

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – June 1956

Tuesday June 12, 1956



Russia: Norilsk, Krasnoyarsk Krai

Fr Walter Ciszek SJ (aged 52. U.S. citizen, arrested in [Chusovoy, Perm Krai](#) on [June 23, 1941](#), with two other Jesuits had taken advantage of the 1939 Soviet occupation of eastern Poland to volunteer as workers for transfer to Siberia for underground missionary work, charged with anti-Soviet activities and espionage, transferred to [Lubyanka Prison in Moscow](#), beaten and tortured, forced to sign confessions,; indicted on [August 26, 1942](#); sentenced on [September 23, 1942](#) to 15 years' imprisonment at hard labor, kept at [Butyrka Prison](#), 'broken', signed incriminating statements; exiled in [1945](#) to the [Urals](#), worked as a dump truck driver, engaged in underground missionary work; arrested in 1946 for his underground missionary work, sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp, sent to [Norilag labor camp near Dudinka, Taymyr Dolgano-Nenets Autonomous Okrug](#); transferred to [Norilsk](#) in [February 1947](#), worked in a brick factory; **UPDATE:** released from camp, banished to Krasnoyarsk, secretly established mission parishes, transferred to Abakan after the missions were discovered by the KGB, worked as an auto mechanic)

<https://biographies.library.nd.edu/catalog/biography-1515>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walter_Ciszek

Thursday June 21, 1956



China: Shanghai

Watchman Nee aka Ni Tuoseng (aged 52, husband of Charity Chang, arrested on [April 10, 1952](#) on charges of bribery, tax evasion, and theft of state property and government economic information but in reality for refusing to join the official Three Self Help church; **UPDATE:** convicted on all charges, sentenced to 15 years imprisonment in a labor camp)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Watchman_Nee

June 1956, date unknown