

JANUARY 14

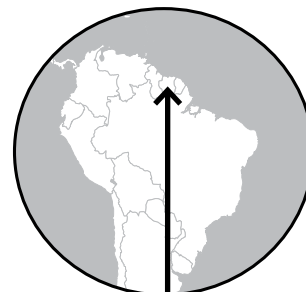
# Bl. Peter Donders

## BL. PETER DONDERS

**BORN:** October 27, 1809 in Tilburg, Netherlands

**DIED:** January 14, 1887 in Batavia, Suriname

- ◆ As a child, he taught catechism.
- ◆ He could not afford to go to school for very long.
- ◆ He became a servant to the seminarians.
- ◆ When he was 22, he was declared unfit for military service.
- ◆ When he was 24, he tried to join the Redemptorists and was denied.
- ◆ He was also denied by the Jesuits and Franciscans.
- ◆ A benefactor paid for him to go to seminary.
- ◆ He entered seminary when he was 28 years old.
- ◆ He served as a missionary to Suriname for 45 years.
- ◆ He took care of the oppressed.
- ◆ He attended the sick during an epidemic.
- ◆ He took care of 600 lepers for 30 years.
- ◆ He entered the Redemptorists when he was 57.
- ◆ He studied music to cheer sick children.



Suriname

## SURINAME

- Suriname is the smallest independent country in South America.
- It is the only independent country outside Europe where Dutch is the primary language of government.
- Its main export is gold.
- Suriname is the most forested country in the world. (98.3% of the county is forest.)