

## Today's Martyrs – July 1941

Tuesday July 1, 1941



### Poland - now Ukraine: Sofievka

Fr Stanislaw Galecki (shot dead during the Soviet Army retreat)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0285>

Wednesday July 2, 1941



### Russia: Moscow

Fr Kamil Kantak (aged 60, transferred from the [Kozelsk POW camp](#) to the [Ostashkov POW camp](#) on [December 24, 1939](#), had been arrested in [Pinsk](#) along with his sister Maria Szilgan; transferred to [Moscow](#) in [February 1940](#); **UPDATE**: transferred to Gryazovets POW camp, later amnestied and released in the autumn of 1941, became a chaplain in the Polish Armed Forces of the East)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0987>



### Ukraine: Berdo

Br Andrzej Kowal OP (aged 41, killed on the bank of the Seret River by the retreating Soviet Army)

Fr Karol Iwaniszczow OP (aged 31, killed on the bank of the Seret River by the retreating Soviet Army)

Fr Marcin Czerwonka OP (aged 83, killed on the bank of the Seret River by the retreating Soviet Army)

Br Stanislaw Bojakowski OP (aged 44, murdered by the Soviets)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0143>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0973>  
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1047>  
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1510>

**Saturday July 5, 1941**



**Uzbekistan: Samarkand**

Fr Robert Glassner (aged 56, arrested in [Dehler, Saratov province, Russia](#) on [February 2, 1930](#) on counter-revolutionary charges; sentenced on [June 6, 1931](#) in [Yaroslavl Prison](#) to 3 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; released from Karlag in [1934](#), sent into internal exile; **UPDATE**: arrested on anti-Soviet agitation charges)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0841>



**Lithuania: Moletai**

Fr Matas Layauskas (aged 59, **shot dead** by the retreating Soviet army [near the end of June 1941](#), body thrown in a swamp; **UPDATE**: remains recovered by his parishioners, buried)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1088>

**Sunday July 6, 1941**



**Russia: Belbaltlag labor camp**

Fr Peter Heut (aged 47, jailed in [Marianovka, Berdyansk, Ukraine](#) in [1930](#), released; arrested in [Weizendorf](#) on [January 22, 1933](#); sentenced on [September 10, 1933](#) to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; **UPDATE**: transferred to Kargopol camp)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0893>

**Monday July 7, 1941**



**Ukraine: Kiev**

Fr Jan Kolner-Brinsko (aged 28, Slovak national, forced by the Gestapo to leave [Prague](#) for [Slovakia](#) in [September 1939](#), worked in a paper factory; arrested on [December 9, 1939](#) while illegally crossing the border, admitted he had entered the [USSR](#) to conduct underground missionary work; **UPDATE**: sentenced to death as 'an enemy of the people' and **shot dead** the same day)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1041>



**Austria: Weissensee, Ostallgau**

Fr Josef Zotz (aged 39, arrested in [Landeck, Tyrol](#) on [July 3, 1940](#) for speaking against anti-Semitism in his homilies and for aiding Wehrmacht deserters; released from prison on [June 17, 1941](#); **UPDATE**: **found dead with a head injury in Weissensee lake**)

[http://www.microsofttranslator.com/bv.aspx?ref=SERP&br=ro&mkt=en-US&dl=en&lp=DE\\_EN&a=http%3a%2f%2fde.wikipedia.org%2fwiki%2fJosef\\_Zotz](http://www.microsofttranslator.com/bv.aspx?ref=SERP&br=ro&mkt=en-US&dl=en&lp=DE_EN&a=http%3a%2f%2fde.wikipedia.org%2fwiki%2fJosef_Zotz)

**Saturday July 12, 1941**



**China: Kimen**

Fr Cesare Mencattini PIME (aged 31, Italian national, shot by the local mandarin's soldiers, **beaten to death**)

Fr Angelo Bagnoli (shot, hospitalized)

Fr Leo Cavallini (shot, hospitalized)

<http://www.pime.org/index.php?l=en&idn=85>



### **Ukraine: Starobelsk POW Camp**

Fr Antoni Guzik SDB (aged 49, arrested in [Lviv, Poland](#) on [April 24, 1940](#) for 'anti-Soviet agitation'; sentenced on [May 7, 1941](#) to 8 years' imprisonment in a labor camp;

**UPDATE:** sent to Vorkutlag in Russia)

Fr Wiktor Cebrowski (arrested by the Soviets in [Lviv, Poland](#) on [September 28, 1940](#); sentenced on [May 28, 1941](#) to 8 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; **UPDATE:** transferred to Vorkutlag labor camp in Russia)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1502>

**Sunday July 13, 1941**



### **Germany: Munster**

Bishop Clemens August Graf von Galen (aged 63, co-authored the 1937 encyclical *Mit Brennender Sorge*; **UPDATE:** delivered a homily attacking the Gestapo for human and civil rights violations that denied justice and created a climate of fear in the country)

Canon Vorwerk (reported by Bishop von Galen as having been banished from the diocese by Gestapo)

Canon Echelmeyer (reported by Bishop von Galen as having been banished from the diocese by Gestapo)

