

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Events – July 1980

**Sunday July 6, 1980**



### **El Salvador: Puerto de la Libertad**

Armando Avelae (aged 23, church sacristan, **shot dead**)

Carlos Hernandez (**shot dead**)

Jean Donovan (aged 27, U.S. citizen, missionary; **UPDATE**: heard the shooting of Armando Avelae and Carlos Hernandez outside her apartment, stripped her bedsheets to cover their bodies)

[https://openlibrary.org/books/OL8698941M/Salvador\\_Witness](https://openlibrary.org/books/OL8698941M/Salvador_Witness)

**Monday July 7, 1980**



### **Latvia: Riga**

Fr Alfonsas Svarinskas (aged 55, brother of Vytautas Svarinskas and Janina Pupkiene, chased out of Riga airport by the KGB along with other friends of Nijole Sadunaite)

Nijole Sadunaite (aged 41, Lithuanian national, factory worker, sister of Jonas Aloyzas Sadunas; convicted of libel of the Soviet state and sentenced on [June 17, 1975](#) in [Vilnius, Lithuania](#) to three years' hard labor followed by three years' internal exile; released from the labor camp near [Potma, Mordovia](#) and sent into internal exile to [Boguchany, Krasnoyarsk Krai, Russia](#) on [August 27, 1977](#); **UPDATE**: flew into Riga airport at the end of her internal exile, seized by the KGB and taken to their headquarters in Vilnius, Lithuania so that she could not attend a welcoming ceremony organized by her friends)

[https://openlibrary.org/books/OL8415145M/A\\_Radiance\\_in\\_the\\_Gulag](https://openlibrary.org/books/OL8415145M/A_Radiance_in_the_Gulag)

**Thursday July 10, 1980**



**Guatemala: Joyabaj, El Quiche**

Fr Faustino Villanueva Villanueva MSC (aged 49, Spanish citizen, **assassinated**)

<http://newsaints.faithweb.com/martyrs/Guatemala.htm>

**Friday July 25, 1980**



**El Salvador: Platanares, Suchitoto, Cuscatlan**

**A seminarian visiting his family from Mexico is **killed** by a death squad and National Guardsmen along with eleven friends – one unidentified - while building a chapel**

Amílcar (**killed**)

Consuelo Molina (**killed**)

David Hernandez (**killed**)

Gilberto Antonio Leon (**killed**)

Jose Alfonso Leon (**killed**)

Jose Angel Rivas (**killed**)

Jose Belarmino Reyes Leon (**killed**)

Jose Ohtmaro Caceres Arevalo (aged 28, seminarian, **killed**)

Lucio Eduardo Reyes Leon (**killed**)

Santos Adrian Reyes Leon (**killed**)

Víctor (**killed**)

[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/El\\_Salvador.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/El_Salvador.htm)

<http://hermanojuancito.blogspot.co.uk/2012/07/young-martyrs-of-suchitoto-el-salvador.html>

**Monday July 28, 1980**



**Congo, Democratic Republic aka Zaire: Mangembo, Bas-Congo**

Sr Jeanne-Marie Demonceaux (aged 55, Belgian national, **killed**)

[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/Congo.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Congo.htm)

**July 1980, date unknown**