

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Events – August 1983

**Tuesday August 30, 1983**



### **Poland: Warsaw and Gdynia**

Fr Jerzy Popieluszko (aged 35, Solidarity union chaplain, residence damaged by an explosive device on [December 14, 1982](#), not injured; spoke at the [May 19, 1983](#) funeral Mass for Grzegorz Przemyk [an 18 year old church cantor murdered by police] "Satan dared to perpetrate such a horrible crime that all Warsaw is mute with fear. He broke the thread of an innocent young life. In a brutal way, he deprived a mother of her only son";

**UPDATE:** followed and menaced by police while travelling to lead a retreat, police cars filled the convent parking lot during the retreat)

[https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26627966M/Blessed\\_Jerzy\\_Popielusko](https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26627966M/Blessed_Jerzy_Popielusko)

**Wednesday August 31, 1983**



### **Philippines: Pandan, Antique**

Fr Herman Zomerdijk MHM (aged 62, Dutch national, **killed**)

[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/Philippines2.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Philippines2.htm)

**August 1983, date unknown**



## Romania

Fr Gheorghe Calciu-Dumitreasa (aged 57, husband of Adriana Calciu, father of Andrei Calciu, arrested in 1948, imprisoned for 16 years, faith grew from the witness of imprisoned priests; ordained to the priesthood in 1972 after his faith was discovered by the secret police; arrested in 1978 after the new pro-government patriarch expelled him from the Church, tortured, converted his two cell mates who had been ordered to kill him;

**UPDATE:** released from prison, placed under house arrest)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/11/25/AR2006112500783.html>