

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Events – 1950 – unknown month



### Korea

Fr Frank Canavan (Irish citizen, **died** in a Communist camp)

<https://connachtribune.ie/beatification-call-for-galway-born-missionary-martyr/>



### China: Meizhou, Guangdong province

Sr Julia Hannigan MM (aged 34, U.S. citizen, placed under house arrest)

<http://directory.ucanews.com/news/china-missionary-maryknoll-nun-dies/2595>



### USSR

Archmandrite Ioann Krestiankin (aged 40, imprisoned)

Fr Jan Goj (aged 52, arrested in Rohatyn, Poland [now Ukraine] on October 22, 1939 by the Soviets for a sermon, spent three years in prisons in Slonim, Baranovichy and Minsk; sent to a camp in 1942; **UPDATE**: **died**, date and location unknown)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0851>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Krestiankin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Krestiankin)



### Kazakhstan: Karaganda oblast

Fr Karol Galezowski (aged 67, arrested in 1945; sentenced in Lutsk, Ukraine on May 6, 1946 to 8 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; released from imprisonment at Karlag on May 21, 1946 but denied the right to leave; **UPDATE**: possibly **died**, exact date unknown)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0286>



**Russia: Bulayevo, outside Tomsk**

Fr Feliks Kasperowicz (aged 55, arrested in [Dzyarzhynsk, Belarus](#) on [January 28, 1934](#); sentenced on [February 26, 1934](#) to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to [Karlaga](#) in [Kazakhstan](#); transferred in [September 1936](#) to [Ukhtpechlag](#) in [Russia](#); transferred to [Vorkutlag](#) on [June 11, 1938](#); released on [August 22, 1944](#), sent into internal exile to [Arkhangelsk oblast](#); released from internal exile on [February 13, 1947](#), returned to [Dzyarzhynsk](#), later arrested and sentenced to 3 years' internal exile in [Siberia](#); **UPDATE:** [died](#), exact date unknown)

**Russia: Moscow**

Izabella Efimova (arrested, sentenced to 5 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, possibly sent to [Karlaga](#) labor camp, [Akmolinsk sector](#), [Kazakhstan](#))

**Russia: Taishet**

Adele Dirsyte (aged 41, teacher, former Caritas director, helped hide Jews during the German occupation, arrested on [March 6, 1944](#) in [Vilnius, Lithuania](#) for hiding an escapee from the Soviets; sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment on [November 11, 1946](#); sent to a labor camp at [Chuma](#) in the [summer of 1947](#); transferred to a labor camp at [Taishet](#) in the [summer of 1949](#); **UPDATE:** transferred to a labor camp at [Kolyma](#) in the [winter of 1950](#), then to a camp at [Magadan](#) in the [summer of 1950](#), organized prayer and religious meetings, wrote the *Prayer Book of Girls Exiled in Siberia*, repeatedly beaten and tortured for smuggling the Eucharist to fellow inmates, lost all her teeth)

<http://angelorum.lt/en/dievo-tarnai/adele-dirsyte-1909-1955/> - with translation

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0247>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1012>



**Ukraine: Sambir**

Fr Kazimierz Lendzyon CSSR (aged 37, monastery closed)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1145>



**Belarus: near Vileyka**

Fr Feliks Karpinski (aged 39, arrested in [Baruny, Belarus](#) on [November 11, 1944](#) by the Soviets; sentenced on [August 16, 1946](#) in [Vileyka](#) to 5 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; arrived at [Vorkutlag](#) on [September 26, 1947](#); released on [November 10, 1949](#), returned to [Belarus](#); **UPDATE**: arrested, sent to Vorkutlag)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1008>



### **Romania: Caldarusani**

Bishop Valeriu Traian Frentiu (aged 75, arrested in [Oradea](#) on [October 28, 1948](#), sent to a camp in [Dragoslavele](#); transferred to [Caldarusani](#) in or after February 1949; **UPDATE**: sent to Sighet Prison)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valeriu\\_Traian\\_Frentiu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valeriu_Traian_Frentiu)



### **Lithuania**

Jonas Damijonaitis (aged 49, arrested)

### **Lithuania: Minaity**

Fr Czeslaw Jankowski (aged 44, arrested, sent to Kargopollag labor camp in Russia)

<http://angelorum.lt/xxa-tikejimo-liudytojai/jonas-damijonaitis-1901-1951/> - with translation  
<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1713>



### **Latvia: Riga**

Fr Alexander Jodovalkis (aged 70, arrested in [Petrograd, Russia](#) at the [end of 1923](#), deported to Latvia; **UPDATE**: arrested, sentenced to prison camp)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0979>