that trespassed in a church and draped a pro-abortion sweater on the altar for a pro-abortion advertisement "Everyone, including all decent people who have no faith themselves, knows you shouldn't mess with a place of worship whether it's a church, a synagogue or a mosque or anywhere else. For some pro-abortion campaigners, their hatred for religion seems to be the primary reason they support abortion, even though pro-life people see this as a human rights issue. This shows, once again, their extreme intolerance towards anyone who dares to have a different opinion, and their desire to silence people of faith. Abortion campaigners have repeatedly called for the churches to be silenced on abortion, but reasonable people will agree that they have a right to make their position known...It's no surprise really that they know feel they can target altars in Catholic churches but this actually just reveals their intolerance and bigotry to the public")

Date reported: August 8, 2017

Location: Inchicore, Dublin

Source: <http://www.lifenews.com/2017/08/08/abortion-activists-desecrate-catholic-church-drape-sweater-with-pro-abortion-slogan-on-church-altar/>



## Kazakhstan

Fr Vladimir Vorontsov (arrested on [August 2, 2017](#) at a Christian youth summer camp on charges of extremism, smuggling of religious literature, and illegal detention of minors; **UPDATE**: subjected to an administrative trial with other priests as witnesses, said "The conversation was tense...[Department chief] Omarov treated us as guilty subordinates. The Religious Affairs administration did nothing to resolve this situation, to reconcile")

Date: August 10, 2017

Location: Merke, Jambyl region

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orthodox-priest-put-on-trial-for-praying-with-children-at-a-summer-camp-in-the-mountains-41538.html>



## Nigeria

Choji Chuwang (reported on Fulani Muslim attacks, said “As we gleefully wallow in the false sense of peace on the Plateau, know it today that a deliberate economic terrorism and land-grabbing strategy is being launched on Christians of Riyom and Barkin Ladi on a daily basis with the sole aim of making them poor, weak and destitute in their own land”)

Jatau Gyang (reported on Fulani Muslim attacks)

Da Jelkyes (reported on Fulani Muslim attacks)

Date: August 14, 2017

Location: Barkin Ladi and Riyom local government areas, Plateau state

Pastor David Dalyop (wounded along with his 5 year old son in a Fulani attack)

Date: May 25, 2017

Location: Gana Ropp village, Barkin Ladi local government area, Plateau state

Nehemiah David (aged 14, stoned by Fulani herdsmen along with other secondary school students, injured)

Date: March 17, 2017

Location: Jol village, Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Gyang Yarima (crops destroyed by Fulani herdsmen)

Davou Mwangwong (crops destroyed by Fulani herdsmen)

Date: June 17, 2017

Location: Vwak hamlet, Jol village, Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Joshua Peter (crops destroyed by Fulani herdsmen)

Date: June 18, 2017

Location: Dajol hamlet, Jol village, Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Solomon Mandiks (told by Fulani herdsmen that his days were numbered and he would be 'silenced' after he filed a police complaint against them)

Date: May 8, 2017

Location: Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Gyang Dambwarang (attacked and seriously injured by Fulani herdsmen after he verbally challenged their trespass on his land)

Date: May 9, 2017

Location: Plateau state

David Yakubu (killed by Fulani herdsmen, two others injured)

Date: May 19, 2017

Location: on the Rafin-Acha to Tanjoli road, Plateau state

Davou Joro Mangai (attacked, seriously injured, cactus trees cut down)

Date: April 4, 2017

Location: Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Emmanuel Gankis (crops destroyed by Fulani herdsmen)

Date: April 5, 2017

Location: Jol village, Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Mathew Samuel (miner, attacked by Fulani herdsmen)

Date: April 21, 2017

Location: Rafin-Acha, Jol village, Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Rifkatu Emmanuel Pam (injured in a Fulani attack)

Date: January 18, 2017

Location: Jol village, Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Dachung Maichibi (object of an attempted abduction along with his wife and son by Fulani herdsmen)

Date: January 28, 2017

Location: Jol village, Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Victoria Monday (injured in a Fulani attack)

Date: January 20, 2017

Location: Mere hamlet, Rahoos village, Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Tanitha Luka (injured in a Fulani attack)

