Anthony of Padua



by Herzog von Schwarzkopf

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As it was his feast day recently, it got me into research about him. Americans, more precisely Texans, would connect him to the city San Antonio, which is where the city got its name. He was a Portuguese Catholic priest and member of the Order of Friars. He was one of the most quickly canonized saints in church history, being canonized less than a year after his death.

St. Anthony of Padua was born Fernando Martins de Bulhões or Bulhão in Lisbon, Portugal. As a matter of fact, almost all Popes and Saints change their names. Why is that? We are told it is about symbolic acts of transformation, to signify a new chapter in their leadership, or spiritual rebirth. But we have seen there are other reasons.

He comes from a wealthy and noble family. It seems all Saints come from wealthy families. Ordinary people or the serfs during these times couldn't even read, let alone other things. It is fascinating that people were literate and wrote books and religious texts thousands of years ago. In contrast, my great-great grandparents were illiterate, coming from a poor part of Eastern Europe. Anthony's parents were Vicente Martins and Teresa Pais Taveira. They

arranged for him to be instructed at the local cathedral school. At the age of 15, he was received into the Canons Regular of the Order of the Holy Cross at the Abbey of Saint Vincent on the outskirts of Lisbon. The original monastery was founded around 1147 by the first Portuguese King, Afonso Henriques, for the Augustinian Order. Initially he was Augustinian canon regular.

In 1212, distracted by frequent visits from family and friends, he asked to be transferred to the motherhouse of the congregation, the Monastery of the Holy Cross in Coimbra, then the capital of Portugal. Strange reason to be transferred and even stranger it was granted. The Canons Regular of the Holy Cross of Coimbra were founded by St. Theotonius, Archdeacon Dom Tello, and Dom Juan Peculiar in 1131. I think we may assume he was not transferred for that reason, but more likely for his good looks. That's how the world really works, as you should know.

Theotonius (1082 - 1162) was a Canon Regular and royal advisor. He is celebrated as the reformer of religious life in Portugal, and is the first Portuguese saint. He was a trusted advisor of Portugal's first king, Afonso Henriques, who ruled from 1139–1185. The order enjoyed widespread support and received privileges and royal patronage. They were entrusted with the mission of the re-evangelization of the territories reclaimed from the Moors.

The monastery was granted numerous papal privileges (from Pope Innocent III, who came from the counts of Segni) and royal grants, which allowed the accumulation of considerable wealth. Its school, with its vast library, was highly respected in medieval times and was a meeting point for the intellectual and power elites. The first two kings of Portugal are buried in the church.

Anthony was named guestmaster at the age of 19, and placed in charge of hospitality for the abbey. This was a place, as said above, where the power elites met and Anthony was their guestmaster at the age of 19. What exactly is a guestmaster and what were his duties? We aren't told but we can guess.

Anthony joined the Franciscan order, then set out for Morocco in fulfillment of his new vocation. However, he fell seriously ill in Morocco and set sail back for Portugal in hope of regaining his health. On the return voyage, the ship was pushed off course and landed in Sicily. Hmm how did that happen? Sicily was not just around the corner, so it seems we are being fed another story, to explain how he ended up in Sicily. I remind you that young men from these wealthy families often took a "tour" of the Southern countries in their early years, and by tour I mean sexual and gay. See the bio of Lord Byron, for example, or any number of other nobles. So these stories of bad health and ships being blown off course sound like the usual misdirection.

It was in Sicily where Anthony's health deteriorated, and he ended up staying there for a while before moving on to Italy. Messina was a major Mediterranean port, fueled by trade and the movement of pilgrims and crusaders. According to Catholic tradition, Saint Paul,

during his wanderings across the Mediterranean to Rome to spread the Good News, landed in the year 41 AD in Messina, a city that was already then very prosperous from an economic point of view thanks to its port. Messina, like Capri, has always been known for other things as well, so Paul may have been there for the same reaons Anthony later was.

