

Today's Martyrs – March 1942

Monday March 1, 1942



United States: USS Houston in the Sunda Strait, Indonesia

Rev George Snavely Rentz (aged 59, naval chaplain, **disappeared and presumed drowned** after giving his life vest to another sailor after the sinking of the USS Houston)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_S._Rentz

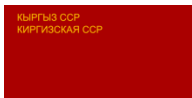


Kazakhstan: Chok-Pak

Fr Franciszek Janocha OFM (aged 30, arrested in **Lviv** by the Soviets in **July 1940**, sentenced to death, commuted to imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to **Unzhlag**; amnestied as a Polish citizen on **September 2, 1941**; **UPDATE**: appointed chaplain of the Polish Armed Forces of the East, sent to Turkmenistan)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1715>

Friday March 6, 1942



Kyrgyzstan: Guzar

Fr Petro Gul (aged 45, amnestied in the **USSR** in **1941** as a Polish citizen, joined the Polish Armed Forces of the East as a chaplain - the history of his arrest is unknown; **UPDATE**: **died, cause unknown**)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0885>

Monday March 9, 1942



CCCP

Russia: Leningrad

Jadwiga Gribowska (aged 19, postal employee, arrested in [February 1942](#) on counter-revolutionary charges; **UPDATE**: sent into internal exile to the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Region)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0317>

Thursday March 19, 1942



Norway: Falstad concentration camp

Bishop Arne Fjellbu (aged 51, U.S. citizen, held an alternative ceremony during the [February 1, 1942](#) inauguration of the Nazi-imposed Quisling government; fired from his position by the government on [February 19, 1942](#); **UPDATE**: imprisoned)

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

Thursday March 26, 1942



Uzbekistan: Shakhrisabz

Fr Jan Chrabaszcz (aged 36, arrested by the Soviets in [Grodno, Poland \[now Belarus\]](#) in 1940, sentenced to a prison camp; **UPDATE**: amnestied, joined the Polish Armed Forces of the East as a chaplain, **perhaps died**, possible grave found)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1822>



Poland: Auschwitz Concentration Camp

Sr Maria Cecilia Autsch OSST.Ter (aged 40, Austrian national, arrested in [Motz, Austria](#) on [August 12, 1940](#) after saying Hitler was a calamity for Europe; transferred to [Ravensbruck concentration camp](#) on [August 31, 1940](#), became known for her support of other prisoners despite frequent beatings; **UPDATE**: arrived at Auschwitz)

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

Saturday March 28, 1942



Austria: Hartheim euthanasia center, Alkoven, Eferding

Fr Friedrich Karas (aged 46, arrested in [June 1941](#), transferred to [Dachau](#) in [August 1941](#), health declined; **UPDATE**: transferred to Hartheim, **gassed**)

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%2fFriedrich_Karas

Sunday March 29, 1942

Palm Sunday – Western Calendar



Germany: Lubeck

Pastor Karl Friedrich Stellbrink (aged 49, husband of Hildegard Stellbrink, said in a homily that the RAF bombing of his city the previous day was divine punishment)

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

March 1942, date unknown



USSR

The Polish Armed Forces in the East is transferred from Soviet to British control via Iran on or after March 18, 1942

Fr Albert Brzozowski OFM (aged 28, arrested by the Soviets in [September 1939](#), sent to a POW camp; **UPDATE**: amnestied, allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Andrzej Busiuk (aged 33, military chaplain, arrested by the Soviets in [Suwałki, Poland](#) between [September 17 and October 12, 1939](#), sent to a POW camp; amnestied on [December 10, 1941](#), joined the Polish Armed Forces in the East as a military chaplain; **UPDATE**: allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Boleslaw Chuczynski O.Carm (aged 38, Polish military chaplain, arrested by the Soviets in [1939](#) and sent to [Kozelsk POW camp](#); transferred in [July 1941](#) to [Gryazovets POW camp](#), later transferred to [Butyrka Prison in Moscow](#), sentenced to [Sevdivinlag labor camp](#), amnestied to join the Polish Armed Forces of the East; **UPDATE**: allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Boleslaw Dzdziejewicz (aged 33, arrested by the Soviets in [Drahichyn](#) on [January 11, 1940](#); sentenced as a “socially dangerous element” to 5 years' imprisonment in a labor camp on [August 6, 1940](#); escaped from [Arkhangelsk Promkombinat camp in Bereznyaki](#) on [October 21, 1940](#), recaptured, sentence increased to 10 years'; amnestied to join the Polish Armed Forces of the East as a chaplain on [December 31, 1941](#); **UPDATE**: allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Franciszek Brzegowy SJ (aged 50, arrested by the Soviets and transported to a prison camp, lost his voice; **UPDATE**: amnestied, allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Frantyszek Dziduszko (aged 46, arrested by the Soviets in [Obazhantsy, outside Ternopil, Poland](#), sentenced to a labor camp, sent to [Siblag labor camp in Russia](#); **UPDATE**: amnestied, joined the Polish Armed Forces in the East as a chaplains, allowed to leave the Soviet Union, later became a vicar at Polish refugee camps in Tangiers in Morocco and Lusaka in Zambia)

