

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – unknown month 1944



Indonesia

Br Mattheus Schulte SCJ (**died** in a Japanese concentration camp in 1944 or 1945)

Fr Petrus van Eyk SCJ (**died** in a Japanese concentration camp in 1944 or 1945)

Fr Wilhelmus Hoffmann SCJ (**died** in a Japanese concentration camp in 1944 or 1945)

<http://www.sacredheartusa.org/feature-stories/scj-memorial-day-2/>



USSR

Fr Anton Gapoian (possibly arrested in 1929, held in [Butyrka Prison](#) in [Moscow](#); released in 1931; sent in 1932 either to a camp or into internal exile; **UPDATE**: known to still be in exile, fate unknown)

USSR: Sendishove

Fr Jozef Kandefer OFM Cap (arrested, sentenced to possibly 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0812>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0985>



Belarus: Nepomutseny, near Grodno

Fr Albert Bakinowski (aged 51, arrested on or after July 1944 and sentenced to a labor camp)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0054>



Lithuania: Kaunas

Fr Benediktos Andriushka SJ (aged 50, arrested and exiled to Siberia)

Lithuania: Saldutishkis

Fr Juozanas Gustas SDB (arrested by the Soviets, exact year unknown, later sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Sibilag in Russia)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0023>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0888>



Latvia: Riga

Archbishop Teodors Grinbergs (aged 74, forced into exile to Germany by the German occupational authorities in the second half of the year)

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



Bulgaria: Nevrokop region

Fr Atanas Ivanov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Fr Georgi Kordov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Fr Kliment Popenchev (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Fr Milan Todorov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Fr Petar Miladzhov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Fr Petar Novakov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Fr Vasil Shumanov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Bulgaria: Pleven

Fr Trifon Iliev Spasov (husband, father of a son and daughter, **died in State Security custody**)

Bulgaria: Plovdiv district

Fr Angel Nikolov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Fr Asen Kotev (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Fr Dimitar Konstantinov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Fr Dimitar Petrov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Georgi Dyulgerov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Georgi Neshev (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Ivan Filev (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Archimandrite Kipriyan (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Kiril Yanakiev (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Konstantin Poppetrov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Martin Genov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Nikifor Katsarov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Nikola Dimitrov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Petar Yonkov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Stefan Simov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Stoyko Popstoykov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Vasil Dobrev (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Vasil Varbanov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Bulgaria: Ruse region

Fr Angel Hubanchev (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Dimitar Bakalov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Hranov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Ivan Borisov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Konstantin Ruskov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Mihail Popivanov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Sr Simfidora (**executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Yanko Bachvarov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Yordan Ganchev (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Bulgaria: Sofia

Fr Aleksandar Stefanov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Dimitar Evtimov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists sometime between [September 9](#) and [December 31, 1944](#))
Fr Georgi Dangorov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists sometime between [September 9](#) and [December 21, 1944](#))
Fr Petar Popivanov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)
Fr Stefan Dzhaov (husband, **executed without trial** by Communists)

Poland - now Ukraine: Lutsk

Fr Bronislaw Drzepecki (aged 38, arrested by the Germans, taken to Lubin, later released)

Poland - now Ukraine: Lviv

Fr Adolf Jarosiewicz (aged 57, arrested in [Chizhovka, Ukraine](#) in 1919, sent to Vinnytsia Prison, released after large numbers of parishioners demonstrated at the prison, left for Poland; **UPDATE:** **killed** during the Soviet bombardment of the city)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0242>



Czechoslovakia

Fr Antonin Zgarbik SJ (aged 31, arrested by the Nazis, imprisoned)

https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anton%C3%ADn_Zgarb%C3%ADk - with translation



Germany: Baden

Rev Hermann Ludwig Maas (aged 66, forced into retirement in [mid-1943](#) due to his known anti-Nazi views and efforts to save Jews; **UPDATE:** arrested, sent to a forced labor camp in France, rescued by allied forces)

Germany: Sontheim

Georg Ziefle (aged 43, husband of Maria Ziefle, brother-in-law of Wilhelm Glaser, ambulance driver in the Security and Emergency Service, attempted to confront the Nazis during their [October 9, 1938](#) assault on his church but was restrained by his wife; said to Maria when he heard the news of Wilhelm Glaser's arrest in [late October 1938](#) for calling Hitler a scoundrel "Animals! Germany is being governed by animals!"; **UPDATE:** called to city hall one day in the summer, locked in a room for having refused to attend Nazi Party functions, beating thwarted when he demanded to be released so he would not be late for Security and Emergency Service duty)

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

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL25942190M/One_Woman_Against_the_Reich - page 99



Norway: Andoya

Bishop Arne Fjellbu (aged 53, U.S. citizen, held an alternative ceremony during the [February 1, 1942](#) inauguration of the Nazi-imposed Quisling government; fired from his position by the government on [February 19, 1942](#); imprisoned in [Falstad concentration camp](#) on [March 19, 1942](#); released on [June 9, 1942](#), banished to [Holen](#); banished to [Andoya](#) in [June 1943](#); **UPDATE**: banished to Lillehammer in the summer of 1944, fled to Sweden in the autumn)

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