Dictionary of Cistercian Saints

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Gerekin of Alvastra

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**Gerekin of Alvastra (14th c.)**

1. Name variants: –

2. Places: Alvastra (Swedish abbey)

3. Biography: G. is said to have been an exemplary lay brother of Alvastra, who, for forty years, never left the monastery and was completely devoted to his prayers. He was known for his visions. At the elevation of the host during mass, he once saw Jesus as a child. He objected to Birgitta of Vadstena taking up residence near his monastery, but a voice informed him that she was God’s friend. He had a vision in which he was told she would provide wisdom to many. When dying, he saw the names of the brothers Peter, Olav, and Tordo written in gold, indicating their acquisition of heavenly joys.

4. Cultus:
   a. Relics: –
   b. Liturgical commemoration: 1 Aug (HENRIQUEZ)
   c. Patronage: –
   d. Attributes: –


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