

Johannes Luther

John of Valence

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John of Valence (* 1070 – † 21 March 1146)

1. Name variants: J. of Bonnevaux

2. Places: Lyon, Cîteaux, Bonnevaux, Valence

3. Biography: Magister Giraudus, who calls himself the keeper of J.'s tomb, reports J.'s life in a contemporary vita. According to this, J. was a canon in the cathedral chapter of Lyon before deciding to enter Cîteaux aged 40. In 1117, he became the first abbot of Bonnevaux. The four filiations of this abbey Mazan, Montpeyroux, Tamié and Léoncel were founded during his abbacy. After the expulsion of Bishop Eustace, J. was elected bishop of Valence in 1141. His vita portrays him as a great benefactor to the poor. J. was buried in the Cathedral of Saint-Apollinaire in Valence.

4. Cultus: J. is venerated especially in the dioceses of Valence and Grenoble.

a. Relics: As NADAL (288) states, J.'s tomb and relics were profaned by Protestants in 1562. There are no traces left.

b. Liturgical commemoration: 23 Mar (according to Zimmermann); 26 Apr (in the former church province of Vienne)

c. Patronage: –

d. Attributes: –

5. Fontes: Giraudus, *Vita S. Johannis Valentinensis episcopi*, in: *Thesaurus novus anecdotorum*, ed. E. MARTÈNE / U. DURAND 3, Paris 1717, 1693–1702.

6. Literature: A. ZIMMERMANN, *Kalendarium Benedictinum* 1, 1933, 365f.; DHGE 26, 1320; J. C. NADAL, *Histoire hagiologique*, 273–289; B.-J. MARTIN, *Un évêque cistercien au XII^e siècle. Jean de Bonnevaux, évêque de Valence*, in: *Revue drômoise* 432 (1984), 85–91; M. G. NEWMAN, *The Boundaries of Charity*, Stanford 1996, 149, 249; B. SCHILLING, *Guido von Vienne*, 162; Y. VEYRENCHÉ, *Chanoines réguliers*, 268f.; J. LUTHER, *Reformer und Vermittler* (forthcoming).

7. Illustrations: –

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