After that he traveled to Assisi, the heart of the Franciscan Order, where he initially joined the friars. He became sick (ergotism) in 1231 and went to the woodland retreat at Camposampiero with two other friars for a "respite". Anthony died on the way back to Padua on 13 June 1231 at the Poor Clare monastery at Arcella (now part of Padua), at the age of only 35. Ergotism is mentioned as being related to the Salem Witch trials, though Miles has shown that is misdirection.

Nothing much in that bio that would point to sainthood, but let's keep digging.

Let's start with the genealogies. The Portuguese noble family Bulhões or Bulhão has origins that date back to the Middle Ages, with some theories about their rise to nobility. According to some genealogists, the Bulhão family may have descended from a relative of Godfrey of Bouillon, Duke of Lorraine, who is said to have helped D. Afonso Henriques in the conquest of the Kingdom. This would explain the similarities in the surname between Bulhão and Bouillon. However, we are told this connection is not proven by reliable historical sources. Despite that, on Geni.com I traced St. Anthony's paternal lineage as far as it goes, and it got me directly to Godfrey of Bouillon. So apparently it *can* be proven. According to Geni.com Godfrey is the great-great grandfather of St. Anthony. This is remarkable, since Godfrey was the leader of the first Crusade and the first King of Jerusalem. He was succeeded by his brother Baldwin I of Jerusalem.

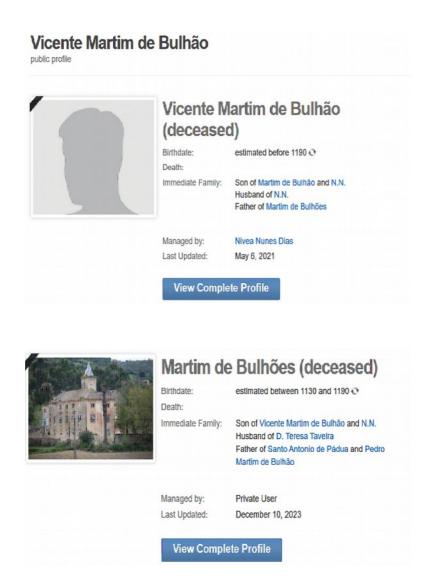
I find it interesting that Wikipedia says Baldwin I of Jerusalem studied liberal arts and held prebends in the cathedrals of Cambrai. The city Cambrai sounds similar to the Portuguese city Coimbra. This may connect these two cities and also the Bouillon and Bulhão families. Below the coat of arms of the city.



Here are the links and screenshots from Geni.com, in case it got removed in the meantime.







Let's check St. Anthony's maternal lineage. His mother was D. Teresa Taveira. Her parents were Palo Soares and Sancha Henriques de Portocarreiro. Palo or Paio Soares was a troubadour and the author of the famous *Cantiga da Garvaia*, long considered the first poetic work in the Galician-Portuguese language. Even though it has lost its status as the oldest known song in favour of another by another troubadour and according to Geni.com his brother João Soares de Paiva. (I guess Soares would be the Spanish Suarez).

So, if we have it correct, then those two brothers, of which one is the grandfather and the other the great-uncle of St. Anthony were the first who wrote poetry in Portuguese ever. This would explain why Anthony is widely regarded as an eloquent preacher: it is in the genes.

João's Wikipedia page mentioned further below that it was through him that the surname Paiva was extended in the male line, since the descendants of his brother Paio took the name Taveira, confirming what we see at Geni.com. Interesting is the similarity of the Italian city Pavia, and the "de Paiva" here, named after Paiva river in Portugal. How did the river get its name? Medieval nobility often gave the form Pavha for their surname, which caused great confusion, since it later began to be referred to as Panha or Pávia.

Teresa's paternal great mother's side are the Bragançã/Braganza, also a noble family from Portugal, originating in the Kingdom of León. Their founding story comes from the kidnapping of an Armenian princess (according to the Book of Lineages of the Dean), and from her the entire family descended, giving them an almost royal dignity, since in this way they were on an equal footing with the King of Portugal himself, Afonso Henriques, also descended from kings on his mother's side.

