

Today's Martyrs – December 1954

Thursday December 2, 1954



Czechoslovakia: Bratislava

Fr Mikulas Russnak (aged 76, **killed**)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Slovakia2.htm

Friday December 3, 1954



Czechoslovakia: Brno

Fr Tomas Beranek (aged 63, arrested by the StB on **February 8, 1950**; sentenced on **January 31, 1951** to 11 years' imprisonment for treason, blood was seen to ooze from his clothing, began to sing the Te Deum after sentencing; **UPDATE: died in the prison hospital from kidney failure**)

<http://www.ustrcr.cz/cs/tomas-beranek> - with translation
http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Czech2.htm

Saturday December 18, 1954



Russia: Sevostoklag labor camp, Magadan region

Fr Stanislaw Dziadek (aged 63, arrested in **Drohobych, Ukraine** on **July 22, 1950**; sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp followed by 5 years' internal exile; **UPDATE: transferred to a camp in Kharkiv oblast**)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1828>

Friday December 31, 1954



Kazakhstan: Steplag labor camp, Dzhezkazgan, Karaganda oblast

Fr Anton Kuyava (aged 46, arrested in [Jazno, Belarus](#) on [February 17, 1949](#), accused of anti-Soviet activities, tortured with sleep deprivation; sentenced in [Dzisna, Belarus](#) to 25 years' imprisonment in a labor camp on [May 21, 1949](#); sent to Steplag on [July 25 1949](#), arrived seriously ill; began to show signs of active tuberculosis in [March 1952](#); sentenced to solitary confinement for not wearing camp clothes on or about [March 7, 1953](#) - most likely to identify himself as a priest; sentenced to solitary confinement on [February 13, 1954](#) for 3 months for participating in a work slowdown; joined with other clergy of all denominations to support a camp uprising which began on [May 16, 1954](#) and lasted 40 days, the uprising was suppressed by army tanks, artillery, and machine guns which killed "dozens and dozens" and seriously wounded four hundred, blessed the weddings of inmates and buried the dead during the uprising, afterward was sentenced to solitary confinement but was then transferred to the infirmary due to the "drastic" worsening of his tuberculosis; **UPDATE**: released from the camp due to ill health, sent into internal exile to Karaganda oblast)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1143>

December 1954, date unknown