Maichibi (injured in a Fulani attack)

Date: first eight months of 2017

Location: Plateau state

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2017/08/herdsmen-plateau-state-nigeria-quietly-seizing-christians-property-pastors-say/>



## Pakistan

Saiba Masih (aged 3, daughter of Shafqat Masih and Catherine Bibi, sister of Altaf and Daud, raped in Chishtian, Bahawalnagar district on December 17, 2016, hospitalized, underwent surgery; **UPDATE**: examinations show signs of mental trauma, a full assessment of the damage to her reproductive organs will have to wait until she reaches puberty)

Catherine Bibi (sanitation worker, under pressure by Muslim leaders after December 17, 2016 to not pursue prosecution of her daughter's rapist; **UPDATE**: examined for cardiac and respiratory problems, said "My daughter does not deserve any of the pain she has suffered and will suffer for many years yet. Saiba was left bleeding and broken by an evil man whose violence has left her with deep emotional and physical scars for longevity. Doctors may struggle to heal my daughter but through God anything is possible and I

believe he will heal Saiba one day. Please join me in praying for my daughter who will one day through her healing be a testament to the power of the living God")

Date: July 24, 2017

Location: Lahore

Source: <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/mother-calls-for-prayers-for-restoration-of-reproductive-organs-of-three-year-old-rap-victim>

Indrayas Ghulam (aged 38, husband of Shabana, father of Shumir, Youaab, and Angel, arrested following the **March 15, 2015** church suicide bombings and riot; **UPDATE: beaten to death in prison**)

Shabana (aged 36, widow of Indrayas Ghulam)

Shumir (aged 12, daughter of Indrayas Ghulam)

Youaab (aged 10, son of Indrayas Ghulam)

Angel (aged 6, daughter of Indrayas Ghulam)

Date: August 13, 2017

Location: Kot Lakhpat jail, Lahore

Source: <https://www.christiansinpakistan.com/innocent-christian-died-behind-bars/> and <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/independence-day-celebration-marred-by-death-of-christian-prisoner>

Asif Stephen (aged 16, son of Stephen Masih, brother of Mujahid, Kajul and Irum, trash collector, accused of a late July Quran desecration, arrested, taken from the police state by a mob and beaten, re-arrested by police reinforcements)

Stephen Masih (father of Asif Stephen)

Mujahid Stephen (sibling of Asif Stephen)

Kajul Stephen (sibling of Asif Stephen)

Irum Stephen (sibling of Asif Stephen)

Aneeqa Maria Akhtar (**UPDATE: attorney for Asif Stephen**)

Shahid Anthony (**UPDATE: investigator**)

Napoleon Qayyum (**UPDATE: human rights advocate**)

Asif Yaqoob (investigator)

Date: August 12, 2017

Location: Jhamkay Tehsil Wazeer Abad village, Gujranwala district

Source: <https://www.christiansinpakistan.com/christian-teen-aged-boy-arrested-on-blasphemy/> and <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=6593>



**Philippines**

Fr Edwin A Gariguez (said "The killings of suspected drug users and pushers in Bulacan is an epitome of the aggressive campaign of the present government against illegal drugs, under the leadership of President Duterte. The strategy is to exterminate the suspects before they are brought to a court of law. This case of killing of 32 suspects in separate operations in just one day is gruesome and utterly condemnable. The impunity of how the numerous killings can be committed or condoned by the police force is truly alarming")

Date: August 15, 2017

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/More-killings-take-place-in-anti-drug-operations-in-Manila.-Fr-Gariguez-notes-Duterte-encourages-executions-41554.html>



## Russia

Pastor Evgenij Peresvetov (arrested with his wife and 9 year old son on abduction charges regarding his therapeutic community for treating addictions)

Date reported: August 14, 2017

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/'Extremism':-the-Russian-state-and-the-witch-hunt-against-Jehovah's-Witnesses-41520.html>

Igor Osipenko (fined US\$480 on November 10, 2016 because the sign outside his church did not state its full legal name; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: December 22, 2016

Location: Sharypovo, Krasnoyarsk region

Pastor Vitaly Shmidt (fined US\$496 on December 30, 2016 for distribution of unapproved religious literature; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: February 8, 2017

