

= Thurstan =

This page is about Thurstan of Bayeux (1070 ? 1140) who became Archbishop of York . Thurstan of Caen became the first Norman Abbot of Glastonbury in circa 1077 .

Thurstan or Turstin of Bayeux (c . 1070 ? 6 February 1140) was a medieval Archbishop of York , the son of a priest . He served kings William II and Henry I of England before his election to the see of York in 1114 . Once elected , his consecration was delayed for five years while he fought attempts by the Archbishop of Canterbury to assert primacy over York . Eventually , he was consecrated by the pope instead and allowed to return to England . While archbishop , he secured two new suffragan bishops for his province . When Henry I died , Thurstan supported Henry 's nephew Stephen of Blois as king . Thurstan also defended the northern part of England from invasion by the Scots , taking a leading part in organising the English forces at the Battle of the Standard (1138) . Shortly before his death , Thurstan resigned from his see and took the habit of a Cluniac monk .

= = Early life = =

Thurstan was the son of a canon of St Paul 's in London named Anger , Auger or Ansgar , who held the prebend of Cantlers . Another son of Anger , Audoen , was later Bishop of Évreux . Thurstan 's mother was named Popelina . Thurstan was born sometime about 1070 in Bayeux , in the Bessin region of Normandy . Before 1104 the father was given the prebend of Cantlers by Maurice , Bishop of London , and the family moved to England .

Early in his career , Thurstan held the prebendary of Consumpta per mare in the diocese of London , and served both William Rufus and Henry I as a royal clerk . At some point in Thurstan 's early career , he visited Cluny , where he vowed to become a Cluniac monk later in his life . Thurstan also served Henry as almoner , and it was Henry who obtained Thurstan 's election as Archbishop of York in August 1114 . He was ordained a deacon in December 1114 and ordained a priest on 6 June 1115 by Ranulf Flambard , who was Bishop of Durham .

= = Controversy and exile = =

The Archbishop of Canterbury , Ralph d 'Escures , refused to consecrate Thurstan unless the archbishop @-@ elect made a profession of obedience to the southern see . This was part of the long @-@ running Canterbury @-@ York dispute , which started in 1070 . Thurstan refused to make such a profession , and asked the king for permission to go to Rome to consult Pope Paschal II . Henry I refused to allow him to make the journey , but even without a personal appeal from Thurstan , Paschal decided against Canterbury . At the Council of Salisbury in 1116 the English king ordered Thurstan to submit to Canterbury , but instead Thurstan publicly resigned the archbishopric . On his way to the Council , Thurstan had received letters from Paschal II that supported York and commanded that he should be consecrated without a profession . Similar letters had gone to Ralph d 'Escures from the pope , ordering Ralph , as Archbishop of Canterbury , to consecrate Thurstan . After the news of the letters became public , Thurstan 's resignation was ignored , and he continued to be considered the archbishop @-@ elect .

Over the next three years , the new popes , Gelasius II and Calixtus II , championed Thurstan 's case , and on 19 October 1119 he was consecrated by Calixtus at Reims . Calixtus had earlier promised Henry that he would not consecrate Thurstan without the king 's permission , which had still not been granted . Enraged at this , the king refused to allow the newly consecrated archbishop to enter England , and Thurstan remained for some time on the continent in the company of the pope . While he was traveling with the pope , he also visited Adela of Blois , King Henry 's sister , who was also Thurstan 's spiritual daughter . At about this same time , Calixtus issued two bulls in Thurstan 's favor : one released York from Canterbury 's supremacy forever , and the other demanded the king allow Thurstan to return to York . The pope threatened an interdict on England as a punishment if the papal bull was not obeyed . At length , Thurstan 's friends , including Adela ,

succeeded in reconciling him with Henry , and he rejoined the king in Normandy . At Easter 1120 , he escorted Adela to the monastery of Marcigny , where she retired from active secular affairs . He was recalled to England in early 1121 .

= = Archbishop = =

One of the main weaknesses of the see of York was its lack of suffragan bishops . Thurstan managed to secure the resurrection of the Diocese of Galloway , or Whithorn , in 1125 . It is possible that he compromised with Fergus of Galloway , who was the lord or sub @-@ king of Galloway , in what is now Scotland . In this Thurstan secured another suffragan , and Fergus gained a bishop in his lordship , where previously ecclesiastical matters in his subkingdom had been handled by Scottish bishops . The first bishop was the native Galwegian ? Gilla Aldan . This provoked the wrath of Wilmund , Bishop of the Isles , who had previously had jurisdiction over Galloway ; but the new bishopric survived , and York had a new suffragan , an important step in the battle between York and Canterbury over the primacy , which was mainly a battle over the prestige of their respective sees . The number of bishops subject to either archbishop was an important factor in the reputation of each . In 1133 , Thurstan , who had received papal permission to found an entirely new diocese , consecrated Æthelwold as the first bishop of the new see of Carlisle .

Thurstan refused to accept that the new Archbishop of Canterbury , William de Corbeil , was his superior , and did not help with William 's consecration . The dispute between the two continued , and both archbishops carried their complaints in person to Rome twice . In 1126 , Pope Honorius II ruled in favour of York . The pope based his decision on the fact that Canterbury 's supporting documents had been forged .

Thurstan supported King Stephen after Henry I 's death in 1135 , and appeared at Stephen 's first court at Easter held at Westminster . Thurstan negotiated a truce at Roxburgh in 1138 between England and Scotland . It was Thurstan who mustered the army which defeated the Scots at the Battle of the Standard on 22 August 1138 near Northallerton , Yorkshire . Thurstan did not take direct part in the battle . , but he created the standard that gave the battle its name , by putting a ship 's mast in a cart and hanging the banners of Saint Peter of York , Saint John of Beverley , and Saint Wilfrid of Ripon on the mast . The Scots had invaded attempting to aid the Empress Matilda , the daughter of Henry I and Stephen 's rival for the throne . On 21 January 1140 Thurstan resigned his see and entered the order of the Cluniacs at Pontefract and he died there on 6 February 1140 . He was buried in the church at Pontefract .

= = Legacy = =

Thurstan gave land to many of the churches of his diocese and founded several religious houses . He founded the first nunnery in Yorkshire when he founded St Clement 's between 1125 and 1133 . He obtained for Whitby Abbey a papal privilege of protection as well as giving his own privilege to the abbey . He also helped found the Cistercian Abbey of Fountains , by giving the site to monks who had been expelled from the Abbey of St. Mary 's , York . Thurstan helped the hermitess Christina of Markyate at several points in her career , and tried to persuade her to become the first prioress of his foundation of St. Clement 's . He was a patron to the Augustinian Hexham Priory , founded by his predecessor at York , as well as helping the foundation of Bridlington Priory , another Augustinian house . He was a sincere reformer , and opposed to the election of unfit men to the episcopacy . When Pope Innocent II asked Thurstan 's opinion on the elevation of Anselm of St Saba , who was Abbot of Bury St. Edmunds , to become Bishop of London , Thurstan replied " If we consider his life and reputation , it would be much more fitting to remove him from his abbacy than to promote him to be bishop of London . " Anselm was not confirmed as bishop .

Thurstan 's nephew was Osbert de Bayeux , who became an archdeacon at York , and in 1154 was accused of the murder of William of York , one of Thurstan 's successors at York .