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Alardus of Loccum

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Alardus of Loccum (* 1186? – † 1219)

1. Name variants: Alard of Luka, Allardus

2. Places: Loccum

3. Biography: A. was a member of an old knightly family from Bremen. According to one legend, he once fought against 14 men, won, but mercifully spared their lives, according to another, he won 14 warhorses on the day he was knighted. A charter tells us that Alardus signed it possessing the position of a steward. He presumably entered the Cistercian monastery in Loccum 1217. While stricken with a grave sickness, A. had a vision on his deathbed in which he saw Christ, Mary and angels telling him that they wanted to collect his soul. Shortly after he shared this vision with his fellow brothers, he passed away peacefully. Accounts tell of the sweet fragrance coming from his corpse.

4. Cultus:

a. Relics: –

b. Liturgical commemoration: 2 Jan

c. Patronage: –

d. Attributes: –

5. Fontes: Bremisches Urkundenbuch 1, ed. D. R. EHMCK / W. VON BIPPEN, Bremen 1873, (Nr. 56) 63–65.

6. Literature: Caesarius von Heisterbach, *Dialogus Miraculorum*, ed. N. NÖSGES / H. SCHNEIDER, Turnhout 2009, 2096–2099; R. KLOPPER, Heilige Mönchsgestalten unseres Ordens, in: *CistC* 50 (1938), 5–7; H. RÖCKELEIN, Heilige und Reliquien des Zisterzienserklosters Loccum im Mittelalter, in: *Wort halten – gestern, heute, morgen*, Göttingen 2013, 81; J. STADLER, *Ökumenisches Heiligenlexikon* 1, Augsburg 1858, 96; T. ZELBACHER, *Menologium Cisterciense*, Prague 1731, 2–3.

7. Illustrations: Portrait: ÖNB-Bildarchiv und Grafiksammlung PORT_00113075_01 (<http://data.onb.ac.at/rec/baa8158614>)

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