

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Weekly Report – 2017-11-05 through 2017-11-11



### Argentina

Fr Julio Faes (church defaced with graffiti, said the vandalism was an "x-ray of what is happening and we are living as a society where the vital value of life ceases to exist, it is a society that has lost its way")

Date: November 7, 2017

Location: Crespo, Entre Rios province

Bishop Vicente Bokalic CM (signed a statement opposing a church arson attack)

Auxiliary Bishop Enrique Martinez Ossola (signed a statement opposing a church arson attack)

Date: November 5, 2017

Location: San Isidro Labrador

Source: [http://www.fides.org/en/news/63196-AMERICA\\_ARGENTINA\\_A\\_church\\_burned\\_and\\_smeared\\_why#.WgVB-ltSyM8](http://www.fides.org/en/news/63196-AMERICA_ARGENTINA_A_church_burned_and_smeared_why#.WgVB-ltSyM8)



### China

Fr Thaddaeus Sun Zhenhua (aged 83, detained in 2010 for stopping the reading in church of a government letter of appointment of a bishop despite his status as a CPCA [non-underground] priest; **UPDATE: died in an accident on a pier**)

Date: November 2, 2017

Location: Yongjia, Zhejiang province

Source: <https://www.ucanews.com/news/chinese-priest-valued-by-open-and-underground-church-dies/80738>



### Egypt

Said Potros (aged 30, left home for work, later **found dead**)

Date reported: November 6, 2017

Location: Beni Suif

Source: <http://www.copts-united.com/English/Details.php?I=2019&A=32882>

Rev Boulos Moussa Salib (church reopened after the government granted a permit after 22 years of denials, said “the congregation is very happy that they can now return to their church”, the permit was likely granted in response to a planned state visit by U.S. Vice-President Mike Pence)

Date: October 29, 2017

Location: Minya

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/11/egypt-church-reopening-22-years-geopolitical-gesture-us/>



## Eritrea

**Event: The government has ordered all parochial schools closed and has begun to arrest school employees who protest**

Sr Tinsaw (arrested)

Fr Haile Paulos (arrested)

Date reported: November 3, 2017

Location: Asmara

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/11/24568/>



## India

Pastor Banothu Seviya (aged 26, husband of Banothu Anusha, severely beaten by five drunken Hindu radicals in an apparent attempted murder; **UPDATE:** in a coma for 48 hours with cerebral blood clots, suffered eye, ear, and 'brain coordination' injuries, later said “I didn't see where they came from. They pushed me off the bike and started beating me with sticks and kicking me. My nose and ears were bleeding. I lost my consciousness...I forgive the youth who attacked, and I am praying for them”)

Banothu Anusha (wife of Pastor Banothu Seviya, said after receiving news of the attack on her husband “I immediately rushed to the hospital with my father-in-law. I was told my husband was found unconscious lying on the road by passengers of a State Road Transport Bus. They saw about 10 men fleeing from the scene, and one man lying unconscious as the bus approached...They attempted to murder him. Doctors in Mahabubabad and Warangal districts told me he would die, and my father and father-in-

law arranged for 100,000 rupees [US\$1,545] and shifted him to a private hospital in Hyderabad”)

Date: October 5, 2017

Location: Jamandlapalli village, Govindapuram, Telangana state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2017/11/hindu-extremists-beat-pastor-unconscious-southern-india-miraculous-conversions/>

### **Event: Christian leaders commented on recent arrests**

A C Michael (United Christian Forum; **UPDATE:** said of the arrests "This is becoming a politically motivated pattern to harass Christians...deliberately done knowing very well that such accusations will not stand up in a court of law. But it is part of a strategy. Drain the energy, time and resources of Christians and tire them out so that they do not have a normal peaceful life to do what they should be doing")

Jaikar Christy (said "This year we've seen 27 cases in Madhya Pradesh, were Christians were falsely accused of conversion. We are in a democratic country but we live under fear")

Fr Denzil Fernandes SJ (**UPDATE:** said of the RSS paramilitary organization "They are into these kinds of tricks to tell the world that missionaries are here only to convert. If a person tells a lie a thousand time or so...people may believe him")

Date: November 2, 2017

Location: New Delhi

Bishop Vincent Barwa (**UPDATE:** said the situation has worsened since the passage of the state anti-conversion law in August 2017)

