

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – 1948 – unknown month



Azerbaijan: Baku

Fr Sergius aka Edward Sievers (aged 48, taken from the [Savvo-Krypetskiy Monastery](#) on or about [October 14, 1919](#) by Bolsheviks and shot, left for dead, recovered; ordained on [January 19, 1925](#) in [Leningrad](#); arrested in [1932](#), sent to [Svirlag](#) and then to a camp in [Uzbekistan](#), drowned in the Fergana Canal but survived; released in [1934](#); arrested in [1936](#), sent to prison in [Borisoglebsk](#); released in [August 1945](#); arrested in [Kolguta, Stavropol region, Russia](#) in [1947](#); **UPDATE**: released from prison)

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



Russia: Intlag labor camp, Inta, Komi ASSR

Fr Kruvlialis (arrested in Lithuania [possibly in 1945](#), sent to [Intlag](#); **UPDATE**: transferred to [Minlag](#))

Russia: Moscow

Berta Lesheminant-Blanch (aged 67, French citizen, French teacher, sentenced on [August 1, 1942](#) to 5 years' internal exile in Kazakhstan on anti-Soviet charges, released early due to medical reasons, returned to Moscow; **UPDATE**: interrogated, forced to make false statements against another Christian [[Alisa Ott](#)], fate unknown)

Dimitri Dudko (aged 26, seminarian, arrested at seminary for having written poems against Stalin)

Maria Veniaminovna Yudina (aged 49, convert, pianist, professor, dismissed from the Conservancy in [Leningrad](#) in [1930](#), spent “a couple” of years unemployed and homeless; **UPDATE**: alleged in an unconfirmed report to have been awarded 20,000 rubles after Stalin overheard her broadcast piano concerto [she was pulled from bed later that night to record the concerto since no one would tell Stalin the broadcast was not recorded], wrote to Stalin in reply "I thank you for your aid. I will pray for you day and night and ask the Lord to forgive your great sins before the people and the country. The Lord is merciful and he'll forgive you. I gave the money to the church that I attend", Stalin showed the letter to his cronies who agreed she deserved arrest, but let the matter drop)

Russia: Ukhtizhlag labor camp, Sosnovka, Komi ASSR

Fr Franciszek Janocha OFM (aged 36, arrested in [Lviv](#) by the Soviets in [July 1940](#), sentenced to death, commuted to imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to [Unzhlag](#); amnestied as a Polish citizen on [September 2, 1941](#); appointed chaplain of the Polish Armed Forces of the East on [March 1, 1942](#) in [Chok-Pak, Kazakhstan](#); arrested in [Turkmenistan](#) on [March 20, 1943](#) on anti-Soviet and espionage charges; sentenced on [September 8, 1943](#) to 8 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; **UPDATE:** transferred to Steplag in Kazakstan)

Russia: Vorkutlag labor camp

Fr Jan Kapusta SDB (aged 54, arrested in [Dzyatlava, Poland \[now Belarus\]](#) in 1940, sent to a prison camp; amnestied as a Polish citizen in [February 1942](#); arrested on [August 10, 1942](#) as the Polish Armed Forces of the East was exiting the [USSR](#) into [Iran](#); sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp on [January 13, 1943](#); **UPDATE:** transferred to Rechlag)

Russia: Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Region

Jadwiga Gribowska (aged 25, postal employee, arrested in [Leningrad](#) in [February 1942](#) on counter-revolutionary charges; sent into internal exile on [March 9, 1942](#); **UPDATE:** internal exile transferred to Asino, Tomsk region)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0317>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0440>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0989>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1124>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1715>

[https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26791441M/The Last Man in Russia](https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26791441M/The_Last_Man_in_Russia)

<https://openlibrary.org/works/OL2282327W/Testimony>

<https://youtu.be/TG-tG-Wo0Do?t=1850>



Belarus: Baranovichy

Fr Jan Borysiuk (aged 60, arrested, taken to Kamianets-Podilskyi for further investigation, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Siblag in Russia)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0159>



Romania

Gheorghe Calciu-Dumitreasa (aged 21, arrested, imprisoned for 16 years, faith grew from the witness of imprisoned priests, after release began to study for the priesthood)

Archimandrite Mina Dobzeu (aged 26, imprisoned for 11 months and then subjected to 5 years' house arrest for protesting the seizure of icons, churches, and monasteries)

<http://theorthodoxchurch.info/blog/news/archim-mina-dobzeu-confessor-of-communist-romania-reposes-in-the-lord-at-96/>

<http://ziarullumina.ro/arhimandritul-mina-dobzeu-aparator-al-unitatii-de-credinta-si-neam-129670.html> - with translation

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/11/25/AR2006112500783.html>



Albania

Fr Anton Muzaj (aged 27, Serbian national, **killed**)

Ernest Simoni OFM (aged 20, expelled from the monastery by the government)

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



Hungary

Tibor Baranski (aged 26, former seminarian, arrested by the Soviets in **Budapest** on **December 30, 1944** as a suspected Nazi sympathizer, had rescued over 3,000 Jews under the encouragement of Papal Nuncio Angelo Rotta and his mother, later escaped with the help of a Russian Christian soldier; **UPDATE**: arrested for "clerical reaction", sentenced to 9 years' imprisonment)

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