João Soares also appears to have belonged to a Military Order, since in the Dean's Book of Lineages he is referred to as João Soares, the Freire.

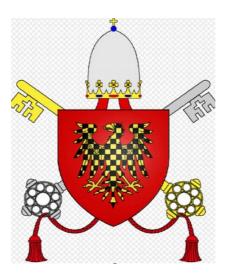
In the eleventh century religious associations of horsemen were founded, called the Military Orders, whose members, in the language of the Church, were collectively called fratres, and each frater (brother). This word entered the everyday language which meant fraternized Knight by the Military Orders, and, as circumstances of time and place, the Portuguese territory had evolved phonetically similar forms of the form "Frei" hence the name Freire of these knights, and how "Brother" was used as a prepositional name to qualify the proper name of the Knights.

Also Wikipedia tells us Freire / Freyre is a word used in the Portuguese and Galician languages to define the occupational name for a friar or a nickname for a pious person or someone employed at a monastery. The word is derived from the Latin frater, which means brother. We are told it is not Jewish in origin but some Sephardic Jews adopted this name.

Teresa's mother was Sancha Henriques de Portocarreiro (1130 - d.) - daughter of Magro, and maternal grandmother of Anthony of Padua. Sancha's father was Henrique (Henry) Fernandes de Toledo Magro, a Portuguese aristocrat. The House of Portocarrero originated from one of the most important noble families of Andalusia. The origins of Henrique de Toledo are found in the descendants of the Lords of Marnel, being through them a descendant of the lords of the old County of Coimbra and of the royal family of Leon.

St. Anthony was canonized by Pope Gregory IX (Ugolino di Conti) on May 30, 1232. With him the Pope canonized Elisabeth of Hungary, St. Dominic, and Francis of Assisi, as well.

This Pope comes from the de Conti (probably means counts/viscounts) family. Below the image of the Coat of arms of Family de/di Conti. The bird looks familiar, right? The Phoenix again.



They were of the Counts of Segni, and this family produced nine cardinals and four popes, including Gregory IX, Alexander IV, Innocent III, and Innocent XIII. The mother of the latter, Clarissa Scotti (Romani de Scotti), was according to some scholars related to Pope Clement III. The family is also known as Douglas Scotti for claiming descendancy from the Scottish Clan Douglas. As we know from *When Scotland was Jewish*, these lines in Scotland are also under the Phoenix.

The family became divided into numerous branches, the principal of which were the counts of Segni and Valmontone, and the dukes of Poli and Guadagnolo (House of Torlonia). The former branch was extinct with Donna Fulvia (died 1611), who had married the count Sforza of Santa Fiora. Of course the Sforza are top Italian nobles from the same Phoenician lines.

The House of Torlonia, the Princes of Civitella-Cesi, is the name of an Italian princely family from Rome, which acquired a huge fortune in the 18th and 19th centuries through administering the finances of the Vatican. So the same family that produced four popes later administered the Vatican Bank.

Marino Torlonia (1725–1785) was a cloth merchant and money lender near the Piazza of the Trinità dei Monti. This became the foundation of the family bank established by his son, Giovanni Torlonia. He was the builder of the Villa Torlonia in Rome (Mussolini lived there for 18 years). He married Anna Maria Chiaveri née Schultheiss, a widow who came from a family of southern German merchants in Donaueschingen.

Leopoldo Torlonia, a grandson of Giovanni, was the Mayor of Rome from May 1882 to May 1887. His great-grandson, another Marino Torlonia (1861 - 1933) succeeded to the title as 4th prince of Civitella-Cesi, a title he inherited from Augusto, his older brother, in 1926.

