

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – May 1936

Saturday May 2, 1936



Ethiopia: Addis Ababa

Ichege [Abbot] Gebre Giyorgis (aged 45, future Patriarch Basilios, fled with Emperor Haile Selassie I to French Somaliland [now Djibouti] in the face of the advancing Italian army, sailed to Jerusalem two days later)

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

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haile_Selassie#Exile_debate

Monday May 4, 1936



Ukraine: Odessa

Fr Vladimir Klopfer (aged 61, sent to the Pecherski Monastery in [Kiev](#) in [1913](#) to do penance for his 'sympathy toward Catholicism', later converted; wrote a letter while in [Kherson](#) on [November 13, 1929](#) protesting “against methods of dragging children into the Pioneer organization and a group of young atheists”; arrested in [Kherson](#) on currency charges in [February 1930](#), soon released, suspected of having become a GPU informer; arrested in [Odessa](#) on [August 27, 1935](#) on counter-revolutionary charges; sentenced on [February 21, 1936](#) to 7 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, commuted to banishment; **UPDATE:** [died in prison](#))

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1030>

Thursday May 14, 1936

Ukraine

Fr Stanisław Brawer (aged 50, arrested for counter-revolutionary activities in [Polonnoye, Ukraine](#), sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment in a labor camp)

Fr Zygmunt Klemczynski (aged 44; arrested in [Korostyszew](#) on counter-revolutionary charges on [July 29, 1935](#); **UPDATE**: sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Ukhtizhemiag)

Ukraine: Kiev

Catherine Galler (aged 60, widow, arrested on [July 29, 1935](#) for donating money to persecuted Christians and keeping religious literature in her home; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 3 years' internal exile, sent to Kazakhstan)

Elizabeth Korona OSF (aged 34, orphanage cook, arrested in [1930](#), charged with 'anti-Soviet agitation', released; arrested on [August 19, 1935](#) on counter-revolutionary charges; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Siblag, later released and returned to Ukraine)

Michal Jakubowski (aged 65, church caretaker, arrested on [July 29, 1935](#) on counter-revolutionary charges; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 3 years' internal exile, sent to Kazakhstan, fate unknown)

Ukraine: Radomyshl, Kiev province

Leopold Lewkowski (aged 67, church organist, worked to keep his church from being closed in [1934](#); arrested on [July 29, 1935](#) on counter-revolutionary charges including 'among young people'; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, commuted to 5 years' internal exile, sent to Kazakhstan, worked as a guard on a collective farm in Krivinka, Beskaragaisk region)

Ukraine: Zhytomyr

Fr Jozef Kozinski (aged 46, arrested on [August 19, 1935](#) in [Topory, Ruzhin region, Zhytomyr oblast](#) on anti-Soviet and counter-revolutionary charges; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Ukhtpechlag labor camp in Chibiu, Komi ASSR, Russia)

Fr Stanislaw Jachniewicz (aged 48, arrested on [July 29, 1935](#) on anti-Soviet and counter-revolutionary charges; **UPDATE**: sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Sevvostoklag, Madagan region, where he ministered to prisoners and shared his food parcels)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0165>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0288>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0410>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0417>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1027>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1092>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1570>
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1703>

Wednesday May 20, 1936



Belarus

Fr Wladyslaw Kunda (aged 54, arrested on [December 5, 1935](#) on counter-revolutionary charges;
UPDATE: sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Temlag in Russia)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1069>

Thursday May 28, 1936



Kazakhstan: Karlag labor camp

Fr Boleslaw Blechman (aged 62, arrested in [Krymok, Ukraine](#) on [August 29, 1933](#) for counter-revolutionary activities; sentenced in [Kiev, Ukraine](#) on [February 24, 1934](#) to 3 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; **UPDATE:** released, sent on internal exile to the northern Caucasus)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0130>



Russia: Sibltag labor camp, Mariinsk section

Fr Jozef Borodziula (aged 43, arrested in [Arkhangelsk](#), sentenced on [May 29, 1935](#) to 3 years' imprisonment a labor camp, **UPDATE:** transferred to Norilsk camp)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0151>

Friday May 29, 1936



Russia: Simferopol

Aleksander Antonovich Godzelikh (aged 32, metalworker-machinist, arrested on [April 23, 1936](#);
UPDATE: released on his own recognizance)

Russia: Solovki prison camp, Solovetsky Islands

Fr Nikolay Aleksandrov (aged 52, father of Catherine Aleksandrova, released from prison in
[1934](#) but rearrested in [1935](#); **UPDATE:** **died** in the prison infirmary)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0012>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0847>

May 1936, date unknown