

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Events – July 1942

**Wednesday July 1, 1942**



### **Japan: aboard the Montevideo Maru, off the Philippine coast**

Rev Syd Beazley (missionary, Australian citizen, captured by the Japanese Army [in or near Rabaul, New Britain, New Guinea Territory on or after January 23, 1942](#); **UPDATE:** [died along with 1,053 Australian military and civilian prisoners including 22 Salvation Army musicians](#) in the sinking of the Montevideo Maru by the submarine USS Sturgeon)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS\\_Montevideo\\_Maru](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Montevideo_Maru)

**Friday July 3, 1942**



### **Poland: Auschwitz concentration camp**

Fr Jozef Kowalski (aged 31, arrested by the Gestapo in [Krakow](#) on [May 23, 1941](#) and tortured; sent to [Auschwitz](#) on [June 26, 1941](#); **UPDATE:** [beaten to death](#) for being a priest)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J%C3%B3zef\\_Kowalski\\_\(priest\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J%C3%B3zef_Kowalski_(priest))



### **Czech Republic: Brno**

Fr Jaroslav Micola (aged 31, [died](#))

[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/Czech1.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Czech1.htm)



**Germany: Dachau concentration camp**

Fr Josef Lenzel (arrested by the Gestapo in [Berlin](#) in [January 1942](#) after offering a Mass for maltreated Poles; **UPDATE:** [died from ill treatment and exhaustion](#))

Fr Karl Mangold OFM (aged 53, [died](#))

[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/Germany1.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Germany1.htm)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Josef\\_Lenzel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Josef_Lenzel)

**Saturday July 4, 1942**



**Germany: Dachau concentration camp**

Fr Vladislav Adamski (aged 53, Polish citizen arrested on [August 26, 1940](#) in [Ludzisko, Poland](#), sent to Szczeglin transit camp; transferred on [August 29, 1940](#) to Sachsenhausen concentration camp; transferred on [December 14, 1940](#) to Dachau; **UPDATE:** [died](#))

<http://www.swzygmunt.knc.pl/MARTYROLOGIUM/POLISHRELIGIOUS/vENGLISH/HTMs/POLISHRELIGIOUSmartyr0010.htm>

**Wednesday July 8, 1942**



**Poland: Auschwitz Concentration Camp**

Br Stanislaw Antoni Trojanowski OFM Conv (aged 33, arrested in [Niepokalanow monastery, Teresin](#) on [October 14, 1941](#); transferred from [Pawiak Prison in Warsaw](#) to Auschwitz on [January 8, 1942](#); **UPDATE:** [died from pneumonia](#))

<http://missionimmaculata.com/index.php/mi-saints/blessed-martyrs-of-niepokalanow>

**Saturday July 11, 1942**



### **Netherlands: Utrecht**

Archbishop Johannes de Jong (aged 56, sent a telegram to the German occupational authority that read "The undersigned Dutch churches, already deeply shocked by the actions taken against the Jews in the Netherlands that have excluded them from participating in the normal life of society, have learned with horror of the new measures by which men, women, children, and whole families will be deported to the German territory and its dependencies...The suffering that this measure will bring upon tens of thousands of people, the knowledge that these measures are contrary to the deepest moral sense of the Dutch people, and, above all, the hostility of these measures against the divine norms of justice and mercy urge the churches to direct to you the urgent petition not to execute these measures...")

<http://rorate-caeli.blogspot.com/2012/07/70th-anniversary-of-pastoral-letter-of.html>  
<http://todaysmartyrs.org/pdf/Documents/1942-07-26%20Pastoral%20letter%20of%20the%20Dutch%20Bishops.pdf>

**Monday July 13, 1942**



### **Russia: Leningrad**

Anna Ignatowicz (aged 53, arrested on anti-Soviet charges including 'organizing an underground church, where secret worship services were held')

Jadwiga Kazakowa (arrested on anti-Soviet charges including 'organizing an underground church, where secret worship services were held')

Maria Koszko OSF (aged 65, arrested in [January 1927](#), soon released; **UPDATE**: arrested on anti-Soviet charges including "organizing an underground church, where secret worship services were held")

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0341>  
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0378>  
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0406>



### **Poland – now Belarus: Baranovichi**

Fr Leon Bujnowski (aged 51, went into hiding in Gormel, Belarus in 1922 after being accused of 'opposing the seizure of church valuables', arrested, convicted; sent to Poland in a prisoner exchange in 1924; arrested by the Germans in [Niedźwiedzice, Poland](#) on [June 27, 1942](#); **UPDATE:** **shot dead** by the Germans along with 14 other priests)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0187>

