

BRIOC (BRIOG), saint (fl. 6th century)

Name: Brioc
Parent: Eldruda
Parent: Cerp
Gender: Male
Occupation: saint
Area of activity: Religion
Author: Hywel David Emanuel

A 'Life,' composed probably in the 11th century and of not inconsiderable literary merit, is the oldest authority for the legend of S. Brioc. It relates that the original form of the saint's name was Briomaglus, and that he was a native of Corotica - the Welsh Ceredigion. His father, Cerp, and his mother, Eldruda, both abandoned their heathen beliefs and embraced Christianity as the result of an angelic vision before the birth of their child.

When Brioc was a youth, his parents sent him to Paris where bishop Germanus fostered and educated him, and where, too, Brioc accomplished many miracles and was ordained to the priesthood. In his twenty-fifth year, Brioc returned to Corotica and helped to reconvert the region to Christianity. Departing from his native land some years later, Brioc crossed to Brittany and established a monastic centre at Tréguier. Only once again, in response to an appeal to rid it of a pestilence, did he revisit the country of his birth. On his return to Brittany, he founded his most famous monastery, which afterwards became the seat of the bishopric of S. Briec. The details related in the 'Life of S. Brioc' illustrate the traditional propensity for travel which characterized the Celtic saints in general, and the close relations linking the Celtic provinces together.

Brioc is the patron of Llandyfrïog in south Cardiganshire, and is remembered too in the place-names of Gloucestershire, Cornwall, and Brittany. His feast is celebrated usually on 1 May.

Author

Hywel David Emanuel, (1921 - 1970)

Sources

Baring-Gould and J. Fisher, *The Lives of the British Saints*, i, 288-301

G. H. Doble, *Saint Brioc, Patron of the Parish of S. Breoke, Cornwall, of S. Briavel's, Gloucestershire, and of the Diocese of St. Briec in Brittany* (1928)

Analecta Bollandiana, ii, 1883, 161-90, xxiii, 1904, 264-5

Alban Butler, *The Lives of the Fathers, Martyrs, and other principal Saints*, v, 10-11

Le Grand, *Les vies des Saints de la Bretagne-Armorique* (1837), 151-62

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Brioc](#)

Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q2476943](#)

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