

Baublys, Petras

(d. 1974), Pediatrician and head of an orphanage in Kovno, Lithuania. During the war, an underground Jewish organization active in the Kovno Ghetto asked Baublys if the orphanage, situated in the same section of the city as the ghetto, could be used as a temporary place of refuge for Jewish children and a steppingstone for moving Jewish children to safer, permanent locations. Baublys agreed; over time, tens of Jewish babies and children were admitted into the orphanage. Some were even left on the orphanage's doorstep by their mothers. Children who could speak a bit of Lithuanian were kept in the orphanage for longer amounts of time, while children who could not speak the language or were older than the rest of the orphans were quickly sent to live with Lithuanian families. Whenever Baublys would visit a sick child, he would treat him for free. Only a few members of the orphanage staff were told about Baublys's rescue activities, in order to decrease the chances of getting caught or being betrayed.

In 1977 Baublys was posthumously awarded the title "Righteous Among the Nations" by Yad Vashem. His brother Sergejus and sister-in-law Jadvyga were also recognized as "Righteous among the Nations" for hiding a Jewish child in their home.