

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Weekly Report – 2019-03-03 through 2019-03-09



Australia

Cardinal George Pell (aged 77, charged with multiple child sex abuse crimes in [June 2017](#), the police had opened a case against him a year before a complainant was found, most charges were then dismissed for "fundamental defects in evidence"; reported on [December 11, 2018](#) to have been convicted on five counts despite the trial having been held in secret, a previously unreported trial had ended in mistrial after 10 jurors voted to acquit, trial witnesses anonymously reported extensive prosecutorial misconduct, U.S. based reporters were threatened with extradition and imprisonment for having released news of the conviction on the internet; **UPDATE:** verdict announced after prosecutors decided to drop the remaining charges, taken into custody)

Date: [February 27, 2019](#)

Location: Melbourne, Victoria state

Source: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/cardinal-pell-awaits-sentencing-in-police-custody-52501>



India

Pastor Raju (Bible study in a private home invaded by Hindu radicals on [February 17, 2019](#), said “One after the other, [Hindu radical] Ramachandran and his group started shouting at Christian women, ‘Have your husbands left you to prostitution, that you are following this pastor’s instructions? Today, you are calling him brother and he is sweetly calling you sister – soon he will make you all mother. When one sister tried to videotape all this, they started threatening us that we will be killed”, police restored order; **UPDATE:** worship service monitored by a Hindu radical, said “Since the church members are aware that they are keeping a close watch on us, they are too frightened to attend the services”)

Date: [February 24, 2019](#)

Location: Vairichettipalayam village, Tiruchirappalli district, Tamil Nadu state

Pastor Vetri (forced to vacate his church and residence by Hindu radicals, said “They told me that there should not be any Christian prayers in the area...The property owner gave in to

the pressure from police and the Hindu Makkal Katchi and asked us to vacate the place. We shifted to the town now and are continuing to assemble for prayers")

Date: week prior to February 13, 2019

Location: Thiruneermalai, Tamil Nadu state

Pastor Edwin Joseph (church damaged in an arson attack, said “At around 4:50 in the morning, we saw burning fire inside the church. From the foul smell of kerosene oil all around and a long wooden stick lying there, we came to know that a cloth tied to the wooden stick was dipped in the fuel and was thrown inside through the open space, causing the fire”)

Date: February 8, 2019

Location: Musiri village, Tiruchirappalli district, Tamil Nadu state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2019/03/churches-deprived-of-their-worship-buildings-in-tamil-nadu-india/>

Munglu Ram Nureti (aged 45, convert, husband of Minka, father of five including Dinesh and Divya Nureti, store looted by Maoist guerrillas, **shot dead** while attempting to escape)

Minka (convert, widow of Munglu Ram Nureti, mother of five)

Dinesh Nureti (aged 25, son of Munglu Ram Nureti Minka)

Divya Nureti (convert, aged 18, daughter of Munglu Ram Nureti Minka, tried to prevent her father's murder)

Pastor Prem Sagar (said “It seems they [the Maoist guerrillas] came for me also. I had developed severe pain in my legs and had to cancel my visit”)

Date: February 12, 2019

Location: Kohkameta village, Chhattisgarh state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2019/02/two-christians-killed-in-separate-states-in-india/>



Ireland

John Waters (aged 63, columnist, wrote on the government proposal to remove crucifixes from hospitals "He [the Prime Minister] was commenting on a new government report on the relationship between the state and hospitals run by religious orders. The report stated that hospitals should be conscious of the negative impact that Christian 'décor' can have on a patient, but did not address whether the absence of Christian 'décor' could have a negative impact — whether particular patients might desire Christian iconography within his or her view at times of great anxiety or sorrow...The review concluded that the 'life and well-being of patients' must take precedence over religious ethos. The phrase 'life and well-being' might carry many meanings, but it is hard to envisage any risk to life and well-being arising from an artifact of a particular religious faith hanging on a wall— especially if that religious faith was the founding ethos of the hospital you happen to be in. To decide that a wall-mounted crucifix can be reduced to the phrase 'religious ethos' and then marked for disposal is not merely illogical: it is bigoted...'Call in the

decrucifixers' is a perfect encapsulation of 'modern Ireland,' where every belief is welcome — except the belief upon which our civilization has rested for 1,600 years...The point of the crucifix fatwah, of course, is not its impact in individual situations but the symbolism it offers our treacherous and ludicrous leaders in their efforts to present themselves as heroic crusaders against the 'Catholic Taliban' that has allegedly been running Ireland for hundreds of years...In the end, at some of the most vulnerable moments in their lives, Christians will be deprived of the solace offered by the sight of the crucified Christ — and this our Taoiseach [Prime Minister] describes as 'diversity'")

