

Extra Credit for Father Stanley Rother: Heart of a Martyr

About Saints

Book: Guiley, Rosemary. *The Encyclopedia of Saints*. New York, NY: Facts on File, 2001.

Book: Sanderson, Ruth. *Saints: Lives & Illuminations*. Grand Rapids, Mich: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2003.

Website: ["What is a Saint"](#) by Peter Kreeft at Catholic Education Resource Center

Website: [Saints and Angels](#) An extensive database of Catholic saints

About Father Rother and Catholicism in Oklahoma

Book: Rother, Stanley. *The Shepherd Cannot Run: Letters of Stanley Rother, Missionary and Martyr*. [Oklahoma City, Okla.]: Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, 1984.

Book: Nouwen, Henri J. M. *Love in a Fearful Land: A Guatemalan Story*. Notre Dame, IN: Ave Maria Press, 1985.

Book: White, James D. *Roman and Oklahoman: A Centennial History of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City*. France: Éditions du Signe, 2004.

DVD: [No Greater Love](#)

Website: [Archdiocese of Oklahoma City](#)

Website: [Holy Trinity Catholic Church](#), Okarche, Oklahoma

About Santiago Atitlan

Website: [Santiago Atitlan](#) Very informative website about the town from local residents

Website: [Hospitalito Atitlan](#) The website for the hospital begun by Father Rother

Website: [Lake Atitlan](#) A tourism site with lots of photos and cultural information

About Guatemala and the Civil War

Website: [CIA World Factbook: Guatemala](#)

Website: [Background Notes: Guatemala](#)

Website: [Online Newshour: Peace in Guatemala](#) From PBS, a transcript and recording describing the civil war in Guatemala

Website: [National Security Archive](#) A collection of declassified secret documents from the Guatemalan civil war

About the Tz'utuhil and Mayan Culture

Book: Sexton, James D., and Ignacio Bizarro Ujpán. *Heart of Heaven, Heart of Earth, and Other Mayan Folktales*. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1999.

Website: [Arte Maya Tz'utuhil](#) Excellent site on Tz'utuhil arts and culture

Website: [Authentic Maya](#) Excellent resource on Mayan culture past and present

Fun Stuff

[Father Stanley Rother Criss-Cross](#)

[Father Stanley Rother Word Search](#)

Discussion Questions

- When Stanley Rother entered the seminary, he struggled with Latin. Eventually, he was dismissed because of failing grades. What do you think motivated or guided him toward his goal of becoming a priest?
- At the parish in Santiago Atitlan, Father Rother received a number of death threats. Why did he choose to go back to Guatemala instead of remaining in the safety of the United States?
- As a boy, Father Rother helped on the family farm and even served as president of the Okarcho Chapter of Future Farmer's of America. How did his love of country life and his farming experiences help him in serving the villagers in Guatemala?
- Why did the Guatemalan military government view Father Rother as a threat?
- Why do you think Father Rother was willing to risk his life for the Santiago Atitlan villagers? Would you do the same thing? Why or why not?
- The chapter discusses the role of a spiritual leader and his impact on a small mountain village. Do you have a spiritual leader? What characteristics does your spiritual leader have that you would like to emulate?



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