Gladson Dungdung (tribal rights activist, said "Now the media, law and order, and administration is in their hands so they can misuse it in any way they want...which is very unfortunate...[church activities have slowed to avoid the perception] they are in the process of religious conversion")

Date: November 2, 2017

Location: Jharkhand state

Source: <https://www.ucanews.com/news/perversion-of-conversion-used-to-beat-down-christians/80675>



### **Kenya**

Rachel Gikonyo (shot seven times in her stomach and chest during the [April 2, 2015 Garissa University College](#) Islamic terror attack, paralyzed from the waist down; **UPDATE:** now attending college, uses a wheelchair, said “The burden has not been easy for our family because I am still using adult diapers that are very expensive and my sister is in school too. This education assistance will go a long way in releasing the heavy load on my unemployed father”)

Anatstacia Mikwa (student, wounded in the [April 2, 2015 Garissa University College](#) Islamist attack; as of [February 12, 2016](#) has been able to regain the ability to walk with crutches after 28 surgeries; **UPDATE:** now attending college, said “The ICC [International Christian Concern] has always shown unmatched care and support from the time I was discharged from the hospital. They have visited me at home, bought us food and provided transport for my hospital checkups. Now they have cleared my full academic year tuition fee. What an awesome feeling I have right now. May God bless you and all the effort you are doing in praying and supporting Christians who are suffering”)

Date reported: November 9, 2017

Source: <http://www.persecution.org/2017/11/08/icc-assists-garissa-university-victims-with-educational-goals/>



## Nepal

**Event: Christian leaders protested the new anti-conversion law with a petition submitted to the Prime Minister**

Pastor Chari Bahadur Gahatraj (president of the Christian Federation of Nepal; **UPDATE:** said "Christians have been cheated in the past with assurances that have never been put into practice...We are not just going to be used as vote banks as in the past. We demand an immediate amendment to the law to ensure freedom of conversion and choice. Everyone is free to choose their faith and practice it")

Fr Silas Bogati (**UPDATE:** said “We want respect as we respect other faith groups. The State cannot impose itself on the free practice of the Christian faith...Some religious fundamentalists are spreading rumors in which they dream of a South Asia that is a Hindu region. This is impossible. Religious freedom for all, including for Christians, has to be guaranteed not only in words but also in practice”)

Date: November 6, 2017

Location: Kathmandu

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Nepali-Christian-leader-says-no-to-anti-conversion-law-42252.html>



## Nigeria

**Four British missionaries were abducted for ransom on [October 13, 2017](#); **UPDATE:** three freed**

Dr David Donovan

Shirley Donovan

Alanna Carson (optician)

Ian Squire (aged 57, optician, reported to have **died in captivity**)

Date: November 6, 2017

Location: Delta state

Source: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/11/06/briton-kidnapped-nigeria-killed-three-others-freed/>

and [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/3-britons-kidnapped-in-nigeria-are-freed-1-is-killed/2017/11/06/87d8b8a4-c2fa-11e7-9922-4151f5ca6168\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.223511ab2859](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/3-britons-kidnapped-in-nigeria-are-freed-1-is-killed/2017/11/06/87d8b8a4-c2fa-11e7-9922-4151f5ca6168_story.html?utm_term=.223511ab2859)

Joseph Opeyemi Ibinkule (aged 41, said of the **September 2007** attacks “The Muslim students attacked Christian students, and soon they were joined by Muslims in this town. All eight churches were destroyed, Christians were displaced, and many Christians were also killed. I personally saw three corpses of members of the St. Mary’s Catholic Church who were killed by the Muslim attackers”; **UPDATE**: reported than Muslim leaders in his village have refused to allow the eight churches that were destroyed in September 2007 to be rebuilt: “Christians who have braved it and returned after the attacks in 2007 have no worship buildings up to today. The reason is that the government of Kano state has banned us from rebuilding our churches”, added that no Christian clergy now live there and only two visit “These are the ECWA pastor and the Catholic priest. Both of live in the city of Kano and only come to conduct services under trees for their members”)

Rev Murtala Marti Dangora (**UPDATE**: said “The Kano state government stopped us from rebuilding the destroyed ECWA church in Tudun Wada, so we have taken the matter to court, and we hope we shall get justice at the end of the case”)

