Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – December 1976

Wednesday December 1, 1976



Vietnam: Thu Duc Transit Camp, outside Ho Chi Minh City

Archbishop Francois-Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan (aged 48, interrogated in Ho Chi Minh City on August 15, 1975, 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; taken by police to the Phu Khanh Prison Camp on March 19, 1976, put into solitary confinement; taken with other prisoners to a transit camp in Thu Duc on November 29, 1976; **UPDATE**: taken in chains with other prisoners to a ship in Tan Cang, Ho Chi Minh City, for transfer to North Vietnam)

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

Sunday December 5, 1976



Zimbabwe - then Rhodesia: Lupane, Matabeleland

Fr Anton Weggartner CMM (aged 69, German citizen, shot dead by a guerrilla)

Sr Elsbeth van den Berg CPS (aged 41, German citizen, shot dead by a guerrilla)

Sr Ermenfried Knauer (shot by a guerrilla, pretended to be dead, survived, reported that the guerrilla could not look them in the eye and had shouted "missionaries are enemies of the people")

Bishop Gregor Schmitt CMM (aged 71, German citizen, shot dead by a guerrilla)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Zimbabwe.htm http://www.rhodesia.nl/mission.htm

Friday December 10, 1976



Vietnam: Haiphong

Archbishop Francois-Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan (aged 48, interrogated in Ho Chi Minh City on August 15, 1975, 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; taken by police to the Phu Khanh Prison Camp on March 19, 1976, put into solitary confinement; taken with other prisoners to a transit camp in Thu Duc on November 29, 1976; taken in chains with other prisoners on December 1, 1976 to a ship in Tan Cang, Ho Chi Minh City, for transfer to North Vietnam; **UPDATE**: ship arrived, taken with the other prisoners to Vinh Quang Prison Camp, Vinh Phu)

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December 1976, date unknown