

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – August 1975

Friday August 15, 1975



Vietnam: Ho Chi Minh City

Archbishop Francois-Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan (aged 47, interrogated, arrested when he refused to admit his recent appointment as coadjutor archbishop was a Vatican plot, driven to Nha Trang [his previous episcopal assignment] and placed under house arrest)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nguy%E1%BB%85n_V%C4%83n_Thu%E1%BA%ADn

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL27907469M/The_Miracle_of_Hope

<http://www.card-fxthuan.org/about-cardinal/bio-english.php>

Sunday August 24, 1975



Russia: Chernogorsk

Lida Vashchenko (aged 24, maternity home worker, found a two month premature baby who had survived a [March 31, 1975](#) abortion in the clinic across the street, began to feed him; legally adopted the baby on [April 23, 1975](#), named him Aaron, surprised herself by saying to him “The whole world will find out about you”, later resigned her position to take care of him; home invaded by the local authorities on [July 17, 1975](#), baby Aaron seized and removed from their home, beaten while resisting his seizure; **UPDATE:** said that while travelling with family via train “All of us were overcome by such fear that several of us began to cry, especially me. When they asked me what was the matter I answered: “I’m afraid”. I did not know who or what I was afraid of, but I felt as if there was a gigantic force crushing down on us in the car...after we were back on the ground each of us admitted that something had happened which it was impossible to understand or talk about, although each felt the presence of Satan.”, later they discovered this was the exact time Aaron died)

Aaron Vashchenko (aged 5 months, had survived being aborted on [March 31, 1975](#), legally adopted by Lida Vashchenko on [April 23, 1975](#); home invaded by local authorities on [July 17, 1975](#), seized and removed from his home; **UPDATE**: reportedly **died in surgery**, his family later said “His torments were undergone for God because he ended up in a family of believers and had it been a family of non-believers, then he would have lived and grown up. From this it follows that he bore his sufferings for God, although he was unconscious of this fact because he was still a baby. He will inherit eternal life among the first born. Those who abducted him do not believe in life beyond the grave, but their victory was in this life only. The devil has suffered complete defeat”)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL4190509M/The_Siberian_Seven

August 1975, date unknown