

# *U.S. Priest Assassinated in Guatemala Declared a Martyr by the Vatican*

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Guatemala City, December 6 (RHC)-- An U.S. priest assassinated in Guatemala in 1981 has moved a step closer to sainthood. The Vatican has now declared Reverend Stanley Rother to be a martyr.

Father Stanley Rother was killed by a right-wing death squad in his church rectory. He died on the same day U.S.-backed Guatemalan troops killed 13 people and wounded 24 others in the same town where he was shot.

Stanley Rother is the first American to ever be declared a martyr by the Catholic Church.

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