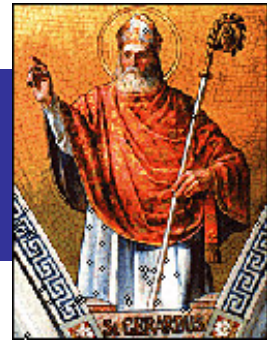


Hungarian Saints

St Gerard Sagredo (Szent Gellért) (980 - 1046)



St Gerard was not Hungarian, but his life closely connected with St Stephen and St Imre. St Gerard was born in Venice. He had to go to the Holy Land, but his ship landed at Istria from where he gets Szekesfehervar, court of St Stephen king. He became the educator of the crown prince. He played a major role in converting Hungary to Christianity. In 1030 he became the bishop of Csanad.

After the death of St Stephen he refused to serve the new king, but he predicted the pagan revolt and his death. Gellért's martyrdom took place on 24 September 1046 (his co-martyrs were Bystrik and Buldus) on a hill in Budapest which is now named after him. Allegedly he was placed inside of a wooden barrel, hauled to the hilltop and rolled down the now named Gellert Hill, then as still being alive at the bottom, beaten to death. Canonized in 1083, along with St. Stephen and St. Emeric, Gellért is currently one of the patron saints of Hungary.

His feast celebrated at September 24.