**Friday July 17, 1942**



PCФCP

### **Russia: Leningrad**

Klementina Kalygina OSF (aged 54, milliner, arrested on [November 26, 1929](#); sentenced on [September 8, 1930](#) to 5 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, later sent into internal exile and then returned illegally to [Leningrad](#) to pursue active ministry; **UPDATE:** arrested, charged with 'organizing an underground church where secret worship services were held and damaging, anti-Soviet agitation was conducted')

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0370>



### **Poland: Katowice**

Fr Jan Franciszek Macha (aged 28, interrogated by the Gestapo on [June 1, 1940](#), released; arrested in [Ruda Slaska](#) on [September 6, 1941](#) for illegal charity work that benefited Germans and Poles, sent to prison in [Myslowice](#), tortured, wrote a prayer in which he asked God that he may stand by the gates of heaven along with his persecutor; **UPDATE:** sentenced to death)

<https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2021/11/20/hes-either-a-saint-or-an-idiot-the-remarkable-witness-of-fr-jan-franciszek-macha/>

<http://www.swzygmunt.knc.pl/MARTYROLOGIUM/POLISHRELIGIOUS/vENGLISH/HTMs/POLISHRELIGIOUSmartyr1630.htm>



### **Germany: Dachau concentration camp**

Fr Alojzy Prabucki (aged 46, Polish citizen, brother of Fr Pawel Prabucki and Fr Boleslaw Prabucki, arrested in [Gronowo, Poland](#) in the [autumn of 1939](#), sent to [Sachsenhausen](#); transferred to [Dachau](#) on [December 14, 1940](#); **UPDATE**: [died](#))

[https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26360161M/The\\_Priest\\_Barracks](https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26360161M/The_Priest_Barracks)

**Sunday July 26, 1942**



### **Germany: Dachau concentration camp**

Fr Titus Brandsma O.Carm (arrested in [the Netherlands](#) on [January 19, 1942](#) while delivering a letter from his bishops to the editors of Catholic newspapers; arrived at [Dachau](#) on [June 19, 1942](#); **UPDATE**: [killed with a lethal injection](#))

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Titus\\_Brandsma](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Titus_Brandsma)



### **Netherlands: Utrecht**

Archbishop Johannes de Jong (aged 56, sent a telegram on [July 11, 1942](#) to the German occupational authority that read "The undersigned Dutch churches, already deeply shocked by the actions taken against the Jews in the Netherlands that have excluded them from participating in the normal life of society, have learned with horror of the new measures by which men, women, children, and whole families will be deported to the German territory and its dependencies...The suffering that this measure will bring upon tens of thousands of people, the knowledge that these measures are contrary to the deepest moral sense of the Dutch people, and, above all, the hostility of these measures against the divine norms of justice and mercy urge the churches to direct to you the urgent petition not to execute these measures..."; **UPDATE**: issued a pastoral letter which read "We live in a time of great affliction, both spiritual and material. In recent times two specific afflictions have come to the fore: the persecution of the Jews and the unfortunate lot of those who are sent to work in foreign countries...These afflictions must also be brought to the attention of those who are responsible for them. To this end, the venerable Dutch Episcopate, in communion with nearly all the churches in the Netherlands, approached the authorities of the occupying forces concerning, among other things, the Jews, in a recent telegram of Saturday, July 11. The telegram stated the following...Beloved faithful, when we consider the immense spiritual and physical misery that, for three years already, has threatened the entire world with destruction, then we think naturally of the situation that the Gospel of today [Luke 19: 41-44] paints for

us...Now, too, everything around us points to a punishment from God...Beloved faithful, let us first examine ourselves with a deep sense of repentance and humility. Are we not, after all, partly responsible for the disasters that affect us? Have we always fulfilled the duties of justice and charity toward our neighbor?...Therefore, beloved faithful, let us implore God, through the intercession of the Mother of Mercy, that He will soon grant the world a just peace. May He sustain the people of Israel, who are being so bitterly tested in these days, and may He bring them to true redemption in Jesus Christ. May He protect those whose lot it is to work in foreign lands and to be separated from their loved ones. May He protect them in soul and body, protect them from becoming bitter and discouraged, keep them faithful to the Christian faith, and may God also strengthen those they left behind..." the Nazis retaliated by arresting over 40,000 Catholics of Jewish descent, this retaliation caused the Vatican to cancel a planned protest of Nazi atrocities)

