

Hungarian Saints

Saint Andrew Svorad (980? – 1010)



He was born in poor family in Poland around the year 980. Tradition has it that he lived his youth as a monk in a small village in what is now southern Poland. He with many other monks fled the Polish Crown lands of King Boleslav Chrabry when the King banned the use of the Old Slavonic (Byzantine) Liturgy. Svorad came to Hungary and settled in the monastery of St. Hyppolytus in Zobor near Nitra (today Slovakia).

He was accepted by Abbot Philip, received the monastic name of Andrew, and lived for a while in the monastery. He was given permission to establish a hermitage in the Skalka forest on the Vah River near Trencin. Here alone in the wilderness of the forest he lived a life of prayer and penance and became known for his holiness of life.

Andrew was canonized in 1083.

His feast is celebrated July 17.

King Geza proclaimed Andrew a patron of Hungary.