Location: Ulyanovsk

Pastor Aleksandr Mikhailov (fined US\$466 on March 15, 2017 because the sign outside his church did not state its full legal name; **UPDATE**: appeal successful on statute of limitations grounds)

Date: June 30, 2017

Location: Sharypovo, Krasnoyarsk region

Pastor Oleg Gorobets (fined US\$527 on March 27, 2017 for a church meeting in a private home; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: May 2, 2017

Location: Samara

A V Tselykh (fined US\$88 for a church meeting in a private home)

Date: March 29, 2017

Location: Ufa, Bashkortostan Republic

Andrei Okhapkin (called into court because no sign existed outside a private home owned by his church that stated its full legal name, judge ruled in his favor, said there was no proof of illegal worship in the house)

Date: March 30, 2017

Location: Kineshma district, Ivanovo region

V M Maltsev (cited for sharing religious literature, case effectively dismissed)

Date: June 13, 2017

Location: Kaliningrad

Pastor Nikolai Raskopin (acquitted on charges of distributing illegal literature and of not displaying the church's full legal name)

Date: June 22, 2017

Location: Korkino district, Chelyabinsk region

Vladimir Boyev (fined US\$505 on June 29, 2017 for not displaying the church's full legal name on the sign outside the church, the building has been purchased only days before the inspection; **UPDATE**: appeal denied)

Date: August 2, 2017

Location: Lipetsk

Dmitry Taranenko (issued a warning for not displaying the church's full legal name on a sign outside a private home used for a worship service)

Date: July 12, 2017

Location: Chelyabinsk

Source: [http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article\\_id=2306](http://www.forum18.org/archive.php?article_id=2306)



### United Kingdom

Ian Sleeper (restaurant owner, arrested on June 23, 2017 for street preaching "Love Muslims, Hate Islam, Tell the Truth" in front of Southwark Cathedral, held for 13 hours, released on bail but not charged, told to not repeat his actions; **UPDATE**: told that no charges would be brought against him)

Date reported: August 17, 2017

Location: London

Source: <http://www.christianconcern.com/our-concerns/freedom-of-speech/victory-for-street-preacher-arrested-for-sharing-love-for-muslims-and>



## United States - Illinois

Emmanuel Fleming (aged 34, father of three boys under the age of 10, usher, **shot dead** on the church steps)

Michael Swift (aged 46, **shot dead** on the church steps)

Rev Reginald Bachus (said "They were on their way up the steps to the church, and two gentlemen ran up from Jackson [Boulevard] and basically unloaded on them. It's just hard for me to believe that something like this could happen on a Sunday morning. Two young men on their way to church. ... I think that's the hardest part for me to grasp")

Bruno Carter (parishioner, witnessed the shootings, said "The kids were partially in the door, and they heard the gunfire and their father [Emmanuel Fleming] was telling them to get in...It seems like the more people march and carry signs — and the more churches bind together to say 'Stop the violence' — the more they disregard it and just continue to kill")

Date: August 13, 2017

Location: Chicago

Source: <http://www.christianpost.com/news/father-gunned-down-on-steps-of-chicago-church-during-service-young-sons-witnessed-horror-195446/>



## Vatican City

Pope Francis aka Jorge Mario Bergoglio SJ (**UPDATE**: implicitly attacked on Twitter by former European Union President Herman van Rompuy who wrote "The time of 'Rome has spoken, the matter is settled' is long past" after it became known that van Rompuy sat on the board of directors of Belgian Catholic-owned hospitals for the mentally ill which voted to implement euthanasia and after the Pope ordered the clerical board members to rescind the vote or publicly distance themselves from it)

Date: August 13, 2017

Source: <http://catholicherald.co.uk/news/2017/08/15/former-eu-president-criticises-pope-francis-over-euthanasia-ban/>

## Today's Martyrs

For more information please visit our web site at <http://todaysmartyrs.org/>

or write to

**2490 Black Rock Turnpike #455  
Fairfield CT 06825-2400**

Permission is granted to copy, disseminate and forward this document without charge or fee, provided no changes are made and full attribution is made to Today's Martyrs