Bishop Arnold Frans Diepen (aged 82, issued the pastoral letter)

Bishop Johannes Petrus Huibers (aged 66, issued the pastoral letter)

Bishop Jozef Hubertus Willem Lemmens (aged 58, issued the pastoral letter)

Bishop Pieter Adriaan Willem Hopmans (aged 76, issued the pastoral letter)

#### **Netherlands: Echt**

Sr Edith Stein (aged 50, convert, sister of Rosa Stein, arrested in retribution for the pastoral letter condemning Nazi racism)

Rosa Stein (convert, sister of Edith Stein; arrested in retribution for the pastoral letter condemning Nazi racism)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edith\\_Stein](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edith_Stein)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johannes\\_de\\_Jong](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johannes_de_Jong)

[https://openlibrary.org/works/OL17318218W/Church\\_of\\_Spies](https://openlibrary.org/works/OL17318218W/Church_of_Spies) - page 132

<http://torate-caeli.blogspot.com/2012/07/70th-anniversary-of-pastoral-letter-of.html>

<http://todaysmartyrs.org/pdf/Documents/1942-07->

[26%20Pastoral%20letter%20of%20the%20Dutch%20Bishops.pdf](http://todaysmartyrs.org/pdf/Documents/1942-07-26%20Pastoral%20letter%20of%20the%20Dutch%20Bishops.pdf)

**Wednesday July 29, 1942**



#### **France: Fort Mont-Valerien, Suresnes, Paris**

Roger Pironneau (aged 21, **died**)

[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/France.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/France.htm)

**Thursday July 30, 1942**



**Indonesia: Langgur, Kai Kecil, Maluku**

**Thirteen missionaries were shot dead by occupying Japanese soldiers**

Br Adrianus Peeters (aged 63, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Bishop Arnoldus Johannes Hubertus Aerts MSC (aged 62, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Br Cornelius Josephus Beijer (aged 60, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Br Franciscus Raaijmakers (aged 49, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Fr Gerardus Antonius Berns (aged 42, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Fr Hendrikus Richardus Cornelissen (aged 52, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Fr Jacobus Franciscus Ligtvoet (aged 27, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Fr Jacobus Petrus Akkermans (aged 32, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Br Johannes Adrianus van Schaik (aged 36, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Br Johannes Joosten (aged 70, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Br Theodorus Fölker (aged 31, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Br Wilhelmus Antonius de Rooij (aged 44, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

Br Wilhelmus Theodorus Houdijk (aged 48, Dutch citizen, **shot dead**)

<http://hirarkigereja.katolikpedia.org/2014/07/mgr-arnoldus-johannes-hubertus-aerts-msc.html> -

with translation

[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/Indonesia.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Indonesia.htm)

**July 1942, date unknown**



**China: Yujiang, Jiangxi**

Fr Umberto Verdini VC (aged 58, Italian citizen, **killed** while protecting women from rape)

[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/defense\\_of\\_women.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/defense_of_women.htm)



## Germany: Munich

**The White Rose resistance group circulated four anti-Nazi leaflets in less than a month before the two leaders were recalled to army service in Russia, the second leaflet was the only written condemnation authored by Germans of the genocide of the Jews while it was underway, the fourth leaflet read “...Every word that comes from Hitler's mouth is a lie. When he says peace, he means war, and when he blasphemously uses the name of the Almighty, he means the power of evil, the fallen angel, Satan. His mouth is the foul-smelling maw of Hell, and his might is at bottom accursed. True, we must conduct a struggle against the National Socialist terrorist state with rational means; but whoever today still doubts the reality, the existence of demonic powers, has failed by a wide margin to understand the metaphysical background of this war. Behind the concrete, the visible events, behind all objective, logical considerations, we find the irrational element: The struggle against the demon, against the servants of the Antichrist. Everywhere and at all times demons have been lurking in the dark, waiting for the moment when man is weak; when of his own volition he leaves his place in the order of Creation as founded for him by God in freedom; when he yields to the force of evil, separates himself from the powers of a higher order; and after voluntarily taking the first step, he is driven on to the next and the next at a furiously accelerating rate. Everywhere and at all times of greatest trial men have appeared, prophets and saints who cherished their freedom, who preached the One God and who His help brought the people to a reversal of their downward course. Man is free, to be sure, but without the true God he is defenseless against the principle of evil...”**

Alexander Schmorell (aged 24, medical student)

Hans Scholl (aged 23, brother of Sophie Scholl, medical student)

<http://zulutango.com/whiterose/leaffoureng.html>