Programme: Discovering Carmel

Module DC40: St Albert of Jerusalem

This module is designed to introduce students to the Italian Canon Regular, