

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Events – July 1948

**Monday July 5, 1948**



### **Russia: Moscow**

Christina Ivanovna Gildman (aged 43, housekeeper for Fr Leopold Braun, arrested in early 1948 on charges of having 'maintained a criminal connection with the American spies [Fr Leopold] Braun and [Fr Antoine] Laberge, having visited their apartments and given them slanderous and espionage information about the USSR' despite her illiteracy, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Tmlag)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0303>

**Tuesday July 20, 1948**



### **Belarus: Minsk**

Fr Stanislaw Lazar (aged 43, arrested)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1089>

**Tuesday July 27, 1948**



### **Albania**

Fr Lek Sirdani (aged 57, arrested for an anti-Communist homily, tortured)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martyrs\\_of\\_Albania](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martyrs_of_Albania)

**Tuesday July 27, 1948**



### **Albania**

Fr Lek Sirdani (aged 57, arrested for an anti-Communist homily on [July 27, 1948](#), tortured;  
**UPDATE:** thrown into a cesspool, **died of suffocation**)

Fr Pjeter Cuni (aged 34, **killed**)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martyrs\\_of\\_Albania](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martyrs_of_Albania)

**Friday July 30, 1948**



### **Ukraine: Przemysl**

Fr Dominik Czeszek (aged 56, arrested on [May 25, 1948](#); **UPDATE:** sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to Dubravlag labor camp, Yavas, Zubovo-Polyansk region, Mordovian ASSR)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1533>

**July 1948, date unknown**



### **Romania**

Fr Alexander Ratiu (aged 32, U.S. citizen, arrested in [Giurtelecu Simleului](#) in [May 1947](#);  
**UPDATE:** released)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander\\_Ratiu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_Ratiu)