Fr Jan Bas (aged 32, arrested by the Soviets on [November 23, 1941](#) in [Ternopil, Poland \[now Belarus\]](#) and sent to a labor camp; **UPDATE**: amnestied, became a chaplain for the Polish Armed Forces in the East, allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Jan Cibor (aged 43, arrested by the Soviets in [Turka, outside Stryi, Poland](#) on [December 4, 1939](#); transferred to [Starobelsk POW camp](#) in 1940; transferred to [Sevostoklag labor camp, Magadan oblast](#) on [June 15, 1941](#); amnestied in [August 1941](#), joined the Polish Armed Forces of the East as a military chaplain; **UPDATE**: allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Jozef Bednarczyk (aged 40, Polish army chaplain, arrested late [1939](#) and sent to a camp in [Gryazovets, Vologda oblast](#); amnestied on [August 21, 1941](#), became a chaplain for the Polish Armed Forces in the East; **UPDATE**: allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Leopold Dallinger (aged 56, arrested by the Soviets in [Zolochiv, Poland \[now Ukraine\]](#) in [April 1940](#); amnestied in [1941](#), joined the Polish Armed Forces of the East as a chaplain; **UPDATE**: allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Mieczysław Bednarz SJ (aged 25, seminarian, arrested by the Soviets in [Brest, Poland \[now Belarus\]](#) on [January 1, 1940](#); amnestied in [October 1941](#) from [Ukhtizhlag labor camp, Komi ASSR](#), joined the Polish Armed Forces in the East; **UPDATE**: allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Nikodem Dubrawka (aged 40, arrested in [Poland](#) earlier in [1941](#); amnestied as a Polish citizen on [August 12, 1941](#) while at [Gryazovets camp, Vologda oblast](#), released, became an assistant chaplain in the Polish Armed Forces of the East; **UPDATE**: allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Stanislaw Chmielewski (aged 34, military chaplain, arrested by the Soviets in [Poland](#) in [September 1939](#); **UPDATE**: amnestied, joined the Polish Armed Forces in the East as a chaplain, allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Stanislaw Czapiewski SJ (aged 31, arrested by the NKVD in [Vilnius, Lithuania](#) on [June 14, 1941](#), later sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Sevrallag labor camp, Sverdlovsk oblast, Russia, at the end of the year was amnestied to join the Polish Armed Forces of the East; **UPDATE**: allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Br Stefan Chojnacki MIC (aged 26, seminarian, arrested by the Soviets in [Druya, Poland](#) on [June 15, 1941](#), sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; **UPDATE**: amnestied in late 1941, joined the Polish Armed Forces in the East, allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

Fr Wlodzimierz Cienski (aged 45, arrested by the NKVD in [1940](#), attempts to turn him into a collaborator failed, sentenced to death; transferred to Butyrka Prison, Moscow; **UPDATE**: amnestied, joined the Polish Armed Forces in the East as a dean of chaplains, allowed to leave the Soviet Union)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0080>

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

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0093>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0174>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0199>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0908>

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<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0950>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1505>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1512>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1525>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1816>

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



Germany: Brandenburg an der Havel

Lothar Ernst Paul Kreyssig (aged 43, district court judge, member of the Confessing Church, reported to the Minister of Justice on [July 8, 1940](#) that he suspected that mentally

disabled adults and children under the jurisdiction of his court were being murdered in an euthanasia campaign, later issued an injunction prohibiting the movement of his charges to the euthanasia centers, and filed a charge of murder against Philipp Bouhler, a top aide to Adolph Hitler; summoned to the Justice Ministry in [Berlin](#) on [November 13, 1940](#), after being shown the T4 euthanasia program authorization that had been signed by Adolph Hitler said "The Fuhrer's word does not create a right", was then told "If you cannot recognize the will of the Fuhrer as a source of law, then you cannot remain a judge"; suspended from the judiciary in [December 1940](#); **UPDATE:** forced to retire from the judiciary, spent the remainder of the war on his farm where he sheltered two Jewish women)

Germany: Dachau concentration camp

Pastor Paul Richter (aged 47, husband of Johanna, suspended from his parish in [Wilsdruff](#) for six months in [March 1934](#) for his anti-Nazi views, salary reduced by half; fined 200 Reichmarks in [March 1939](#); arrested in [Sachsdorf](#) on [November 10, 1941](#); **UPDATE:** arrived)

Fr Joseph Kentenich SAC (aged 56, founder of the Schoenstatt Movement, arrested by the Gestapo in [Koblenz](#) on [September 20, 1941](#) for his anti-Nazi views, told his interrogators "My mission is to reveal the inner emptiness of National Socialism, and by there to defeat it"; **UPDATE:** arrived)

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Richter_\(Pfarrer\)](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Richter_(Pfarrer)) - with translation

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

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