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**Eskil**

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## **Eskil († 1181)**

1. Name variants: E. of Lund, E. of Clairvaux

2. Places: Jutland, Hildesheim, Lund, Clairvaux

3. Biography: E., born around 1100, belonged to the powerful Thrugot family from Jutland and was sent to Hildesheim to study. Here he had a gripping dream, which the monk Herbert wrote down at Clairvaux much later. After being named dean of the cathedral of Lund in Scania, E. was elected archbishop in 1137. He became attached to Saint Bernard, whom he visited in Clairvaux. Thanks to their cooperation, E. fostered Cistercian foundations in both Denmark and Sweden in the 1140s and 1150s. In 1177, he resigned and travelled to Clairvaux, where he spent his last few years as a simple monk, leaving behind stories of his youth and his career to be recorded by the monk Herbert. E. was buried next to Bernard in the abbey church of Clairvaux.

4. Cultus:

a. Relics: At the French Revolution, the remains of E. were desecrated and scattered. Some of the relics of saintly Clairvaux brothers were brought to the church of Ville-sous La Ferté, and E.'s relics may be among them.

b. Liturgical commemoration: 6 Sep

c. Patronage: –

d. Attributes: –

5. Fontes: H. TURRITANUS, *Liber visionum et miraculorum clarevallensium* (CCCM 272), Turnhout 2017, chapter 106; C. LALORE, *Le trésor de Clairvaux du XII au XVIII siècles*, Paris 1875.

6. Literature: B.P. MCGUIRE, Bernard and Eskil: Friendship and Confraternity, in: *The Difficult Saint: Bernard of Clairvaux and his Tradition*, Kalamzoo 1991, 107–132; MCGUIRE, *The Cistercians in Denmark*, Kalamazoo 1982.

7. Illustrations: –

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