

Today's Martyrs – January 1945

Wednesday January 3, 1945



Ukraine: Lutsk

Fr Wladysław Bukowinski (aged 41, arrested by the Soviets on [August 22, 1940](#), later sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; 'miraculously' spared on or about [June 26, 1941](#) during the liquidation of his prison during the Soviet army retreat, returned to [Lutsk](#); **UPDATE**: arrested by the Soviets, sent to prison in Kiev)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0191>

Thursday January 4, 1945



Ukraine: Lviv

Fr Stanislaw Bizun (aged 39, arrested)

Ukraine: Volodymyr-Volynskyi

Fr Andrzej Gladysiewicz (aged 31, arrested)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0128>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0840>

Friday January 5, 1945



Germany: Neuengamme concentration camp

Fr Jean-Mathurin Thomas OCSO (aged 45, French citizen, **killed**)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/France.htm

Monday January 8, 1945



Ukraine: Krasyliv

Fr Jozef Kuczynski (aged 40, arrested on espionage charges)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0425>

Wednesday January 10, 1945



Ukraine: Zhytomyr

Fr Bronislaw Drzepecki (aged 39, arrested by the Germans in 1944 in Lutsk, taken to Lubin, later released; **UPDATE**: arrested by the Soviets)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0242>

Thursday January 11, 1945



Hungary: Budapest

Sr Horvath Magdolna FMM (aged 37, **killed** while protecting women from rape)

Sr Maria Weber FMM (aged 58, **killed** while protecting women from rape)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/defense_of_women.htm



Germany

Fr Augustin Rosch SJ (arrested at the farmhouse in which he was hiding, beaten, sent along with the family which hid him to Dachau)

Germany: Berlin

Fr Alfred Delp SJ (aged 38, arrested by the Gestapo in [Munich](#) on [July 28, 1944](#) in connection with the plot to assassinate Hitler; secretly made his final vows on [December 9, 1944](#) in [Tegel Prison](#) in [Berlin](#); **UPDATE** sentenced to death)

Pastor Eugen Gerstenmaier (arrested in [1934](#) for his involvement in the Confessing Church, released; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment at hard labor for his involvement in the plot to assassinate Hitler, survived the war)

Helmut James Graf von Moltke (aged 37, husband of Freya von Moltke, international jurist, arrested by the Gestapo on [January 19, 1944](#) for warning a friend he was about to be arrested; **UPDATE**: sentenced to death for his discussions of postwar reconstruction with some of the plotters of Hitler's assassination, which he had opposed, later wrote to his wife that he had been tried "...not as a Protestant, not as a great landowner, not as an aristocrat, not as a Prussian, not as a German...but as a Christian and nothing else...But what the Third Reich is so terrified of...is ultimately the following: a private individual, your husband, of whom it is established that he discussed with 2 clergymen of both denominations [Protestant and Catholic]...questions of the practical, ethical demands of Christianity. Nothing else: for that alone we are condemned...I just wept a little, not because I was sad or melancholy...but because I am thankful and moved by this proof of God's presence")

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

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustin_R%C3%B6sch

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

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

https://openlibrary.org/works/OL17318218W/Church_of_Spies

Friday January 12, 1945



Ukraine: Sambor

Fr Michal Drabik (aged 33, arrested)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0931>

Saturday January 13, 1945



Serbia: Belgrade

Metropolitan Dositej Vasic (aged 66, arrested by the Ustashi government in [Zagreb, Croatia](#) on [May 7, 1941](#), tortured, later released and sent to a monastery in Belgrade; **UPDATE:** [died from the result of imprisonment and torture](#))

https://sr.wikipedia.org/sr-el/Доситеј_Васић - with translation



Germany: Dachau Concentration Camp

Fr Augustin Rosch SJ (arrested on [January 11, 1945](#) at the farmhouse in which he was hiding, beaten, sent along with the family which hid him to Dachau; **UPDATE:** transferred to Berlin, survived the war)

https://openlibrary.org/works/OL17318218W/Church_of_Spies

Monday January 15, 1945



Ukraine: Lviv

Fr Ignacy Chwirut (aged 57, arrested on counter-revolutionary charges)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1827>



Germany: Berlin

Nikolaus Gross (trade unionist, arrested on [August 12, 1944](#) in connection with the assassination plot on Hitler; **UPDATE:** sentenced to death)

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

Wednesday January 17, 1945



Hungary: Budapest

Fr Hummel Kornel (aged 37, **killed**)