Marino married the rich American heiress Mary Elsie Moore and they were the parents of Don Alessandro Torlonia, 5th Prince di Civitella-Cesi, who married the Infanta Beatriz of Spain, the daughter of King Alfonso XIII. One of their grandchildren is Princess Sibilla of Luxembourg. Another is Donna Marina Torlonia di Civitella-Cesi, the wife of American

tennis player Francis Xavier Shields and grandmother of the American actress Brooke Shields.

Mary Elsie Moore's brothers were Eugene Maxwell Moore (who married fake *Titanic* survivor Margaret Graham) and her niece, Bettine Moore, daughter of another brother, Charles Arthur Moore, Jr. (who was a part of Robert Peary's Arctic Expedition in the summer of 1897) married William Taliaferro Close (they are the parents of actress Glenn Close).

Soeiro Moor (Mouro) was the maternal great great-father of St.Anthony. So that's where the Moore comes from in this case. The Conti/Visconti family were also the Lords of Pavia. We heard the city name above already. The University of Pavia is a member of Coimbra Group, an international association of 40 universities in Europe. So they are telling you who they are there, knowing you will miss it.

Looks like University of Pavia is a spooky university, surprise surprise. Elia di Sabato da Fermo, personal doctor of Filippo Maria Visconti, was the first professor of medicine of the Jewish religion at a European university, while from 1490 a teaching of Hebrew was established at the university. Not many years later, probably in 1511, Leonardo da Vinci studied there as well. Also Ruggero G. Boscovich, Dionysios Solomos, Luigi Luca Cavalli-Sforza, Carlo Rubbia (Nobel prize for physics With Simon Van der Meer the discovery of the W and Z particles at CERN). Meer=Moor=Moore?

Samantha Cristoforetti (born 26 April 1977) is an Italian European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut, former Italian Air Force pilot and engineer. She is the second of two women sent into space by ESA and the first from Italy. She got her honorary doctorate from University of Pavia. She appeared in the final of the Eurovision Song Contest 2022, which was held in Turin, in a pre-recorded message from the International Space Station. So she is starting to sound like an astronaut in the same way Katy Perry is.

Also an interesting fact about the city Pavia is it dates back to pre-Roman times: the town of Pavia was said by Pliny the Elder to have been founded by the Laevi. Wikipedia says that these Laevi, or Levi are not to be confused with descendants of Levi. Lie. But thanks for the clue, Wiki!

The House of Visconti became the House of Sforza. Visconti's rule in Milan ended with the death of Filippo Maria Visconti in 1447. He was succeeded by a short-lived republic and then by his son-in-law Francesco I Sforza, who established the reign of the House of Sforza.

The Sforza coat of arms is just the Visconti coat of arms + the Count of Segni coat of arms:



The Phoenix again, of courese. In Thomas Harris's 1999 novel *Hannibal*, the serial killer Hannibal Lecter is a member of the Visconti family, descended from them through his mother Simonetta Sforza-Lecter. The Visconti family crest is used as the cover of the book.

There are notable members from the family in the television series Medici. Alfa Romeo's logo incorporates the biscione, a big grass snake and a child emerging from its mouth—emblem of the House of Visconti, rulers of the city in the 14th century.

Let's look at the other saints canonized by the same Pope as St. Anthony. Francis of Assisi was born in 1181, one of the children of an Italian father, Pietro di Bernardone dei Moriconi, a prosperous silk merchant, and a French mother, Pica de Bourlemont, about whom little is known except that she was a noblewoman originally from Provence. Indulged by his parents, Francis lived the high-spirited life typical of a wealthy young man. As a youth, Francis became a devotee of troubadours. We have seen above the troubadours in St. Anthony's family. So, they had something in common apart from coming from noble families, and the submissive life of a priest. Did they have other common things?

