Dieses Dokument ist eine Zweitveröffentlichung (Verlagsversion)

This is a self-archiving document (published version)

Melissa Pollock

Alexander of Foigny († 1229)

Erstveröffentlichung in / First published in:

Dictionary of Cistercian Saints, hrsg. von Mirko Breitenstein, Jörg Sonntag und Alkuin Schachenmayr

DOI: https://doi.org/10.25368/2024.64

Diese Version ist verfügbar / This version is available on:

https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:bsz:14-qucosa2-921966

Dieses Werk ist lizenziert unter einer Creative Commons Namensnennung - Nicht kommerziell - Keine Bearbeitungen 4.0 International Lizenz.
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License.

SLUB Wir führen Wissen.

TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DRESDEN

QUCOSA Quality Content of Saxony

Alexander of Foigny († 1229)

1. Name variants: A. of Laon, A. of Scotland

2. Places: Foigny, Fontaines des Fièvres

3. Biography: A. and his sister, Mathilde de Lappion, were said to be children of the king of Scots by contemporary sources. A. left Scotland with his sister and became a lay brother at Foigny where he remained until his death in 1229. Cantimpré's account is less historically accurate and more fanciful, claiming A. fled to avoid taking up the crown of Scotland, which had been left to him because his three older brothers joined religious orders or took vows of some kind. This description would not fit any son of a king of Scotland at this time though.

4. Cultus: A. was venerated locally at Foigny's abbey-chapel and at the nearby Fontaines des Fièvres and at the Tree of the Virgin; several miracles such as healing the sick were said to have happened at A.'s tomb and other nearby sites.

a. Relics: Relics were reported to be in the abbey's chapel in Foigny until its destruction after 1797 (Le Bienheureux Alexandre de Foigny, 21).

b. Liturgical commemoration: 3 May, 4 May (Le Bienheureux Alexandre de Foigny, 30).

c. Patronage: Patron of the graziers of Thiérache.

5. Fontes: Vita in Thomas of Cantimpré's Bonum Universale de Apibus and in Alberic's Chronica; J. BURKHARDT, Von Bienen lernen. Das Bonum Universale de Apibus des Thomas von Cantimpré als Gemeinschaftsentwurf 2, Regensburg 2020, 310–314; Alberici, Trium-fontium Monachi, Chronicon ab orbe condito ad annum Christi 1241, Bibliothèque nationale de France, MS Latin 4896A; MGH SS 23, 925; J.–B. DE LANCY, Historia Fusniacensis coenobii, ordinis Cisterciensis, Bonnefontaine 1670, 126–129; A. MANRIQUE, Cisterciensium seu verius ecclesiasticorum annalium a condito Cistercio 2, Lugduni 1642, 339; J. MEGLINGER, Annus Cisterciensis 1, Wettingen 1682, 341–342; AS Maii IV, Paris / Rome 1866, 436.

6. Literature: Le Bienheureux Alexandre de Foigny, ed. Imprimerie Cistercienne Westmalle, Westmalle 1954; G. MÜLLER, Der Selige Alexander de Foigny, in CistC 143 (1901), 1–16; J. BURTON / J. KERR, The Cistercians in the Middle Ages, Woodbridge 2011, 155 (fn. 26).

7. Illustrations: Undated fresco on the ceiling of the Otto-Chapel at the chapter-house of Neuberg, which was destroyed during the renovation in 1870 (F. S. PICHLER, Die Habsburger Stiftung Cistercienser Abtei Neuberg in Steiermark, Wien 1884, 141, 144); stained glass windows depicting the life of Alexander in chapel of Bl. Bartholomew at Foigny; carved depiction (1699) in choir stall in Lambertuskerk in Wouw, Netherlands (M. COPPENS, Koorbanken in Nederland: Barok, Amsterdam 1943, No. 2; historical photograph: https://www.indenwouwdfluit.nl/cms/index.php/lambertuskerk [18 Jan 2022]).

Melissa Pollock