Rev Ayuba Hassan (said “We currently worship under a tree and have continued to insist that we be allowed to rebuild our place of worship. The government is not ready to allow us do so, as they claim that the Muslims in the town do not want to have any church there. We are waiting for the outcome of the case in court”)

Date reported: November 8, 2017

Location: Tudun Wada Dankadai, Kano state

Source: <https://morningstarnews.org/2017/11/decade-church-burnings-nigeria-officials-forbid-rebuilding/>

**Event: Nine Christians were killed by Fulani Muslims while returning home from market**

Daniel Shom (**shot dead**)

Dachollom Shom (**shot dead**)

Emmanuel Gyang (**shot dead**)

Daniel Niri (**shot dead**)

Felix Gwom (**shot dead**)

Reuben Danbwang (**shot dead**)

Sunday Danbwang (**shot dead**)

Dagam Danbwang (**shot dead**)

Bitrus Chunwang (**shot dead**)

Samson Dagwom (driver, survived by pretending to be dead)

Maria Joseph (witnessed the attack)

Rev Soja Bewarang (**UPDATE**: sent his condolences to the families of those killed, called on security forces to “keep a closer and diligent watchful eye on Riyom, Barakin Ladi [the neighboring LGA] and other hotspots in the state”)

Daniel Dem (state House of Assembly member, said “We have been under siege. Some weeks back, Fulani herdsmen complained that one of them was killed, which we didn’t know about, and they said they were going to attack this community, and now they have taken the laws into their hands and truly attacked...If somebody comes out clearly before the STF [Special task Force] and said he is going to attack a community and the people were later ambushed after a week and killed, the person who gave the threat should be arrested and interrogated. The leaders of Fulani in Riyom should be arrested and interrogated by the Defense Headquarters. Enough of these mass killings!”)

Date: November 7, 2017

Location: near Gako village, Riyom local government area, Plateau state

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/11/nigeria-9-dead-as-suspected-fulani-herdsmen-ambush-christians-in-plateau/>

Hauwa Dadi (aged 13, abducted on [November 1, 2017](#); **UPDATE**: recovered unharmed by police from the local emir’s palace, had been taken for forced conversion and marriage)

Date: November 5, 2017

Location: Gashua, Yobe state

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/coe/nigeria-girl-13-kidnapped-to-be-converted-to-islam-freed-four-days-later/>



## Pakistan

Adnan Masih (aged 17, son of Shaukat Masih, brother of Komal, **killed, throat slit**)

Shaukat Masih (father of Adnan Masih)

Komal (aged 24, sister of Adnan Masih)

Date: November 2, 2017

Location: G7/1 Islamabad

Source [warning - graphic]: <https://www.britishpakistanichristians.org/blog/third-Christian-teenager-killed-by-muslim-in-three-months-as-pakistan-declared-unsafe-for-minorities>

Arshad Masih (aged 18, accused of blasphemy on Facebook, 5 Christian families fled their homes, police confirm there is no evidence for the accusation)

Naseer Ghulam (attorney, said he does not know to where the 5 families have fled)

Date: November 3, 2017

Location: Sukheki village

Source: <https://www.christiansinpakistan.com/blasphemy-allegation-christian-families-fled-the-area-to-save-their-lives/>  
and <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/11/pakistan-christians-flee-village-death-threats-teenager-accused-blasphemy/>

Iqbal Masih (aged 65, husband of Rubina Iqbal, father Shamsa, Zafar Shamas, Bobby, Aster, Chanda, Guriya, Asshi, Heera, and Hina, mentally ill, went into a tirade after Bobby died, abused a Muslim neighbor [the report is unclear how but it appears to have been verbal], the neighbor accused him of blasphemy, arrested, up to 300 Muslim radicals attempted to burn the entire extended family to death as blasphemers but were stopped by Muslim neighbors)

Rubina Iqbal (aged 60, wife of Iqbal Masih, mother of nine)

Bobby (aged 35, son of Iqbal Masih and Rubina Iqbal, **died in a hospital of natural causes**, death triggered his father's breakdown)

Shamsa (daughter of Iqbal Masih and Rubina Iqbal)

Zafar Shamas (son of Iqbal Masih and Rubina Iqbal)

Aster (daughter of Iqbal Masih and Rubina Iqbal)

Chanda (daughter of Iqbal Masih and Rubina Iqbal)

Guriya (daughter of Iqbal Masih and Rubina Iqbal)