Then there's Elisabeth of Hungary. She was the daughter of King Andrew II of Hungary and Gertrude of Merania. Andrew was the second son of King Béla III and Béla's first wife, Agnes of Antioch. Agnes was the daughter of Princess Alice, the second daughter of King Baldwin II of Jerusalem. She was named after her paternal grandmother, Constance of France. Constance was the daughter of King Philip I of France and Bertha of Holland. Her brother was Louis VI of France. Her husband was Hugh, Count of Champagne. We have seen them on Miles papers on the Crusades. Maria of Antioch (1145–1182) was the daughter of Constanze of France, and a Byzantine empress by marriage to Byzantine Emperor Manuel I Komnenos, and regent during the minority of her son porphyrogennetos Alexios II

Komnenos from 1180 until 1182. Baldwin II (cousin of Baldwin I) was the King of Jerusalem from 1118 until his death. So it's nice to know some of our fake saints are Komnenes. Not surprising. The Kohens as Catholic saints.

During this period we also have Pope Callixtus II (1065 – 13 December 1124), born Guy of Burgundy. He was the head of the Catholic Church and ruler of the Papal States from February 1119 to his death in 1124. Born to the fourth son of Count William I of Burgundy, one of the wealthiest rulers in Europe, Guy was a member of the highest aristocracy in Europe. William I of Burgundy (1020–1087), also known as William the Great, was a powerful nobleman from the Ivrea dynasty. Another son of William I of Burgundy was Stephan I. Stephen was married to Beatrice of Lorraine. Among their children was: Isabella, who married Hugh, Count of Champagne. So, the same Phoenicians again.

One of William I's descendants was Henry of Burgundy (also called Henry, Count of Portugal), who was the father of Afonso I, the first King of Portugal. That means Afonso I of Portugal and Godfrey of Bouillon are close cousins, probably 4th or 5th cousins, separated by several generations. So Afonso I of Portugal was the great-grandson of William I of Burgundy.

Both William I of Burgundy and Godfrey of Bouillon share a common ancestor in King Robert II of France's father, Hugh Capet, the founder of the Capetian dynasty. They are not first cousins; more like second or third cousins once removed depending on specific lineages.

In conclusion, the question arises whether Anthony was canonized because of the miracles he performed and the spreading of the word of God, or was it in fact because he came from the families? The above research provides our answer, but I might add that even if you don't accept that research, his miracles weren't exactly awe-inspiring. He is most famous for preaching to fishes and finding a lost psalter. Wow. He is also famous for blessing food he knew to be poisoned and surviving without harm. Sort of conflicts with the story of his death from ergot poisoning, don't it?

Added June 25, 2025: Herzog sent me an update consisting of his research on St. Dominic. I hit Dominic in my paper on Columbus, but Herzog has more for us here, confirming that:

Saint Dominic, (Spanish: Santo Domingo; 8 August 1170 – 6 August 1221), also known as **Dominic de Guzmán**, was a <u>Castilian Catholic priest</u> and the founder of the <u>Dominican Order</u>.

Dominic was born in <u>Caleruega</u> (close to the city Burgos), in <u>Old Castile</u>, <u>Spain</u>. He was named after <u>Saint Dominic of Silos</u>. The <u>Benedictine abbey of Santo Domingo de Silos</u> lies a few miles north of Caleruega. In the earliest narrative source, by <u>Jordan of Saxony</u>, Dominic's parents are not named. Jordan adds that Dominic was brought up by his parents and a maternal uncle who was an archbishop.

On 6 August 1221, <u>Dominic</u> died, and in 1222 Jordan was elected as his successor as <u>Master General of the Order of Preachers</u>. They met while students in Paris.

Nearly a century after Dominic's birth, the local author <u>Rodrigo de Cerrato</u> asserted that Dominic's father was an honored and wealthy man in his village. The travel narrative of <u>Pero Tafur</u>, written circa 1439 (about a pilgrimage to Dominic's tomb in Italy), states that Dominic's father belonged to the family <u>de Guzmán</u>, and that his mother belonged to the *Aça* or Aza family.

