

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – unknown month 1939



Russia: Loino, Kirov region

Fr Karapet Diliurgian (aged 78, preached a homily in 1915 to the entire Armenian population of [Artvin, Turkey](#) that they give up their wealth to save their lives during the Genocide, collected their gold and bought their safe passage to the Caucasus; arrested in [Krasnodar, Russia](#) in [June 1936](#); sentenced to 3 years' internal exile; **UPDATE**: released from internal exile on the condition he would no longer perform his ministry, settled in Ochamchira, Abkhazia, Georgia and continued his ministry until his death, baptized children while they slept so they would not disclose their baptism under interrogation)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0233>



Egypt: Old Cairo

Fr Mina el-Baramousy aka Azer Youssef Atta (aged 37, the future Pope Kyrillos VI, beaten in a murder attempt in his hermitage by bandits, hospitalized, one bandit later asked for forgiveness after the other two were arrested or killed)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL27765146M/A_Silent_Patriarch pg 140-141



Poland

Fr Adolf Kucharski (arrested by the Soviets in the autumn, sent to a camp)

Fr Boleslaw Chuczynski O.Carm (aged 35, military chaplain, arrested by the Soviets, sent to Kozelsk POW camp)

Fr Jozef Bednarczyk (aged 37, Polish army chaplain, arrested by the Soviets in [late 1939](#), sent to a camp)

Fr Jozef Janczurewicz (arrested in the [autumn of 1939](#) by the Soviets, sent to a camp)

Fr Jozef Jaworski (aged 58, arrested by the Soviets, sent to a camp)

Fr Nikolay Ilkov (aged 49, military chaplain, captured by the Soviets, sent to Kozelsk POW camp)

Fr Otto Ewald (aged 26, arrested by the Soviets, charged with espionage, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Ukhtizhemlag)

Fr Teodor Chucal (aged 44, U.S. citizen, arrested by the Soviets along with the relatives he was visiting, sentenced to a prison camp)

Poland: Gostkowo

Fr Pawel Prabucki (aged 46, brother of Fr Alojzy Prabucki and Fr Boleslaw Prabucki, arrested by the Germans in the [autumn of 1939](#), sent to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp in Germany)

Poland: Gronowo

Fr Alojzy Prabucki (aged 43, brother of Fr Pawel Prabucki and Fr Boleslaw Prabucki, arrested by the Germans in the [autumn of 1939](#), sent to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp in Germany)

Poland: Knyszyn

Fr Edward Jung (aged 27, arrested by the Soviets in the [autumn of 1939](#), soon released)

Poland: Mokre

Fr Boleslaw Prabucki (aged 37, brother of Fr Alojzy Prabucki and Fr Pawel Prabucki, arrested by the Germans in the [autumn of 1939](#), sent to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp in Germany)

Poland: Suwalki

Fr Andrzej Busiuk (aged 31, military chaplain, arrested by the Soviets between [September 17 and October 12, 1939](#), sent to a POW camp in Gryazovets, Vologda oblast, Russia)

Poland – now Belarus: Kivertsi

Fr Tadeusz Boczkowski (aged 52, disappeared after the Soviet invasion)

Poland – now Belarus: Pinsk

Fr Ivan Audor (aged 60, arrested by the Bolsheviks in [1920](#), sentenced to imprisonment in a concentration camp until the end of the Civil War; released in [1922](#); **UPDATE**: assigned to Pinsk – the site of the October 1942 mass murder of Jews by the Germans, fate unknown)

Poland - now Belarus: Stolin

Fr Bronislaw Fedorowicz (aged 38, arrested by the Soviets after September 17, 1939 and **shot dead**)

Poland - now Belarus: Zelv, outside Vawkavysk

Fr Jan Krynski (aged 78, arrested and **killed** along with an Orthodox priest by the Soviet Army in the autumn, bodies left in a forest)

Poland - now Ukraine: Huta Stepańska

Fr Aleksandr Czaban (aged 43, arrested by the Soviets, sent to Ukhtizhemlag labor camp, fate unknown)

Poland - now Ukraine: Kolomyia

Fr Jan Cheniewski SJ (aged 66, arrested by the Soviets in the autumn of 1939, sent to Sverdlovsk Prison and then to Tayushetlag labor camp, outside Irkutsk, Russia)

Bishop Romuald Chlopiecki (aged 64, arrested by the Soviets, **killed**)

Poland - now Ukraine: Lutsk

Fr Apolinary Kowalski (aged 37, assessed a 500 million ruble tax on his parish in [Zinkow, Ukraine](#) in 1922, parishioners rejected paying the tax, arrested on counter-revolutionary charges, released after the parishioners pressured the authorities, went into hiding with the help of the church organist, who was later shot, later arrested, sent to prison and then to Poland in a prisoner exchange; **UPDATE**: disappeared, fate unknown)

Poland - now Ukraine: Lviv

Antoni Jankowski (aged 25, seminary graduate, arrested by the Soviets, sent to a camp)

Fr Zygmunt Jagielnicki OFM (aged 28, arrested, sent to Sibltag labor camp)

Poland - now Ukraine: Stanislaviv

Fr Antoni Cholynski (arrested by the Soviets in the autumn of 1939)

Poland - now Ukraine: Ternopil

Fr Stanislaw Gurnisiewicz OP (aged 68, arrested in the autumn of 1939, sent to a camp, fate unknown)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0042>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0092>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0136>

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<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0887>

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<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1129>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1565>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1577>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1809>

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<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1825>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1519>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1560>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1586>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1706>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1712>
https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26360161M/The_Priest_Barracks



Germany

Ernst Tillich (journalist, former student of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, arrested by the Gestapo in **October 1936** for allegedly sending an anti-Nazi homily of the Confessing Church to foreign news media; **UPDATE**: released)

Fr Jacob Gapp SM (aged 41, ordered by his religious superiors to leave Germany for France after having made several anti-Nazi statements, later went to Spain)

Germany: Berlin

Fr Romano Guardini (aged 54, forced to resign from the University of Berlin for defending the Jewishness of Jesus)

Germany: Sachsenhausen concentration camp

Hans Philipp Ehrenberg (theologian, husband of Else Zimmerman Ehrenberg, published *Seventy-Two Theses to the Jewish-Christian Question* in **July 1933**, which opposed anti-Semitism; barred from delivering homilies in **September 1938**; home destroyed during Kristallnacht on **November 9, 1938**, sent to Sachsenhausen concentration camp a few days later; **UPDATE**: released, allowed to emigrate to England)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernst_Tillich

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hans_Ehrenberg

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romano_Guardini

http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=486