<http://newsaints.faithweb.com/year/1945.htm>



Germany: Hersbruck concentration camp

Teresio Olivelli (aged 29, Italian citizen, war veteran, law professor, arrested in [Milan](#) in [April 1944](#) by the Germans for writing Christian and anti-Nazi literature; **UPDATE**: **beaten to death** after shielding with his body a young Ukrainian prisoner who was being stomped)

<http://www.microsofttranslator.com/bv.aspx?from=it&to=en&a=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.teresioolivelli.it%2Fteresio-olivelli%2Fbiografia%2F>

Thursday January 18, 1945



Hungary: Budapest

Fr Ruppert Istvan (aged 30, **killed** while protecting women from rape)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/defense_of_women.htm



Italy

Gedeone Corra (aged 24, brother of Flavio Corra, arrested together by fascists near [Salizzole, Italy](#) on [November 22, 1944](#); transferred to German SS control on [December 1, 1944](#); **UPDATE**: sent to [Flossenburg](#) Concentration Camp in Germany)

Flavio Corra (aged 27, brother of Gedeone Corra; **UPDATE**: sent to [Flossenburg](#) Concentration Camp in Germany)

<https://cacina.wordpress.com/2014/04/07/carry-the-gospel-with-you-1899/>

<http://newsaints.faithweb.com/year/1945.htm>



Germany: Dachau concentration camp

Fr Eduard Kluger OSMT (aged 61, Czech national, **killed**)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Czech1.htm

Friday January 19, 1945



Hungary: Budapest

Sr Kovach Kornelia FMM (aged 39, **killed** while protecting women from rape)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/defense_of_women.htm



Germany: Neuengamme concentration camp

Fr Jean-Marie Frossard SJ (aged 49, French citizen, **killed**)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/France.htm

Wednesday January 22, 1945



Poland: Mikolow, Slaskie

Sr Agnieszka Falkus SDS (aged 43, **killed** while resisting rape)

Sr Gertruda Ludwig SDS (aged 39, **killed** while resisting rape)

<http://newsaints.faithweb.com/year/1945.htm>

Thursday January 23, 1945



Germany: Plotzensee Prison, Berlin

Eugen Bolz (aged 63, attorney, Interior Minister, spent several weeks in a concentration camp in 1933, released; arrested in [Beuron](#) on [August 12, 1944](#) for having agreed to serve in a post-Nazi government; sentenced to death in [Berlin](#) on [December 21, 1944](#); **UPDATE: guillotined**)

Helmut James Graf von Moltke (aged 37, husband of Freya von Moltke, international jurist, arrested by the Gestapo on [January 19, 1944](#) for warning a friend he was about to be arrested; sentenced to death on [January 11, 1945](#) for his discussions of postwar reconstruction with some of the plotters of Hitler's assassination, which he had opposed, later wrote to his wife that he had been tried "...not as a Protestant, not as a great landowner, not as an aristocrat, not as a Prussian, not as a German...but as a Christian and nothing else...But what the Third Reich is so terrified of...is ultimately the following: a private individual, your husband, of whom it is established that he discussed with 2 clergymen of both denominations [Protestant and Catholic]...questions of the practical, ethical demands of Christianity. Nothing else: for that alone we are condemned...I just wept a little, not because I was sad or melancholy...but because I am thankful and moved by this proof of God's presence"; **UPDATE: hanged**)

Nikolaus Gross (trade unionist, arrested on [August 12, 1944](#) in connection with the assassination plot on Hitler; sentenced to death on [January 15, 1945](#); **UPDATE: hanged**)

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

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

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

<http://newsaints.faithweb.com/year/1945.htm>

Friday January 24, 1945



Austria: Vienna

Fr Heinrich Dalla Rosa (aged 35, arrested on a charge of ‘undermining the military’ in **August 1944** for his anti-Nazi statements; **UPDATE: guillotined**)

http://www.microsofttranslator.com/bv.aspx?ref=SERP&br=ro&mkt=en-US&dl=en&lp=DE_EN&a=http%3a%2f%2fwww.gemeinde-amerling.at%2ftourismus%2fsehenswuerdigkeiten%2fgrabdallarosa.html

Saturday January 25, 1945



Poland: Pokrzywno, Poznan

Sr Maria Podskarbi OSU (aged 35, **shot dead** while resisting rape by Soviet soldiers)

Sr Stefania Trznadel OSU (aged 34, **shot and bayoneted to death** while resisting rape by Soviet soldiers)

http://newsaints.faiweb.com/new_martyrs/defense_of_self.htm

http://www.microsofttranslator.com/bv.aspx?ref=SERP&br=ro&mkt=en-US&dl=en&lp=PL_EN&a=http%3a%2f%2fwww.osu.pl%2fSwiadcowie_wiary_513%2c0.html