Asshi (daughter of Iqbal Masih and Rubina Iqbal)

Heera (daughter of Iqbal Masih and Rubina Iqbal)

Hina (daughter of Iqbal Masih and Rubina Iqbal)

Samuel Sadiq (aged 57, husband of Rubina Bibi, brother of Iqbal Masih, reported on his arrest)

Rubina Bibi (wife of Samuel Sadiq)

Shoukat Mashi (husband of Parveen Bibi, brother of Iqbal Masih)

Parveen Bibi (wife of Shoukat Mashi)

Patras Sadiq (husband of Josepheen, brother of Iqbal Masih)

Josepheen (wife of Patras Sadiq)

Sheebili (nephew of Iqbal Masih)

Shamsa (niece of Iqbal Masih)

Sadiq (nephew of Iqbal Masih)

Silviya (niece of Iqbal Masih)

Jennifer (niece of Iqbal Masih)

John (nephew of Iqbal Masih)

Maria (niece of Iqbal Masih)

Peter (nephew of Iqbal Masih)

Aneeqa (niece of Iqbal Masih)

Sumera (niece of Iqbal Masih)

Issac (nephew of Iqbal Masih)

Date: November 4, 2017

Location: Fazliya Colony [Ghetto], Lahore

Source: <http://www.pakistanchristianpost.com/detail.php?hnewsid=6679>



## Sudan

Rafat Samir (church building committee chairman, arrested in [April 2016](#) following accusations by his predecessor of trespassing, criminal possession and illegally impersonating the chairman - the accuser in fact was illegally reappointed to the position by the government and has sold church property to government-connected business interests; **UPDATE:** convicted of criminal misappropriation and trespass in the ongoing dispute, fined US\$750)

Daniel William (church building committee vice chairman, fined US\$750)

Date: October 30, 2017

Location: Khartoum

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2017/11/sudan-two-church-leaders-fined-trial-five-others-postponed/>



## United States - District of Columbia

Trevor Neil McFadden (aged 39, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, federal court nominee, questioned by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse on [June 28, 2017](#) regarding his membership in a church that prohibited homosexual clergy and opposed same sex marriage; **UPDATE:** nomination confirmed by the full Senate on a 84-10 vote)

Date: October 30, 2017

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trevor\\_N.\\_McFadden](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trevor_N._McFadden) and <https://youtu.be/7I4PpUQRzC4?t=126>

Amelia Irvine (college student, president of the campus group Love Saxa which supports traditional marriage and which therefore as of [October 20, 2017](#) has been threatened with banishment from campus as a hate group; **UPDATE:** the student government voted 8-4 to not banish Love Saxa, wrote "The Student Activities Commission was right to continue to recognize us as a student organization in light of the fact that we hold views

consistent with Georgetown's own Catholic identity. We hope that the outcome of this situation means that any and all other student groups at Georgetown which hold to beliefs consistent with Georgetown's founding values will likewise be protected from unwarranted demands that they be dissolved")

Date: November 3, 2017

Location: Georgetown University

Source: <http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/news/2017/11/07/catholic-student-group-escapes-punishment-for-supporting-traditional-marriage/>

### **United States - New York**

Deacon Patrick Logsdon (aged 70, manager of a transitional residence for men released from prison, **stabbed to death** by a resident)

Date: November 3, 2017

Location: Roosevelt, Long Island

Source: <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/04/nyregion/deacon-stabbed-long-island.html>

### **United States - North Carolina**

Sara T Pedro (emergency room nurse, filed suit against her hospital after she faced retaliation and discrimination following her refusal to participate in abortions)

Date: November 3, 2017

Location: Durham

Source: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/lawsuit-duke-university-punished-catholic-nurse-who-refused-to-do-abortion>

### **United States - Texas**

**Event: Twenty-six people were shot dead and thirty wounded during a church service of nearly 60 people, the gunman's former in-laws were occasional attendees**

Annabelle Renee Pomeroy (aged 14, daughter of Pastor Frank Pomeroy and Sherri Pomeroy, **shot dead**)

Crystal Marie Hill Holcombe (aged 36, wife of John Holcombe, widow of Peter Hill, mother of Philip, Greg, Emily, Megan, and Evelyn Hill, and expecting a sixth child, daughter-in-law of Karla and Bryan Holcombe, **shot dead**)

unborn child of Crystal Marie Hill Holcombe (**died**)

