

Stefano Mula

Herbert of Torres

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hebis.

Herbert of Torres († before 1196)

1. Name variants: H. of Clairvaux, H. of Mores

2. Places: Mores, Clairvaux, Torres, Valroy Abbey, Sorres

3. Biography: Born in the first half of the 12th c., his Iberian origin, suggested by Chifflet, is not supported by sufficient evidence. H. entered Clairvaux presumably at a young age, after Bernard's death (1153); H. remembers having served at the table of abbot Fastradus (1157–1161). He had Achard as his Novice Master, and it was probably from him that he developed an interest for exemplary stories. He became abbot of Santa Maria of Mores, a Bernardine foundation in the Langres diocese, around 1169–1170. By 1178, Mores had a new abbot, and H. was, in those years, "capellanus" of the abbot of Clairvaux, Henry of Marcy (1176–1179). Sometime before 1178/1179, H. wrote his 'Liber visionum et miraculorum Clarevallensium', comprising of 165 chapters of various lengths. The work circulated anonymously and without a given title; Goswin of Boulancourt supplied the title later. In 1181, H. accompanied Peter Monoculus, abbot of Clairvaux (1179–1186), in his visitation of Valroy Abbey, near Reims, looking for collections of miracles of Bernard. In 1180 or 1181, H. was named archbishop of Torres, in Sardinia, and moved there probably by the end of 1181. H. died in Sardinia, certainly before 1196, and he was likely buried in the Church of Saint Peter of Sorres.

4. Cultus:

a. Relics: –

b. Liturgical commemoration: 28 Feb (HENRIQUEZ)

c. Patronage: –

d. Attributes: His only possible portrait in S. Pietro di Sorres' cathedral, after his death, depicts him as a bishop, with tiara, pastorale e pallium.

5. Fontes: Exordium Magnum Cisterciense sive Narratio de Initio Cisterciensis Ordinis, ed. B. GRIESSER, Rome 1961, passim; P. F. CHIFFLETIUS, Sancti Bernardi Clareuallensis abbatis genus illustre assertum, Dijon 1660; S. MULA, Il cosiddetto Chronicon Clareuallense. Edizione dal ms. Firenze, Bibl. Laurenziana, Ashburnham 1906, in *Herbertus* 5/4 (2005), 5–48, also incomplete in: *Patrologia Latina* 185, 1247A–1252B; William of AUBERIVE, Epistula ad domnum Henricum Clarevallensem, in: *Liber visionum et miraculorum Clarevallensium* 61; C. HENRIQUEZ, *Menologium Cisterciense*, Salzedas 1655, 25v.

6. Literature: B. GRIESSER, Herbert von Clairvaux und sein Liber Miraculorum, in: *CistC* 54 (1947), 21–39 and 118–148; G. FOIS, Gonario giudice e poi monaco ed Herbertus arcivescovo di Torres: storia di intersezioni, in: *Herbertus* 2/1 (2000), 25–78; G. FOIS / S. MULA / G. ZICHI, Introduzione, in: *Liber visionum et miraculorum Clarevallensium*, 55–68.

7. Illustrations: Possibly a small statue, now in the left nave of S. Pietro of Sorres' cathedral.

Stefano Mula