

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – May 1921

Tuesday May 31, 1921



United States – Oklahoma: Tulsa

Beginning of the Tulsa Race Massacre: Up to 300 African-Americans would be killed and 40 city blocks including up to 16 churches would be destroyed in a 24 hour riot

Rev Charles W Kerr (attempted to persuade the crowd to disburse before the riot began, later opened his church to shelter victims of the riot)

Fr John G Heiring (cancelled a parish activity at the start of the riot with the words ‘something terrible is happening’, opened his church to shelter 400 victims of the riot and organized parishioners to care for them)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/247862/reflections-on-the-role-of-the-cathedral-during-the-tulsa-race-massacre-and-today>

The Tulsa Massacre of 1921 – pg 34

May 1921, date unknown



Russia: lower Volga

Fr Franciszek Klimaszewski (aged 45, arrested as a hostage in **July 1919** during the Polish-Soviet War, released and re-arrested several times; arrested in **January 1920** and placed in an unheated cell after Chekists planted weapons and ammunition in his apartment, released after several months, later threatened with arrest, went into hiding and continued his ministry despite a nationwide manhunt; **UPDATE:** illegally crossed the border into Poland after his replacement was named)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1028>