

Brian Patrick McGuire

**Stephen**

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**Stephen** († 18 Jul 1185)

1. Name variants: S. of Alvastra, S. of Uppsala

2. Places: Clairvaux, Alvastra, Uppsala, Sens

3. Biography: S., who may have been English, was probably among the Clairvaux monks who left in 1143 to found the monastery of Alvastra. In 1164 S. went to Sens and met with Pope Alexander III. He also met with Eskil, archbishop of Lund. For several years there had been a discussion about giving Sweden an archbishop, and the decision was now made. S. had probably already been bishop elect of Uppsala. He was buried in the chapter room in Alvastra Abbey.

4. Cultus:

a. Relics: –

b. Liturgical commemoration: Possibly on 18 Jul at Alvastra Abbey and Uppsala Cathedral

c. Patronage: –

d. Attributes: Stephan is shown in his episcopal garb on a seal dated 1164–67 and preserved at the Royal Archives in Stockholm.

5. Fontes: G. PAULSSON, *Annales Suecici medii aevi*, 1974; *Diplomatarium Danicum* 1 Række 2, nr. 154 (Pope Alexander's letter to the Swedish bishops).

6. Literature: A. WINROTH, Stephanus in: *Svenskt biografiskt lexicon* 33 (2007–2011), 372; T. NYBERG, *Monasticism in North-Western Europe*, Aldershot 2000, 211, 215–217.

7. Illustration: As shown on his archiepiscopal seal ([https://sok.riksarkivet.se/sbl/bilder/20148\\_7\\_033\\_00000373\\_0.jpg](https://sok.riksarkivet.se/sbl/bilder/20148_7_033_00000373_0.jpg)), reproduced in WINROTH's article as well as on a Swedish postage stamp from about 1964.

Brian Patrick McGuire