

Anke Napp

Eugene III

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Eugene III (* ? – † 8 Jul 1153)

1. Name variants: Bernardo Paganelli

2. Places: Pisa, Rome, Viterbo, Tre Fontane

3. Biography: E. was probably born in Pisa. He was a member, later archdeacon, of the cathedral chapter of Pisa, became an admirer of Bernard of Clairvaux and joined the Cistercian Order in 1135. In 1141, E. was appointed abbot of San Anastasio alle Tre Fontane in Rome. Although not a member of the College of Cardinals, he was elected Pope in 1145 and took the name of Eugene. He continued wearing his Cistercian habit under his pontifical robes. E. traveled to France and Germany, criticizing heresies and clerical misconduct at synods in Reims and Trier. Interventions in the installment of bishops and the nomination of Cistercian candidates led to conflicts with the French and English crowns. Opponents criticized E.'s compliance toward Bernard of Clairvaux, who, in turn, resented E.'s involvement in smaller matters within the order. He dedicated his *De Consideratione* to E.. The pope died in exile in Tivoli in 1153. He was buried in Old Saint Peter's. People flocked to his tomb. In the 15th c., the cult seemed to have stopped and his tomb to have been in a ruined state. He was beatified in 1872, following a petition (dated 1863) of abbot general Teobaldo Cesari on behalf of the Cistercian Order.

4. Cultus:

a. Relics: The tomb was destroyed during the demolition of the church in the 16th c..

b. Liturgical commemoration: 8 Jul

c. Patronage: Tre Fontane

d. Attributes: Papal garments and Tiara

5. Fontes: MGH SS rer. Germ. 46, 55–56, 94; Matthew of Paris, *Chronicle* 2, ed. H. RICHARDS LUARD, London 1874, 179–180, 190; L. M. O. DUCHESNE, *Le Liber pontificalis* 2, Paris 1892, 386–387; L. A. MURATORI, *Rerum Italicarum Scriptores* 3, Milan 1723, 439–441; PL 180, 1009; *Catalogus codicum hagiographicorum bibliothecae civitatis Brugensis*, in: *Analecta Bollandiana* 10 (1891), 455; C. HENRIQUEZ, *Menologium Cisterciense Notationibus Illustratum*, Antwerp 1630, 222–223; T. ZELBACHER, *Menologium Cisterciense*, Prague 1731, 132–133.

6. Literature: G. SAINATI, *Vita de beato Eugenio III*, Pisa 1868; Pope Eugenius III (1145–1153). The first Cistercian Pope, ed. I. FONNESBERG-SCHMIDT / A. JOTISCHKY, Amsterdam 2018; LMA 4, 78–80.

7. Illustrations: E. among Cistercians and other clerics: Abbey of Staffarda, 15th c., E.'s death: Manuscript Chantilly, Musée Condé 722, Jean de Vignay, *Miroir Historiale*, fol. 296r, 15th c.; painting depicting consecration of Chalons Cathedral, 15th c.; San Paolo alle Tre Fontane, stained glass window; Cathedral of Pisa, painting by Giovanni Battista Tempesti, 18th c.

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