Friedrichs (religious teacher, reported by Bishop von Galen as having been sent to a concentration camp without trial)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clemens\\_August\\_Graf\\_von\\_Galen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clemens_August_Graf_von_Galen)

<http://todaysmartyrs.org/pdf/Documents/1941-07-13%20Homily%20by%20Bishop%20von%20Galen.pdf>

**Tuesday July 15, 1941**



### **Russia: Leningrad**

Fr Pawel Chomicz (aged 47, arrested in [Leningrad](#) on [December 3, 1926](#), charged with counter-revolutionary activities; released from camp on [November 10, 1936](#), sent into internal exile to [Kostroma](#); returned to [Leningrad](#) in [August 1939](#) and lived underground, performed a large number of pastoral duties; **UPDATE**: arrested, charged with operating an underground church and slander of the Soviet state)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1821>



### **Germany: Sonnenstein Euthanasia Center, Pirna, Saxony**

Martin Gauger (aged 35, attorney, resigned from the judicial service in [Monchengladbach](#) on [August 25, 1934](#) to avoid the loyalty oath to Adolph Hitler; swam the Rhine river into the [Netherlands](#) on [May 9, 1940](#) to escape military service, Germany invaded the Netherlands the following day; arrested in the [Netherlands](#) on [May 19, 1940](#), attempted to escape but was shot, returned to Germany, sent to [Dusseldorf-Derendorf prison](#); transferred to [Buchenwald](#); **UPDATE**: gassed)

<http://en.evangelischer-widerstand.de/html/view.php?type=biografie&id=10&l=en>

**Wednesday July 16, 1941**



### **Poland - now Ukraine**

Fr Teodor Czanyisz (aged 44, arrested, sent to Starobelsk POW camp in Ukraine)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1524>

**Saturday July 19, 1941**



### **Uzbekistan: Tashkent**

Br Zygmunt Dzierzek OMI (aged 31, arrested by the Soviets in [Ukraine](#) in 1941, sent to Ukhtizhemlag labor camp, Sosnovka, Komi ASSR, Russia; **UPDATE**: ordained to the priesthood after being amnestied to join the Polish Armed Forces of the East, later transferred from Soviet to British control via Iran)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0948>

**Sunday July 20, 1941**



**Germany: Munster**

Bishop Clemens August Graf von Galen (aged 63, **UPDATE**: delivered a homily stating that written protests against the government's anti-Christian activities had failed, that clergy and religious were still being arrested and deported, and that the German people were being destroyed not by the Allies' war activities but rather by negative forces within the country)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clemens\\_August\\_Graf\\_von\\_Galen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clemens_August_Graf_von_Galen)  
<http://todaysmartyrs.org/pdf/Documents/1941-07-20%20Homily%20by%20Bishop%20von%20Galen.pdf>

**Saturday July 27, 1941**



**Bosnia and Herzegovina: Bosansko Grahovo**

Fr Juraj Gospodnetić (tortured and **killed** by Chetniks, approximately 100 parishioners and neighbors killed)

**Bosnia and Herzegovina: Trubar**

Fr Waldemar Maximilian Nestor (aged 53, German citizen, forced by Chetniks to disembark along with his parishioners from a train while returning from a pilgrimage, all **shot dead**)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bosansko\\_Grahovo\\_massacre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bosansko_Grahovo_massacre)  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waldemar\\_Maximilian\\_Nestor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waldemar_Maximilian_Nestor)

**Tuesday July 30, 1941**



**Croatia: Glina**

Ljubo Jednak (sole survivor of a Ustase attack on 200 Serbs in an Orthodox church, beaten and stabbed, escaped from the burial pit, over the following week 700-2000 Serbs were killed in the area)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glina\\_massacres](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glina_massacres)

**Wednesday July 31, 1941**



**Poland: Auschwitz concentration camp**

Fr Maximilian Maria Kolbe OFM Conv aka Raymund Kolbe (aged 47, arrested with four others by the Gestapo on [February 17, 1941](#) in [Niepokalanow](#); transferred to Auschwitz on [May 28, 1941](#); **UPDATE**: volunteered to take the place of a condemned man in a starvation cell)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maximilian\\_Kolbe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maximilian_Kolbe)

**July 1941, date unknown**



**Russia: Kozelsk POW camp, Kaluga oblast**

Fr Boleslaw Chuczynski O.Carm (aged 37, Polish military chaplain, arrested by the Soviets in [1939](#); **UPDATE**: transferred to Gryazovets POW camp, later transferred to Butyrka Prison in Moscow, sentenced to Sevdvinlag labor camp, amnestied to join the Polish Armed Forces of the East)

Fr Nikodem Dubrawka (aged 39, arrested in Poland earlier in the year, transferred to Gryazovets camp)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0935>

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



**Ukraine: near Khmilnyk**

Fr Adam Gromadowski (aged 29, arrested by the Soviets in [Podvolochisk](#) in the [spring of 1940](#) on charges of distributing illegal literature; sentenced in [Ternopil](#) on [March 15, 1941](#) to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; 'miraculously' escaped execution in [June 1941](#) when [Berdychiv Prison](#) was liquidated during the Soviet Army retreat; **UPDATE:** reportedly **murdered** by Soviet soldiers)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0876>