

Letter of Cadwalla, abbot of Redon, to Hildegard, duchess of Anjou
(1038)

Transl. by W. L. North from the edition in J.-P. Migne (ed.), *Patrologia Latina* 141, cols. 1281B-1284A.

Abbot Cadwalla of the monastery of Redon and the flock entrusted to him send to Hildegard, queen of Anjou, the gift of saving prayers.

We give thanks that through frequent envoys and letters you have not disdained to visit our humility, when you beseech us to remember you in our prayers. And therefore, if you believe with some confidence that God looks kindly upon you because of us, know that, although we are sinners and not strong enough [to pray] on our own behalf, we nevertheless remember you each day to the Lord. For we have long known with what profound sincerity you show God religious veneration and his servants submission. And if your reputation were to be concealed by silence, the brilliance of the deeds themselves would not remain quiet. This alone do we urge most strongly: that you strive fervently to make progress in the Good.

Now then, because we have decided this coming March to renovate our monastery, which is nearly in ruins because of its age, we are sending you this brother so that he may sell wine from the vineyards granted to us by God's generosity. But we fear, and not idly so, that the patient fellow shall be prevented by someone on account of the strife that has arisen between your lord [the Duke of Anjou] and the prince of Brittany. We therefore commend him to your protection, asking that, for the sake of the honor of the Lord Savior whom we serve, you not fail to assist him in whatever matter he should need assistance. Furthermore, with regard to tolls in every place and port subject to your jurisdiction, we pray that you shall let him pass free of charge, just as we trust in you. Farewell.