Today's Martyrs

Resources for understanding current Christian witness and martyrdom

Events – November 1978

Friday November 17, 1978



Russia: Redkino

Alexander Ogorodnikov (aged 28, Christian Seminar member, husband of Yelena Levashova, father of Dima; detained after attending a late September 1978 Moscow press conference by dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov and taken to KGB headquarters, told he would be arrested and imprisoned if he did not emigrate from the country within one month, later told his friends he would stay: "A new generation of believers is rising in Russia, and they have been given the mission to witness to their belief, not only with words but also with deeds. Great deeds begin with the making of victims. We must show, with our flesh and blood, that our words are not empty. It is a great privilege to suffer for Jesus Christ. Forgive me these high-flown words, but I cannot refuse that privilege...Without suffering, our faith doesn't make sense. True religious work simply demands a sacrifice"; UPDATE: detained for 16 hours at the train station to prevent him from searching for a job, had lost several jobs due to KGB pressure on his employers, had not been allowed to register as a farmer so he could legally grow his own food at his home and count that as employment)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26180614M/Dissident For Life - page 94

Monday November 20, 1978



Russia: Redkino

Alexander Ogorodnikov (aged 28, Christian Seminar member, husband of Yelena Levashova, father of Dima; **UPDATE**: arrested for parasitism, sent to a prison in Tver, immediately began a hunger strike)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26180614M/Dissident_For_Life - page 94

November 1978, date unknown



Russia: Grebnevo, outside Moscow

Vladimir Sedov (student, future priest, arrested by the KGB at the church of Fr Dimitri Dudko, released after 5 days)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26791441M/The_Last_Man_in_Russia - page 116