Associate Pastor Bryan Holcombe (aged 60, husband of Karla Holcombe, father-in-law of Crystal Holcombe, prison minister, awning business owner, **shot dead**)

Karla Holcombe (aged 58, wife of Bryan Holcombe, mother-in-law of Crystal Holcombe, **shot dead**)

Marc Daniel Holcombe (aged 36, son of Bryan and Karla Holcombe, father of Noah, **shot dead**)

Noah (aged 18 months, daughter of Marc Daniel Holcombe, **shot dead**)

Emily Hill (aged under 14, daughter of Crystal Holcombe, **shot dead**)

Megan Hill (aged under 14, daughter of Crystal Holcombe, **shot dead**)

Greg Hill (aged under 14, son of Crystal Holcombe, **shot dead**)

John Holcombe (widower of Crystal Holcombe, stepfather of Philip, Greg, Emily, Megan, and Evelyn Hill, son of Bryan and Karla Holcombe, injured, hospitalized)

Richard Rodriguez (aged 51, husband of Therese Rodriguez, father of Regina Rodriguez, **shot dead**)

Therese Rodriguez (wife of Richard Rodriguez, **shot dead**)

Joann Ward (aged 30, mother of Brooke Ward and Emily Garza, stepmother of Rhianna and Rylind, **shot dead**)

Brooke Ward (aged 5, **shot dead**)

Emily Garza (aged 7, **shot dead**)

Rylind Ward (aged 5, brother of Rhianna Ward, shot four times, hospitalized)

Rhianna Ward (aged 9, glasses broken by a bullet, otherwise uninjured, hid under a pew)

Michael Ward (uncle of Rylind and Rhianna Ward, treated the wounded at the scene)

Robert Corrigan (husband of Shani Brauher Corrigan, medical staff instructor, **shot dead**)

Shani Brauher Corrigan (wife of Robert Corrigan, **shot dead**)

Hailey Krueger (high school freshman, **shot dead**)

Robert Scott Marshall (husband of Karen Marshall, mechanic, first time church visitor, **shot dead**)

Karen Marshall (wife of R Scott Marshall, retiree, first time church visitor, **shot dead**)

Lula Woicinski White (aged 71, grandmother of the gunman's ex-wife, **shot dead**)

Peggy Lynn Warden (aged 56, grandmother of Zach Poston, shielded her grandson with her body, **shot dead**)

Zach Poston (aged 18, shielded a child with his body, shot, hospitalized)

Dennis Johnson (aged 77, husband of Sara Johnson, **shot dead**)

Sara Johnson (aged 68, wife of Dennis Johnson, **shot dead**)

Tara Elyse McNulty (aged 33, housemate of Bryan and Karla Holcombe, **shot dead**)

Keith Allen Braden (aged 62, husband of Debbie, **shot dead**)

Debbie Braden (widow of Keith Allen Braden, shot, hospitalized along with their wounded 6 year old granddaughter)

Evelyn Hill (aged 7, daughter of Crystal Holcombe, wounded, hospitalized)

Joaquin Ramirez (injured with shrapnel, later said the gunman shot babies when they cried)

Joanne Solis (shot in the arm)

Stephen Willeford (witnessed the shooting, shot the gunman after he exited the church, persuaded a passing motorist to help him pursue the gunman, later said "I'm a

Christian...and I believe at this point...the Holy Spirit was on me because I had the presence of mind to look at what was going on”)

Philip Hill (aged 15, son of Crystal Holcombe, not present during the shooting)

Regina Rodriguez (daughter of Richard Rodriguez, unable to find her father after the shooting, said "I just lost my father")

Pastor Frank Pomeroy (father of Annabelle Renee Pomeroy, husband of Sherri Pomeroy, not present during the shooting, later said "I don't understand, but I know my God does")

Sherri Pomeroy (mother of Annabelle Renee Pomeroy, wife of Pastor Frank Pomeroy, not present during the shooting, texted "We lost our 14-year-old daughter today and many friends. Neither of us has made it back into town yet to personally see the devastation. I am at the charlotte airport trying to get home as soon as I can", later said "And one thing that gives me a sliver of encouragement is that [our daughter] Belle was surrounded yesterday by her family that she loved fiercely...[we were not] members or parishioners [but a] very close family. We ate together, we laughed together, we cried together, and we worshiped together. Now most of our church family is gone, our building is probably beyond repair and the few of us that are left behind lost tragically yesterday. As senseless as this tragedy was, our sweet Belle would not have been able to deal with losing so much family")

