

Tarcisius Sztubitz

Bernhard (Peter) Burgstaller

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Bernhard (Peter) Burgstaller (* 14 Feb 1886 – † 1 Nov 1941)

1. Name variants: –

2. Places: Wilhering, Vienna, Anrath

3. Biography: B. was born in Eidenberg (Upper Austria). In 1905, he entered Wilhering Abbey and was ordained priest on 31 Jul 1910. Until his election as abbot on 29 Nov 1938, he taught Latin and Greek at the monastery school. In 1940, the Gestapo discovered an anti-German resistance group in Wilhering, consisting of several confreres. When B. traveled to Vienna to obtain their release, he himself was arrested on 12 Nov 1940. B. was transferred to Anrath prison near Krefeld. A trial never took place. B. died as a result of malnutrition; his corpse weighed less than 40 kg.

4. Cultus:

a. Relics: In the abbot's vault of Wilhering

b. Liturgical commemoration: 2 Dec (PASCUAL, 397)

c. Patronage: –

d. Attributes: –

5. Fontes: Archive of the Abbey of Wilhering (Akten 16.C3 and 20.A3–A8).

6. Literature: E. SAUSER, 'Burgstaller, Bernhard', in: BBKL 14, 862–864; R. ZINNHOBLE, Abt Dr. Bernhard (Peter) Burgstaller OCist. Ein unschuldiges Opfer der NS-Justiz, in: J. MIKRUT, Blutzeugen des Glaubens. Martyrologium des 20. Jahrhunderts 2, Vienna 2000, 71–83; R. DESSL, Widerstand Wilheringer Cistercienser gegen den Nationalsozialismus, in: A. SCHACHENMAYR (ed.), Der Anschluss im März 1938 und die Folgen für Kirche und Klöster in Österreich, Heiligenkreuz 2009, 81–98 (reprint: 875 Jahre Stift Wilhering, Linz 2021, 297–313); F. R. DE PASCUAL, Nuevo Menologio Cisterciense 2019, Cóbreces 2019, 397.

7. Illustrations: –

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