

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – December 1942

Thursday December 3, 1942



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; sentenced to death on [July 17, 1942](#); **UPDATE: guillotined**, wrote in the last letter to his family “My life was brief, but I am convinced that I have achieved my aim”)

<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>

Saturday December 5, 1942



Germany: Brandenburg

Fr Joseph-Marie Guihaire OP (aged 51, French citizen, had written articles on the incompatibility between Nazism and Christianity and forged papers to save Jews, **guillotined**)

http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/France.htm
<http://americansaints.wordpress.com/2012/12/02/2-to-8-december-2012/>

Sunday December 6, 1942



Poland: Auschwitz concentration camp

Archimandrite Grigol Peradze (aged 43, arrested by the Gestapo on [May 4, 1942](#) in Warsaw, Poland, for activities in sympathy with Christians and Jews, **UPDATE:** **killed**)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grigol_Peradze

Tuesday December 8, 1942



Germany: Dachau concentration camp

Fr Aloysius Liguda SVD (aged 44, Polish citizen, taken to [Dachau](#) on [April 9, 1940](#); **UPDATE:** **drowned**)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alojzy_Liguda

Thursday December 24, 1942



Belarus: Minsk

Fr Vincent Hadleuski (aged 44, arrested by the Germans, taken to Maly Trostenets concentration camp, **shot dead**)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vincent_Hadle%20ski



Vatican City

Pope Pius XII aka Eugenio Maria Giuseppe Giovanni Pacelli (aged 66, **UPDATE:** said in his Christmas radio address that "Humanity owes this vow [not to rest until in all peoples and

all nations of the earth a vast legion shall be formed of those handfuls of men who...aspire to the service of the human person and of his common life ennobled in God] to those hundreds of thousands who, without any fault on their part, sometimes only because of their nationality or race, have been consigned to death or to a slow decline”)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope_Pius_XII

<http://todaysmartyrs.org/pdf/Documents/1942-12-25%20Christmas%20broadcast%20Pope%20Pius%20XII.pdf>

Friday December 25, 1942
Christmas – Western Calendar

Monday December 28, 1942



Poland – now Ukraine: Lviv

Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky OSBM (aged 79, brother of Archimandrite Klymentiy Sheptytsky; sent a letter to Heinrich Himmler in [February 1942](#) condemning the murder of Jews, threatened with death in response, with his brother began the organized sheltering of hundreds of Jews including 15 in his own residence; in [late August 1942](#) sent a report to Pope Pius XII stating that the German regime was “almost diabolical”; published a pastoral letter in [November 1942](#) entitled *Thou Shalt Not Kill*, which condemned the genocide of the Jews and the fratricidal conflict between Ukrainians; **UPDATE:** wrote a letter to the Vatican reporting "...The terror is growing. During the last two months in Lviv more than 40 thousand Jews were murdered. The authorities conducted searches in the church, in my residence and in parts of the monastery...Two monks were imprisoned, and perhaps there will be attempts to create some 'show trials.' The arrests continue. This is a regime of raving madmen")

http://www.stnicholaschurch.ca/content_pages/osbm/art_osbm.martyrs.006.htm



Germany: Dachau Concentration Camp

Fr Robert Hubert Wiliem Regout SJ (aged 46, Dutch citizen, law professor, arrested in [Nijmegen, Netherlands on July 3, 1940](#) after publishing "The legal situation in the occupied territories" which specified which German actions might be illegal; **UPDATE:**

died, wrote ten days earlier "If Our Lord calls the sacrifice of my life, with great joy of faith and country, and especially for students and professors of the Nijmegen university")

https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Hubert_Willem_Regout - with translation

December 1942, date unknown