

## Today's Martyrs –1953 – unknown month



### Laos

Fr Joseph Thao Tien (aged 30, arrested by Communist guerrillas in [Sam Neua](#) during [Easter season 1953](#), had refused to leave during their offensive saying "I am staying for my people. I am ready to lay down my life for my Laotian brothers and sisters", marched to a prison camp, later sentenced to death after refusing to leave the priesthood and marry)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martyrs\\_of\\_Laos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martyrs_of_Laos)



### USSR: Omlag labor camp

Fr Jan Borysiuk (aged 65, arrested in [1948](#), sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; **UPDATE:** [died](#), exact date unknown)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0159>



### Russia: Madagan

Adele Dirsyte (aged 44, teacher, former Caritas director, helped hide Jews during the German occupation, arrested on [March 6, 1944](#) in [Vilnius, Lithuania](#) for hiding an escapee from the Soviets; sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment on [November 11, 1946](#); sent to a labor camp at [Chuma](#) in the [summer of 1947](#); transferred to a labor camp at [Taishet](#) in the [summer of 1949](#); transferred to a labor camp at [Kolyma](#) in the [winter of 1950](#), then to a camp at [Magadan](#) in the [summer of 1950](#), organized prayer and religious meetings, wrote the *Prayer Book of Girls Exiled in Siberia*, repeatedly beaten and tortured for smuggling the Eucharist to fellow inmates, lost all her teeth; **UPDATE:** taken to an unknown location in [autumn 1953](#), extensively tortured)

### Russia: Siberia

Fr Benediktos Andriushka SJ (aged 69, Lithuanian citizen, arrested and exiled to Siberia in [1944](#); **UPDATE:** [died](#))

<http://angelorum.lt/en/dievo-tarnai/adele-dirsyte-1909-1955/> - with translation

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0023>



### **Kazakhstan: Ad-Boksar**

Fr Antoni Borysowicz (aged 60, arrested in [Minsk](#) in [1951](#), sentenced to internal exile;  
**UPDATE:** released)

### **Kazakhstan: Karlag labor camp, Akmolinsk sector**

Fr Alfons Czyzewski SJ (aged 56, arrested in [Orsha, Belarus](#) in [1947](#), sentenced to possibly 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; **UPDATE:** released at the end of the year, **died** shortly thereafter)

### **Kazakhstan: Peschanlag labor camp**

Fr Stanislaw Bogatkiewicz (aged 47, arrested in [Pelikany, outside Vidzy, Belarus](#) on [January 10, 1950](#); sentenced on [March 30, 1950](#) to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp;  
**UPDATE:** transferred to Steplag labor camp)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0137>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0160>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1538>



### **Belarus: Minsk**

Fr Michal Aronowicz (aged 46, arrested in [Belarus](#) on charged of 'contacts with Polish nationalists' on [February 17, 1951](#); sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp on [August 11, 1951](#); arrived at camp on [October 4, 1951](#); released [October 11, 1952](#), sent to Minsk Prison; **UPDATE:** released)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0035>



### **Czechoslovakia**

Bishop Stepan Trochta SDB (aged 48, arrested by the Gestapo on [May 28, 1942](#), sent to [Terezin, Mauthausen and Dachau concentration camps](#); under house arrest by the StB in [1951](#), forced to sign allegiance to the socialist republic while under the likely influence of narcotics; **UPDATE:** arrested)

[https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C5%A0t%C4%9Bp%C3%A1n\\_Trochta](https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C5%A0t%C4%9Bp%C3%A1n_Trochta) - with translation