

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – April 1955

Tuesday April 12, 1955



Russia: Minlag labor camp, Inta village, Kozhvin'sk region, Komi ASSR

Fr Adolf Kukuruzinski (aged 61, arrested in [Kamianets-Podil'skyi, Ukraine](#) on [December 28, 1944](#); sentenced on [December 18, 1946](#) to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; arrived at [Minlag](#) on [October 14, 1947](#); **UPDATE**: released, returned to Belarus and later emigrated to Poland)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1136>

Saturday April 16, 1955



Czechoslovakia

Sr Zdenka Cecíliá Schelingová SCSC (aged 38, hospital radiology technician, helped Fr Stefan Kostial escape from the hospital in [Bratislava](#) on [February 19, 1952](#) by drugging a guard; arrested on [February 29, 1952](#) for attempting to help priests and seminarians escape custody, tortured, right breast torn apart from continual kicks; sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment by judge Paul Korbuly on [June 17, 1952](#); developed breast cancer in [1954](#), mastectomy performed in [Prague](#) without anesthesia; **UPDATE**: released from prison)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cec%C3%ADlia_Schelingov%C3%A1

Monday April 25, 1955



Russia: Rechlag labor camp, Vorkuta, Komi ASSR

Fr Pietro Leoni SJ (aged 46, Italian citizen, arrested on [April 29, 1945](#) in Odessa, Ukraine; transferred to [Lefortovo Prison in Moscow](#) on [July 13, 1945](#); indicted on anti-Soviet agitation charges on [September 13, 1945](#); sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp on [November 12, 1945](#); transferred to [Butyrka Prison](#) on [November 24, 1945](#); transferred to [Temlag](#) on [December 12, 1945](#); arrested on [June 15, 1947](#) on false charges of preparing an armed uprising in the camp; sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment in a labor camp on [August 29, 1947](#); transferred to [Dubravlag](#) on [September 8, 1947](#); transferred to [Rechlag](#) on [October 8, 1948](#); broke his collarbone in [December 1948](#), hospitalized, later put into solitary for 'open incitement of convicts against the Soviet regime'; **UPDATE**: sentence reduced to seven years under pressure from the Italian government, soon released)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1837>

Friday April 29, 1955



Russia: Vorkutlag labor camp

Fr Jozef Gorodenski (aged 45, arrested on [August 20, 1948](#) in [Kobryn, Belarus](#); sentenced in [Brest Prison](#) on [September 13, 1948](#) to 25 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; arrived at [Vorkutlag](#) on [December 8, 1948](#); **UPDATE**: granted an early release, returned to Kobryn and resumed his ministry)

Russia: Yaroslavl Prison

Fr Zygmunt Galuniewicz (aged 66, sentenced in [Lviv, Ukraine](#) on [June 18, 1946](#) to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; **UPDATE**: released, returned to Lviv and resumed his ministry)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0810>

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-0861>

April 1955, date unknown