
Westminster Abbey

Learning



Modern Martyrs: Janani Luwum

Born: c. 1922

Died: 17th February 1977

Occupation: Priest

Biography

He was born in Uganda, Africa. As a young school teacher, he converted to Christianity.

He trained at theological college before becoming a priest. He had a reputation as a creative and active leader.

At this time, Uganda was ruled by intimidation, violence and corruption. Janani Luwum became Archbishop in 1974 and went ahead with his plan to reform the church even though he was living in a country with an unsettled political situation.

A few years later, Janani Luwum led a protest with other faith leaders against all the acts of violence. He was arrested and killed.

Activities

“I am prepared to die in the army of Jesus.”

Discuss this quotation with a partner. What do you think Janani Luwum meant when he said these words? How does that make you feel?

“Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff –
they comfort me.”
(Psalm 23:4)

Discuss this Bible passage with a partner. How is this passage similar to Janani Luwum’s quotation?

Write a paragraph about what people can learn from the behaviour and teachings of Janani Luwum.



For teachers:

We recommend you read our "[Introducing Modern Martyrs: primary teachers' guide](#)" before using this activity sheet.

Thank you for downloading this resource. We hope that it will be a useful teaching tool in your classroom.

As we continue to grow our free catalogue of teaching resources, we'd really appreciate a few minutes of your time to let us know what you liked and what could be improved. Please complete this [five-question survey](#).