

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Weekly Commentary - 2020-11-15 through 2020-11-21

With this resumption of our reporting we have a small report ([please click here to read](#)): a shooting and beheadings in France, a beheading in Italy, churches burnt in Chile, and an anti-Christian proposal for the government in the United States.



Church of the Assumption, Santiago, Chile – courtesy Martin Bernetti, Getty Images

This week marks the ninth anniversary of the beginning of publication of Today's Martyrs. Most readers will know that this is our first weekly publication in five months. Why this 'sabbatical'?

There have been a host of reasons, but the one of interest to the reader is that the principal author has suffered from a kind of fatigue. Has nine years of stories of discrimination and persecution taken a toll? Not really, although it cannot be completely excluded. Another factor is that some original reporters of these stories – people who this writing is dependent upon – have quit the field, and so our news sources have become constrained: a disheartening fact.

However, the greatest factor in our 'sabbatical' of fatigue has been the ongoing social climate seen on the internet throughout the Anglophone world. We have always written about the 'unreality' of the thinking of those who hate Christianity, it has been a persistent theme here. What is new is the broad sense of unreality across the spectrum of politics, public health, public order, and even in our interpersonal relationships. We have watched as dozens of fellow Christians who we have greatly admired have fallen to these intellectual seductions and by their words have advanced untruths, often with declining charity. How far from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22 have we fallen in 2020:

We urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, cheer the fainthearted, support the weak, be patient with all. See that no one returns evil for evil; rather, always seek what is good for each other and for all. Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.

While it is our opinion that events could be worse, and probably will get worse, the *rate* at which new untruths have been introduced to discourse seems to be slowing (even though we likely have not fully comprehended those now before us). Perhaps all of us are fatigued now. Perhaps we might really begin to pray without ceasing. Christian hope, after all, is a wonderful gift; let us ask for it!

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For more information please visit our web site at: <https://todaysmartyrs.org/index.php/blog-3/>

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