<https://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2019/03/the-most-anti-christian-country-on-earth>



Nigeria

Event: A Fulani Muslims attack killed at least 32. many unaccounted for

Mercy Musa Swanta (wrote on Facebook “The villagers stood against the Fulani who came fully clothed in military uniform. But they had to withdraw due to high number and superior firepower of the Fulani. Mobile policemen came but also retreated, one operation Yaki [police] vehicle burnt. Military now engaging the Fulani. Battle still going on. Casualties unknown but could be high”)

Date: February 26, 2019

Location: in and around Maro, Kajuru county, Kaduna state

John Abbah (killed)

Moses Kabiru (killed)

Philemon Gomna (killed)

Samaila Jonathan (killed)

Maria Abbah (killed)

Ladi Samaila (killed)

Mairo Daniel (killed)

Marvelous Daniel (killed)

John Samaila (killed)

Joseph Samaila (killed)

Ja’afaru Samaila (aged 21, said “We heard gun shots, and this forced me and my family to remain in our bedrooms as it was difficult for us to run out of the house. The Fulani gunmen surrounded our house and were shooting and shouting, ‘Allahu akbar [God is greater].’ They killed my father, mother, two brothers, and one of my sisters-in-law”)

Daniel Audu (aged 48, village head, said “We have never had any misunderstanding with the Fulani herdsmen, so I don’t know why they attacked our village. Ten members of my

community, including a pregnant woman, were killed during the attack, thus making the unborn child to be the eleventh victim”)

Date: February 10, 2019

Location: Angwan Barde village, Kajuru county, Kaduna state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2019/02/at-least-40-christians-killed-in-two-attacks-in-kaduna-state-nigeria/>

Siman Markus (aged 42, said “At about 9 p.m., there was a marriage feast that was going here at Ungwan Pa Gwandara. From behind the hill overlooking this village emerged armed Fulani herdsmen who shot indiscriminately at Christians from various churches here at the venue of the feast. Twelve Christians who are members of various churches were shot dead instantly, while another five Christians were injured”)

Yohanna Dauda, 47, witnessed the attack on the wedding banquet)

Samuel Markus (aged 28, **killed**)

Glory Bala (aged 12, **killed**)

Chore Garba (aged 12, **killed**)

Beyan Avong (aged 12, **killed**)

Kasham Manasseh (aged 22, **killed**)

Tanania Francis (aged 25, **killed**)

Murna Irimiya (aged 38, **killed**)

Victoria Solomon (aged 22, **killed**)

Bathsheba Emmanuel (aged 35, **killed**)

Yohanna Filibus (aged 12, **killed**)

Friday Yohanna (aged 13, **killed**)

Oyo Dauda (aged 10, **killed**)

Francis Markus (aged 25, wounded)

Boyi Kyau (aged 45, wounded)

Akwaru Danladi (aged 30, wounded)

Samaila Bala (aged 17, wounded)

Veronica Clement (aged 23, wounded)

Golon Sam (aged 20, wounded)

Ishaku Boyi (aged 14, wounded)

Briskila Solomon (aged 7, wounded)

Felicia Solomon (aged 9 months;

Kato Kadima (aged 14, wounded)

Wawa Kadima (aged 12, wounded)

Judith Samuel (aged 2, wounded)
Esther Dauda (aged 50, wounded)
Charity Samaila (aged 20, wounded)
Samaila Garba (aged 41, wounded)
Janet Shadrach (aged 22, wounded)
Precious Emmanuel (aged 6, wounded)
Paul Akore (aged 17, wounded)

Date: December 16, 2018

Location: Ungwan Pa Gwandara, Jema'a county, Kaduna state

Ruth Gauje (aged 32, said "I saw a man who I know to be a Christian and a member of the Church of the Brethren in Shuwa, my home town, shot to death. Also, Bulama, a community leader in Madagali, was shot dead alongside many Christians")

Date: February 12, 2019

Location: Shuwa, Madagali county, Adamawa state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2019/02/killing-of-christians-continues-in-run-up-to-national-elections-in-nigeria/>



United States - Utah

William McLeod (fourth grade student, forced to remove Lenten ashes from his forehead by a teacher, cried in embarrassment)

Date: March 6, 2019

Location: Bountiful

Source: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/utah-school-apologizes-after-student-forced-to-remove-lenten-ashes-92683>

Today's Martyrs

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

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