Amanda Mosel (age 34, parishioner, not present during the shooting, 13 year old goddaughter shot)

Nick Uhlig (parishioner, cousin of Crystal Holcombe, not present during the shooting, said of his cousin “She doesn’t even drink, smoke or nothing. She just takes care of kids, she raises goats and makes homemade cheese. That kind of thing, you know? They don’t go out dancing or anything like that. They’re real old-fashioned, down-to-earth”)

Hunter Green (aged 16, parishioner, not present during the shooting)

Makayla Roberson (aged 15, sister of Cody, parishioner, not present during the shooting)

Cody Roberson (aged 16, brother of Makayla, parishioner, not present during the shooting)

Joe Holcombe (aged 86, father of Associate Pastor Bryan Holcombe, said “We’re strong. We’ll be with Bryan and his wife and the whole family one of these days — and we look forward to that”, said of the gunman "I don’t hold any resentment to him. I wish he hadn’t of done it, but all I can say is that he is going to be rewarded for what he did — and he’s not going to like that reward. I don’t hate him by any means, I just feel sorry for him”)

Claryce Holcombe (mother of Associate Pastor Bryan Holcombe)

Date: November 5, 2017

Location: Sutherland Springs

Source: <http://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Worst-mass-shooting-in-Texas-History-claims-26-at-12333530.php>

and <http://www.expressnews.com/news/texas/article/The-Latest-Sheriff-says-church-shooter-has-been-12333560.php>

and <http://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/For-Sutherland-Springs-a-day-of-trauma-and-tears-12334221.php>  
and <http://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Eight-members-of-one-family-killed-in-massacre-at-12336156.php>  
and <http://www.expressnews.com/news/local/article/Sutherland-Springs-survivors-describe-terror-at-12337007.php>  
and <http://www.faithwire.com/2017/11/06/they-lost-a-child-grandchild-and-great-grandchildren-during-the-texas-church-massacre-heres-their-powerful-response/>  
and <https://www.christianpost.com/news/pastor-14-year-old-daughter-died-texas-church-shooting-i-dont-understand-but-i-know-my-god-does-205734/>  
and <http://www.dailywire.com/news/23254/hero-stephen-willeford-used-ar-15-take-down-texas-james-barrett#>  
and <http://www.cnn.com/2017/11/06/us/texas-church-shooting-victims-list/index.html>



## Venezuela

Archbishop Emeritus Roberto Luckert Leon (**UPDATE:** spoke out against the new hate speech law, The Law Against Hatred and Fascism: “[According to the government] it's the opposition that's violent. But when you go to a peaceful march to hand over documents to the prosecutor's office, you're met with the Bolivarian National Guard, the militias and pro-government thugs on motorcycles, so you can't fulfill a civic duty with a state agency. They're the violent ones...Right now they've hamstrung the news media. They're using the supply of newsprint to undermine us. The oldest newspaper in Coro is called La Manana. They can't print it because they're not giving them any newsprint, on the other hand, they gave to the paper that they founded a building, machinery, and newsprint, and it comes out every day. That's freedom of the speech? No...as a Venezuelan, the only solution for the country that I have is elections, but elections that are transparent and fair”, added that the Constituent Assembly that replaced the constitutional National Assembly “is an invention [President] Maduro brought in from Cuba”)

Cardinal Jorge Urosa Savino (**UPDATE:** called the Constituent Assembly “fraudulent and illegitimate...It's made up of political activists at the service of the government and it's not going to resolve the problems with the economy. What's needed here is to change the Marxist, totalitarian, and statist ideology that has brought the country to ruin...[President Maduro wants to] decapitate the opposition so there's just one political party...the situation in the country is worse than a month ago: disregard for human rights continues, there are still political prisoners and opposition leaders that won in the elections are being persecuted, childhood malnutrition has increased and diseases eradicated in the 1950s are coming back, such as malaria, tuberculosis and diphtheria”)

Date: November 2, 2017

Source: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/venezuelas-hate-crime-law-seeks-to-silence-political-opposition-bishops-warn-75216>

## **Today's Martyrs**

*For more information please visit our web site at <http://todaysmartyrs.org/>*

*or write to*

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