Sunday January 26, 1945



Ukraine:

Fr Alexander Ben (aged 34, arrested, sent to Kiev)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0108>

Monday January 27, 1945



Albania

Fr Lazer Shantoja (aged 52, arrested and tortured by Communist partisans)

https://sq.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lazër_Shantoja - with translation

Tuesday January 28, 1945



Japan: aboard the Brazil Maru

Fr William Thomas Cummings MM (aged 41, U.S. Army chaplain, POW, put aboard the “hell ship” Brazil Maru for transport to Japan despite suffering from neglect and malnutrition, told shipmates that if he survived he wanted to work with street kids in Tokyo because "No one is hopeless", loudly led shipmates in the Lord's Prayer and **died** upon reaching the words "Give us this day")

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Thomas_Cummings
<http://the-american-catholic.com/2011/08/08/give-us-this-day/#more-18350>

Thursday January 30, 1945



Poland: Otmet, Krapkowice

Sr Agnes Kroll OSF (aged 56, **killed** by Soviet soldiers)

Sr Elisabeth Porada (aged 47, **killed** by Soviet soldiers)

Fr Hubert Demczak (aged 53, **shot** by Soviet soldiers after telling them he had no vodka, **died** hours later)

Sr Maria Grubmuller (aged 46, Hungarian citizen, **killed** by Soviet soldiers)

Sr Maria Schneider (aged 57, Austrian national, **killed** by Soviet soldiers)

Sr Rozalia Grzeschik (aged 55, **killed** by Soviet soldiers)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Poland2.htm

[http://www.swzygmunt.knc.pl/MARTYROLOGIUM/POLISHRELIGIOUS/vENGLISH/HTMs/
POLISHRELIGIOUSmartyr3279.htm](http://www.swzygmunt.knc.pl/MARTYROLOGIUM/POLISHRELIGIOUS/vENGLISH/HTMs/POLISHRELIGIOUSmartyr3279.htm)

[http://www.swzygmunt.knc.pl/MARTYROLOGIUM/POLISHRELIGIOUS/vENGLISH/HTMs/
POLISHRELIGIOUSmartyr0451.htm](http://www.swzygmunt.knc.pl/MARTYROLOGIUM/POLISHRELIGIOUS/vENGLISH/HTMs/POLISHRELIGIOUSmartyr0451.htm)

Friday January 31, 1945



Albania: Shkodra

Fr Lazer Shantoja (aged 52, arrested and tortured by Communist partisans on [January 27, 1945](#);
UPDATE: sentenced to death)

https://sq.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lazër_Shantoja - with translation

January 1945, date unknown



Ukraine: Odessa

Duleran (French teacher, arrested on espionage charges, sentenced to 5 years' internal exile in Kazakhstan, fate unknown)

Lipskaya (housewife, arrested on anti-Soviet agitation charges, sentenced to possibly 5 years' internal exile in Kazakhstan, fate unknown)

Maria Fedorovich-Medan (aged 65, French national, English teacher, arrested, charged with 'espionage and anti-Soviet agitation', sentenced to possibly 5 years' internal exile to Kazakhstan, fate unknown)

Tibieri Cholmaczi (worked in commerce, arrested on espionage charges, sentenced to possibly 5 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, fate unknown)

Ukraine: Ostroh

Fr Boleslaw Kranc OFM Cap (aged 34, military chaplain in [September 1939](#), later organized Polish Home Army units; **UPDATE:** arrested, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Dalstroy and later to Sevvostoklag)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0245>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1116>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1817>
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0258>
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0451>



Lithuania: Vilnius

Archbishop Romuald Jalbrzykowski (aged 69, arrested)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1571>



Slovakia: Bratislava

Pastor Vladimir Kuna (arrested in [Liptovsky Svaty Mikulas](#) in [November 1944](#) for 'assisting Jews and partisans'; **UPDATE**: released after he disclosed nothing about the Jews he had hidden)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL7932547M/The_Righteous



Germany: Stalag IXA POW camp, Ziegenhain

Master Sgt Roddie Edmonds (U.S. Army POW, almost shot after he prevented the removal of Jewish POWs by persuading all of the POWs to state they were Jewish, said "We are all Jews" to the camp commander who attempted to shoot him, survived because he told the commander he would be tried for war crimes, had previously led the POWs in prayer when their train was bombed by the RAF)

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/first-us-serviceman-honored-as-righteous-among-the-nations/>