

Brizgys, Vincentas

(1903--1992), Lithuanian Catholic priest. During the 1930s, Brizgys was one of the heads of the Catholic Center in Kovno. During World War II, he became the city's assistant archbishop.

In June 1941 Germany invaded the Soviet Union and Soviet-held territories, including Lithuania. At that time, Brizgys allowed himself to be associated with several written statements that gave thanks to Nazi Germany for liberating Lithuania from the Soviets and pledged allegiance to the Nazis. However, during the years of Nazi control over his country, Brizgys met with Kovno's Jewish leaders on several occasions and expressed his compassion for them. In addition, he supported the idea of rescuing children from the Kovno Ghetto. On the other hand, he refused to personally help the children by appealing to the Nazis on their behalf. His excuse for not getting involved in rescue activities was that he did not want to risk the position and reputation of Lithuania's Catholic church.

When the German army withdrew from Lithuania in 1944, Brizgys left the country for Germany. After the war he settled in the United States, where he was active in Lithuanian immigrant circles.