

Jesse Harrington

Donat (Donatus) Ua Fidabra

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25716/amad-85392>

Lexikonartikel | Article in a reference book, 2022

Empfohlene Zitierweise | Suggested Citation:

Jesse Harrington, Donat (Donatus) Ua Fidabra, in: Dictionary of Cistercian Saints, hrsg. von Mirko Breitenstein, Jörg Sonntag und Alkuin Schachenmayr, Frankfurt am Main: AMAD, 2022. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25716/amad-85392>.



Dieses Werk ist lizenziert unter einer [Creative Commons Namensnennung - CC0 1.0 Universal \(CC0 1.0\)](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-CC0 1.0 Universal \(CC0 1.0\) Public Domain Dedication](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

Gefördert durch

 Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft



hebis.

Donat (Donatus) Ua Fidabra (* c. 1170 – † 17 Oct 1237)

1. Name variants: Fury, O'Feery, Ó Fidabra, Ua Fidabra (family); Odanus (uncertain)

2. Places: St. Mary's (Louth) Clogher, Armagh

3. Biography: D. was a Gaelic Irish Cistercian prelate, successively prior of the abbey of St. Mary's, Louth, by 1198, bishop of Clogher from c. 1218, and archbishop of Armagh from 1227. Although his final election by Armagh's suffragan bishops and chapter was opposed by the Englishman Henry of London, archbishop of Dublin, D. nonetheless received the royal assent that year. He was central to the late dispute between Armagh and Clogher over the control of Louth, working for decades to reverse the transfer of Clogher's episcopal seat from Louth to Clogher. As bishop, he opposed Armagh's control of Louth and brought a suit against the archbishop of Armagh contesting his control of the churches between Carlingford and the mid-water of the Boyne. As archbishop, he shifted his position and proposed that Armagh and Clogher be united, gaining the support of Henry III of England and, briefly, of the Cistercian Stephen of Lexington. However, the Clogher chapter elected as bishop Nehemias Ua Brácaín, Cistercian abbot of Mellifont, who continued Clogher's suit against Armagh. The suit contributed to the infamous 'conspiracy' of Mellifont and a papal commission to investigate the matter. D. died on his return from Rome, which ultimately stymied the effort to unite the two sees. He is credited with having built the bishop's palace for Clogher. D.'s claim to sainthood is uncertain, but may be at least partly behind the 'Odanus, archbishop of Armagh' recorded in several early modern Cistercian calendars. More probably, 'Odanus' may be a confusion for Áed (Edanus), a predecessor of D. as bishop of Clogher-Louth, though he was neither a Cistercian nor an archbishop.

4. Cultus:

a. Relics: –

b. Liturgical commemoration: –

c. Patronage: –

d. Attributes: –

5. Fontes: –

6. Literature: D. BERESFORD, Ó Fidabra, Donatus, in: *Dictionary of Irish Biography* 7, Cambridge 2009, 462–463; A. GWYNN, Armagh and Louth in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries, in: *Seanchas Ardmhacha*, 1.2 (1954–1955), 17–37; B. SMITH, The Armagh–Clogher Dispute and the Mellifont Conspiracy: Diocesan Politics and Dynastic Reform in Thirteenth-Century Ireland, in: *Seanchas Ardmhacha*, 14.2 (1990–1991), 26–37.

7. Illustrations: –

Jesse Harrington