The **House of Guzmán** (*Casa de Guzmán*) is an old and noble Spanish family that emerged in <u>Castile</u> in the 12th century. This matches with the place and time of birth of Dominic. This family became one of the most prominent dynasties of the Spanish kingdom until the 18th century. The original family gave rise to several branches, one of which became <u>Dukes of Medina Sidonia</u> from the 15th century to the 18th century, in turn giving rise to other branches including the <u>Count-Dukes of Olivares</u> (House of Alba). In 1802, <u>María Cayetana de Silva</u>, <u>13th Duchess of Alba</u>, died without any issue and her titles were inherited by a relative, <u>Carlos Miguel Fitz-James **Stuart**</u>, <u>14th Duke of Alba</u>. Thus, the dukedom of Alba passed to the senior branch of the <u>House of Fitz-James Stuart</u>, which took over the patrimony of the House of Alba. If you read Miles, you know the name Stuart.

Medina Sidonia is a city and <u>municipality</u> in the <u>province of Cádiz</u> in the <u>autonomous community</u> of <u>Andalusia</u>, southern <u>Spain</u>. Considered by some to be the oldest city in <u>Europe</u>. The city's name comes from <u>Medina</u> (<u>Arabic</u> for "City") and Sidonia (of <u>Sidon</u>) and means "City of Sidon". This city was most likely ancient <u>Asido</u>, an <u>Iberian</u> settlement which may have been founded by the <u>Phoenicians</u>, hence the later name <u>Sidonia</u> reflecting its foundation by <u>Sidon</u>, capital of Phoenicia.

The <u>Dukes of Medina-Sidonia</u> made their fortune on the monopoly of Andalusian *almadrabas* from the 12th to the 19th century. **Almadraba** is an elaborate and ancient technique for trapping and catching <u>Atlantic bluefin tuna</u>.

The founder of what became the House of Guzmán was a Castilian nobleman named <u>Rodrigo Muñoz de Guzmán</u>. He was a <u>Castilian</u> magnate and baron. He married Mayor Díaz. At least nine children were born of this marriage.

One of them was Fernando Rodríguez de Guzmán, who, according to genealogist Luis de Salazar y Castro, was the husband of Juana de Aza and father of <u>Saint Dominic</u>, although there is no documentary proof whatsoever sustaining this filiation. Early historians would make Ramiro Muñoz (father of Rodrigo) the grandfather of <u>Saint Dominic</u>, but modern genealogical research finds no evidence for such a connection. Yeah, right.

Geni.com confirms the early historians. See below screenshots.

Domingo de Guzmán Garcés, Santo O.P.

« Back to de Guzmán Garcés surname



Domingo de Guzmán Garcés, Santo O.P. (1170 - 1221)

French: Saint Dominique, OP, Santo O.P.

Also Known As: "Saint Dominic", "Dominic de Guzmán",

"Dominic of Osma", "Dominic of Caleruega",

"Domingo Félix de Guzmán"

Birthdate: 1170

Birthplace: Caleruega, Burgos, Reino de Castilla - España

Death: August 06, 1221 (50-51)

Bologna, Metropolitan City of Bologna, Emilia-

Romagna, Italy

Immediate Family: Son of Fernando Rodríguez de Guzmán and

Juana de Aza

Brother of Antonio Núñez de Guzmán Garcés and Manés Núñez de Guzmán Garcés, Beato

O.P.

Fernando Rodríguez de Guzmán

public profile



Fernandus Roderici (b. - 1167)

rthdate: estimated between 1105 and 1111 🏵

Birthplace: España (Spain)

Death: after November 1167

Immediate Family: Son of Rodrigo Muñoz de Guzman, Señor de la

Casa de Guzmán and Mayor Díaz Husband of Juana de Aza

Father of Domingo de Guzmán Garcés, Santo O.P.; Antonio Núñez de Guzmán Garcés and

Manés Núñez de Guzmán Garcés, Beato O.P. Brother of Pedro Rodríguez de Guzmán; Álvaro Rodríguez de Guzmán, Señor de Mansilla; María Ruiz; Urraca Ruiz; Nuño Rodríguez de

