

Joseph Van House

Romano Bottegal

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25716/amad-85431>

Lexikonartikel | Article in a reference book, 2022

Empfohlene Zitierweise | Suggested Citation:

Joseph Van House, Romano Bottegal, 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-85431>.



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.

Romano Bottegal (* 28 Jun 1921 – † 19 Feb 1978)

1. Name variants: –

2. Places: San Donato (Veneto), Tre Fontane, Latroun (Israel), Jabbouleh (Lebanon)

3. Biography: The youngest child of a very poor family, R. entered minor seminary and gradually discerned a monastic vocation. His mentors advised him to delay his entry into the Abbey of Tre Fontane (Rome) until after his ordination in 1946, which he did. There, he pursued advanced studies at the Gregorian University and served as novice master and prior. Discerning a call to greater self-giving and silence, he was permitted to move to the Abbey of Latroun near Jerusalem in 1961, where he learned Arabic, Syriac, and the Eastern liturgy. A still-growing inner call to solitude with Christ, combined with difficulty getting permission to live that life on monastery grounds, led him to obtain from the Vatican a provisional indult of excommunication to live the eremitical life in 1964. Evoking the memory of Charles de Foucauld, he lived in radical poverty among the poor in several locations of Israel and Lebanon, especially Jabbouleh. In the midst of the Lebanese Civil War, he remained as a witness to the peace of Christ, offering his priestly ministry when needed and otherwise spending his last years as a recluse. He died of tuberculosis, regarded as exceptionally holy by Christians and Muslims alike. Pope Francis declared him venerable in 2013.

4. Cultus:

a. Relics: The tomb of priests in the cathedral of Baalbeck (Lebanon).

b. Liturgical commemoration: –

c. Patronage: –

d. Attributes: Cistercian habit, glasses, beard

5. Fontes: His letters and spiritual notes are available in M. C. DEGRATIAS, *Testimone nello Spirito*, Bologna 1996, and M. C. ZAFFI, *L'eremita missionario. Romano Bottegal. Dalla Trappa di Roma alle pietre del Libano*, Cinisello Balsamo, 2004.

6. Literature: A. TESCARI / M. C. ZAFFI, *A Profile of Fr. Romano Bottegal, OCSO (1921–1978)*, in: *CSQ* 39 (2004), 151–173.

7. Illustrations: Photographs available online: <https://ocso.org/history/saints-blesseds-martyrs/venerable-fr-romano-bottegal/>

Joseph Van House