

# Today's Martyrs

*Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom*

## Events – February 1952

**Wednesday February 13, 1952**



### **Russia: Ozerstroi labor camp, near Tayshet, Irkutsk oblast**

Archimandrite Andrzej Cikoto MIC (aged 61, Lithuanian national, arrested by Chinese authorities in [Harbin](#) in [December 1948](#), handed over to the Soviet MGB, later sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; **UPDATE: died** in the camp hospital)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1401>

**Saturday February 16, 1952**



### **Czechoslovakia: Mirov, Sumperk**

Br Josef Hartl OH (aged 49, arrested by the StB on [September 24, 1948](#) for anti-communist activities; sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment on treason charges in [October 1948](#); **UPDATE: died from tuberculosis in the prison hospital**)

<http://www.ustrcr.cz/cs/faustin-josef-hartl> - with translation  
[http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new\\_martyrs/Czech2.htm](http://newsaints.faithweb.com/new_martyrs/Czech2.htm)

**Tuesday February 19, 1952**



### **Slovakia: Bratislava**

Fr Stefan Kostial (aged 38, arrested in church in 1951 while hearing confessions, tortured;  
**UPDATE:** escaped from a hospital, had been hospitalized to recover from torture)

Sr Zdenka Cecília Schelingova SCSC (aged 35, hospital radiology technician, helped Fr Stefan Kostial escape from the hospital by drugging a guard)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cec%C3%ADlia\\_Schelingov%C3%A1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cec%C3%ADlia_Schelingov%C3%A1)  
<https://www.familiemariens.org/html/en/pdf/48.pdf>

### Wednesday February 20, 1952



#### **Russia: Vorkutlag labor camp**

Fr Teodor Czanysz (aged 55, arrested in Soviet occupied Poland on July 16, 1941, sent to Starobelsk POW camp in Ukraine; sentenced on October 13, 1942 to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; **UPDATE:** released)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1524>

### Thursday February 21, 1952



#### **China: Guangzhou**

Bishop Francis Xavier Ford MM (aged 60, U.S. national, cousin of Sr Ita Ford MM, **died in prison**)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis\\_Xavier\\_Ford](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis_Xavier_Ford)

### Friday February 22, 1952



#### **Czechoslovakia**

Fr Titus Zeeman SDB (aged 37, arrested in [April 1951](#) for helping seminarians escape the country; **UPDATE:** convicted of treason, sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Titus\\_Zeman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Titus_Zeman)

**Friday February 29, 1952**



**Slovakia: Bratislava**

Sr Zdenka Cecília Schelingova SCSC (aged 35, hospital radiology technician, helped Fr Stefan Kostial escape from the hospital on [February 19, 1952](#) by drugging a guard; **UPDATE:** arrested for attempting to help priests and seminarians escape custody, tortured, right breast torn apart from continual kicks)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cec%C3%ADlia\\_Schelingov%C3%A1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cec%C3%ADlia_Schelingov%C3%A1)

<https://www.familiemariens.org/html/en/pdf/48.pdf>

**February 1952, date unknown**