

Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – unknown month 1969



Ukraine

Bishop Vasyl Velychkovsky (aged 66, arrested in [Ternopil, Ukraine](#) in 1945, sentenced to death, sentence commuted to 10 years' imprisonment in a labor camp; released in 1955; secretly ordained Fr Volodymyr Sterniul as bishop in [Lviv](#) in July 1964; **UPDATE**: arrested for his religious activities, sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vasyl_Velychkovsky



Lithuania

Fr Juozas Zdebskis (aged 39, imprisoned for one year in 1964; **UPDATE**: permission to function as a priest removed)

<http://www.marijampoletic.lt/en/homelands/homeland/homeland-of-priest-juozas-zdebskis-detail>



Czechoslovakia

Fr Stefan Kostial (aged 56, arrested in church in 1951 while hearing confessions, tortured; escaped from a hospital in [Bratislava](#) on [February 19, 1952](#), had been hospitalized to recover from torture; recaptured in [March 1952](#); sentenced to 19 years' imprisonment on [May 19, 1952](#); released in an amnesty in 1960, required to finish his sentence maintaining roads as a forced laborer; **UPDATE**: released from forced labor, allowed to resume ministry)

Slovakia: Bratislava

Fr Julius Gabrisa (aged 56, appointed apostolic administrator of his diocese, denied the appointment by the government until February 19, 1973)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_G%C3%A1bri%C5%A1a
<https://www.familiemariens.org/html/en/pdf/48.pdf>