

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – unknown month 1941



USSR

Fr Jozef Garacz OFM (aged 27, arrested in [Poland](#) in [September 1939](#) by the Soviets, sent to a camp; **UPDATE:** amnestied as a Polish citizen, joined the Polish Armed Forces of the East, fate unknown)

Fr Jozef Jaworski (aged 60, arrested by the Soviets in [Poland](#) in [1939](#), sent to a camp; **UPDATE:** amnestied as a Polish citizen, ministered to Polish refugees near Samarkand, fate unknown)

Fr Petro Gul (aged 44, amnestied as a Polish citizen, joined the Polish Armed Forces of the East as a chaplain - the history of his arrest is unknown)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0813>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0885>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1577>



Kazakhstan: Semipalatinsk oblast

Fr Leopold Dallinger (aged 57, arrested by the Soviets in [Zolochiv, Poland \[now Ukraine\]](#) in [April 1940](#); **UPDATE:** amnestied, joined the Polish Armed Forces of the East as a chaplain)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0908>



Russia: Gryazovets POW camp

Fr Boleslaw Godlewski (aged 34, arrested in [1940](#), sent to the [Kozelsk POW camp](#), later transferred to [Gryazovets](#); **UPDATE:** amnestied as a Polish citizen and released from camp, joined the Polish Armed Forces of the East as a chaplain, later left the USSR via Iran when transferred to British command)

Fr Wiktor Judicki (aged 36, military chaplain, captured by the Soviet army in [Grodno](#) in [September 1939](#), sent to the [Kozelsk POW camp](#); transferred to [Gryazovets](#) in 1940; **UPDATE**: amnestied as a Polish citizen and released from camp, joined the Polish Armed Forces of the East as a chaplain, later left the USSR via Iran when transferred to British command)

Russia: Moscow

Jeanna Kors (French national, disappeared, presumed by the French embassy to have been arrested and sent to a labor camp, fate unknown)

Russia: Sevrallag labor camp, Sverdlovsk oblast

Fr Waclaw Krawczyk (aged 37, arrested in [Baranovichi, Poland - now Belarus](#) in 1940; **UPDATE**: amnestied as a Polish citizen, became a chaplain in the Polish Armed Forces of the East, later left the Soviet Union)

Russia: Vorkuta, Komi

Fr Paulius Grablikas (Lithuanian national, **died**)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0411>
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0846>
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1120>
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1585>
http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Lithuania2.htm



Ukraine

Br Zygmunt Dzierzek OMI (aged 31, arrested by the Soviets, sent to Ukhtizhlag labor camp, Sosnovka, Komi ASSR, Russia)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0948>



Belarus: Minsk

Fr Stanislaw Cudnik (aged 46, arrested by the Soviets in [Burzyn, Poland](#) for involvement with the Home Army, **died during the death march** which evacuated the Minsk prison in Belarus following the June 22, 1941 German invasion)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1517>



Latvia

Fr Peter Apshinas (aged 54, arrested in [early 1941](#), sent to a prison camp)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0033>



Poland: Lomza

Fr Piotr Gaca OFM Cap (aged 34, arrested by the Soviets on [May 23, 1940](#), charged with resistance activities; **UPDATE**: transferred to Minsk Prison in the summer of 1941, sentenced to a labor camp, possibly sent to Karlag)

Poland – now Ukraine: Lviv

Br Jozef Gruza OFM (aged 19, arrested in the spring by the Soviets, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp)

Fr Marcin Bosak (arrested in Mogilev in Belarus, **murdered** during the retreat of the Soviets in late June or early July)

Fr Wlodzimierz Cienski (aged 44, arrested by the NKVD in [1940](#), attempts to turn him into a collaborator failed, sentenced to death; **UPDATE**: transferred to Butyrka Prison, Moscow)

Poland - now Ukraine: Obzhantsy, outside Ternopil

Fr Frantisek Dziduszko (aged 45, arrested by the Soviets, sentenced to a labor camp, sent to Sibltag labor camp in Russia)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0161>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0803>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0877>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0944>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1505>



Croatia: Otocac

Fr Branko Dobrosavljevic (forced to watch and pray while at least 330 others including his son were tortured and killed by Ustase, hair pulled out, blinded, **died from torture**)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oto%C4%8Dac>



Czechoslovakia

Fr Adolf Kajpr SJ (aged 39, arrested by the Nazis, later held in Terezin, Mauthausen and Dachau concentration camps)

https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolf_Kajpr - with translation



Netherlands: Namur

Fr Joseph Andre (aged 33, sheltered Jewish children in his parish youth center next door to Gestapo headquarters, interrogated several times but his activities were never discovered)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Andr%C3%A9



Germany: Munich

Fr Eric Przywara SJ (aged 52, German citizen, editor of *Voices of the Time* magazine; stated in a [1933 Berlin](#) lecture just before the Nazi takeover that Christianity and Nazism were incompatible; published an article after the Barmen Declaration in [1934](#) which repudiated the concept of a German "people's church"; pelted with eggs by jeering Hitler Youth during a lecture on heroism in [1935](#); magazine shut by the Gestapo in [December 1935](#); magazine allowed to reopen in [March 1936](#); **UPDATE**: magazine shut by the Gestapo for the rest of the war, survived the war but suffered from likely post-traumatic stress due to political terror and the death of friends including Edith Stein, Alfred Delp, and Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

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



Great Britain: Chichester

Bishop George Bell (aged 59, friend of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, German Confessing Church supporter, **UPDATE**: published a letter in The Times which directly opposed the War Cabinet's strategic bombing policy)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Bell_\(bishop\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Bell_(bishop))