Guzmán and 3 others

Half brother of Alvar Ruiz Guzman

Rodrigo Muñoz de Guzman, Señor de la Casa de Guzmán

Back to Muñoz de Guzman surname



Rodrigo Muñoz de Guzman, Señor de la Casa de Guzmán (1100 - 1186)

Spanish: Rodrigo Núñez de Guzmán, Señor de Guzmán

Also Known As: "Rodrigo Muñoz de Guzmán", "Señor de la

Casa de Guzmán' circa 1100

Birthplace: Burgos, CL, Spain
Death: circa 1186 (77-95)
Burgos, CL, Spain

Immediate Family: Son of Munio Rodríguez, conde de Bierzo and

Elvira González de Manzanedo

Husband of Mayor Díaz and Goda González de

Lara y Salvadores

Father of Pedro Rodríguez de Guzmán; Álvaro Rodríguez de Guzmán, Señor de Mansilla; María Ruiz; Fernando Rodríguez de Guzmán;

Urraca Ruiz and 5 others

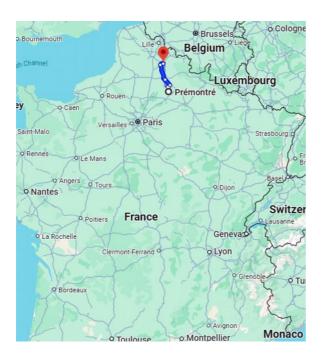
Brother of Arias Muñoz, IX Señor de Aldana

Dominic's mother, <u>Joan of Aza</u>, was beatified by <u>Pope Leo XII</u> in 1829. His older brother, <u>Manés</u> was also beatified by <u>Pope Gregory XVI</u> in 1834. The name Manes, as per research, comes probably from Manasseh, a Jewish name. <u>One of Napoleon's generals had that name.</u>

Historically, there was a large and thriving <u>Jewish</u> community in Burgos. Its first documentation dates to 974. The most well-known convert from Burgos, <u>Paul of Burgos</u>, was originally a Spanish Jew named Solomon Halevi. He "converted" to <u>Christianity</u>, and became an <u>archbishop</u>, <u>lord chancellor</u>.

At 14 years of age, Dominic was sent to the <u>Premonstratensian</u> monastery of <u>Santa María de</u> <u>La Vid</u> (**Order of Canons Regular of Prémontré)** and subsequently transferred for further studies in the schools of Palencia. They are also part of the <u>Augustinian</u> tradition. Same as we saw with Anthony.

Interesting is also that the place Premontre in France is very close to Cambrai.



Apart from being the progenitor of the Dominican order, and converting Cathars to the one true catholic faith, it is mentioned that in 1191, when Spain was desolated by famine, young Dominic gave away his money and sold his clothes, furniture, and even precious manuscripts to feed the hungry. Dominic reportedly told his astonished fellow students, "Would you have me study off these dead skins when men are dying of hunger?" Since he was coming from a wealthy family from both paternal and maternal side, selling his clothes and furniture and giving it to the poor didn't impoverish him. Not sure if that's enough to make one a Saint.

Update on Anthony's family Braganca:

House of Braganca -

Teresa's (Anthony's mother) paternal great mother's side are the Bragançã/Braganza

Duarte Pio de Bragança (Bern, 15 May 1945) is the current Duke of Bragança and pretender to the Crown of Portugal. Great-grandson of King D. Miguel I and great-grandson of King D. Pedro IV (King of Portugal, and Emperor of Brazil), he is the highest representative of the Portuguese Royal House, a private institution.

Anthony's great-great mother Urraca Mendes de Bragança belonged to the early Bragança nobility well before the official creation of the **House of Braganza** in the 15th century.

This is making her surname and ancestry the bridge between St Anthony's family and the Braganças. These are pre-dynastic ties—centuries before the Braganza dukes/royalty emerged—but *still* part of the Bragança bloodline.