

Manche Masemola ~ Timeline

- 1913? Manche Masemola was born in Marishane, Sukhukhuneland, In the Transvaal.
- 1919 Fr Augustine Moeka established a mission at Marishane. Manche attended services with her cousin Lucia. She later attended baptism preparation classes twice a week at the mission. Her parents forbade her from going, but she ignored them.
- 1927 Manche's parents began beating her, sometimes twice a day. Her mother once hid her clothes, but Manche ran away naked and hid. When her parents found her they called a sangoma (spirit priest) and said that Manche was bewitched. She was prescribed a traditional medicine; her parents had to beat her until she drank it. Manche died shortly afterwards.
- 1928 On or around 4th February Manche died and was buried. A few days later Manche's sister became ill and died in a mission hospital. She was buried beside her sister. Manche died before she had been baptised.
- 1935 A small group of Christians made a pilgrimage to the grave. A second pilgrimage took place in 1941, and a third in 1949.
- 1969 Manche's mother converted to Christianity and was baptised.
- 1975 Manche's name was added to the calendar of the Church of the Province of South Africa and hundreds go on pilgrimage every 4th August.
- 1998 Manche's statue was unveiled at Westminster Abbey, London.

Find out more:

www.westminster-abbey.org/tour/martyrs

www.axisartists.org.uk/all/ref8268.htm