

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*



## Poland

Fr Aleksander Ziejewski (aged 68, beaten by robbers in his church sacristy in [Szczecin](#) along with two others on [July 28, 2019](#))

Agata Rejman (midwife, testified that her hospital in [Rzeszow](#) performed abortions, as of [October 16, 2014](#) has been threatened with legal action)

Dr Bogdan Chazan (under government investigation in [Warsaw](#) as of [June 10, 2014](#) for refusing to perform an abortion;

fined US\$23,000, fine under appeal as of [July 7, 2014](#), given his well-known pro-life activities the case appears to be a sting operation designed to overturn existing abortion restrictions;

dismissed from Holy Family hospital in [Warsaw](#) on [July 10, 2014](#), said “This decision today is the beginning of the attack on the conscience of doctors and persons holding managerial positions in health care, breaking the consciences of those who follow the rules of natural law, and above all do not agree with killing a man”)

Christina Shabo (aged 25, U.S. resident, said in [Krakow](#) on [July 29, 2016](#) that despite the murder of several relatives in Iraq by ISIL she has come to pray that God have mercy on them even though she has not yet forgiven them)

Archbishop Henryk Hosier (supported Dr Bogdan Chazan, on [July 10, 2014](#) called the actions against him “ethically unacceptable, unjustified, out of proportion, unjust, absurd and legally doubtful”)

Ireneusz Wołoszczuk (attorney and professor, stated on [July 7, 2014](#) that Dr Bogdan Chazan had broken no laws, said the legal attack and fine against him were "scandalous")

Jacek Kotula (aged 48, pro-life demonstrator, a judge has ruled on [October 16, 2014](#) in a closed session that when he called abortion 'killing' he defamed the [Rzeszow](#) hospital that performs the abortions, ordered him to publicly apologize with words chosen by the court and to pay all court fees, the court refused to allow witness testimony and refused to release the legal reasoning for the decision;

attended a [January 8, 2015](#) demonstration of 150 persons at the Canadian Embassy in [Warsaw](#) to protest the December 24, 2014 arrest and continued detention of Mary Wagner)

Senator Kazimierz Jaworski (wrote after a judge ruled on [October 16, 2014](#) in a closed session that when pro-life demonstrators called abortion 'killing' they defamed the [Rzeszow](#) hospital that performs the abortions, ordered them to publicly apologize with words chosen by the court and to pay all court fees, and the court refused to allow witness testimony and refused to release the legal reasoning for the decision: “We can’t say that abortion is killing? This is shocking in itself. But what’s more, we are not even allowed to find out why.”)

Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz (on [July 10, 2014](#) called the firing of Dr Bogdan Chazan “a dangerous

precedent, violating the rights of all people, not just Catholics”)

Marianna Popieluszko (aged 92, described in an article published on [May 7, 2013](#) how she raised her son Bł Jerzy Popieluszko in [Okopy](#), who was murdered by three agents of the SB [the Polish KGB] in 1984)

Mariusz Dzierzawski (arrested at an [August 2, 2012](#) pro-life demonstration in [Kostrzyn](#) for possession of 'obscene' material, **UPDATE**: arresting officers convicted of illegal arrest on [February 20, 2015](#) in [Slubice](#))

Przemysław Sycz (aged 35, pro-life demonstrator, a judge has ruled on [October 16, 2014](#) in a closed session that when he called abortion 'killing' he defamed the [Rzeszow](#) hospital that performs the abortions, ordered him to publicly apologize with words chosen by the court and to pay all court fees, the court refused to allow witness testimony and refused to release the legal reasoning for the decision;

attended a [January 8, 2015](#) demonstration of 150 persons at the Canadian Embassy in [Warsaw](#) to protest the December 24, 2014 arrest and continued detention of Mary Wagner)