

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Weekly Report – 2020-04-05 through 2020-04-11



Australia

Cardinal George Pell (aged 78, charged with multiple child sex abuse crimes in [Melbourne](#) in [June 2017](#), the police had opened a case against him a year before a complainant was found, most charges were then dismissed for "fundamental defects in evidence"; reported on [December 11, 2018](#) to have been convicted on five counts despite the trial having been held in secret, a previously unreported trial had ended in mistrial after 10 jurors voted to acquit, trial witnesses anonymously reported extensive prosecutorial misconduct; verdict announced on [February 27, 2019](#) after prosecutors decided to drop the remaining charges, taken into custody; sentenced to 6 years' imprisonment on [March 13, 2019](#); appeal denied on [August 21, 2019](#) on a 2-1 vote, the dissenting judge wrote that his guilt had not been proved beyond a reasonable doubt; **UPDATE**: found not guilty in an unanimous verdict by the High Court, immediate release ordered, indicated he would not pursue charges of malicious prosecution: "I hold no ill will to my accuser. I do not want my acquittal to add to the hurt and bitterness so many feel")

Date: [April 7, 2020](#)

Location: [Canberra](#)

Source: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/cdl-pell-acquitted-of-sex-abuse-charge-by-australian-high-court-will-be-freed>



China

Fr Huang Jintong (aged 50, evicted from his residence on [January 15, 2020](#); **UPDATE**: detained by police for refusing to join the official church)

Date: [April 3, 2020](#)

Location: [Saiqi, Fujian province](#)

Bishop Vincent Guo Xijin (aged 61, evicted on [January 15, 2020](#), slept on the front doorstep of his former residence; **UPDATE**: contacted by police, told that Fr Huang Jintong would be detained for at least a month, ordered to bring clothing for him to the police station, allowed to reoccupy his residence but the utilities were turned off, blesses the police who monitor him)

Date: April 3, 2020

Location: Luojiang, Fujian province

Source: [http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Mindong-priest-taken-and-held-by-police.-Bishop-Guo-Xijin-blesses-agents-who-control-him-\(Video\)-49754.html](http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Mindong-priest-taken-and-held-by-police.-Bishop-Guo-Xijin-blesses-agents-who-control-him-(Video)-49754.html)



Egypt

Ramy Kamel (Coptic activist, asthmatic, arrested on [November 23, 2019](#) for posting videos of Christians being forcibly evicted from their homes in the south of the country; **UPDATE:** still in jail, friends are concerned about his health should he contract the SARS-COV-2 virus)

Date: April 10, 2020

Source: <https://www.copticsolidarity.org/2020/04/10/covid-19-risk-puts-imprisoned-religious-freedom-advocate-in-greater-danger/>



Iran

Ram-eil Beth Tamraz (son of Pastor Victor Beth Tarmez and Shamiram Isavi, bodily searched during the [December 26, 2014](#) police raid on his home in [Tehran](#); arrested without warrant by MOIS agents while fishing and picnicking with his wife in [Firuzkuh](#) on [August 26, 2016](#); charged with 'action against national security' on [June 18, 2018](#); convicted on [July 8, 2018](#) of 'acting against national security' and sentenced to 4 months' imprisonment [of which he has already served 2 months]; reported to prison on [January 7, 2020](#) to begin the remainder of his sentence; **UPDATE:** temporarily released due to the COVID-19 epidemic along with six other Christians)

Date reported: March 25, 2020

Location: Evin Prison, Tehran

Source: <https://mohabatnews.com/?p=38068>



Pakistan

Fr Emmanuel Yousuf Mani (director of the National Commission of Justice and Peace; **UPDATE:** reported that Christians who lost their employment as a result of the COVID-19 lockdowns have been denied food: "Reports of NGOs discriminating on religious

grounds are very sad to hear. It shows a very narrow mind set at work. Everybody affected should be helped - everybody")

Date: April 3, 2020

Source: <https://premierchristian.news/en/news/article/christians-denied-coronavirus-food-aid-in-pakistan>

Today's Martyrs

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

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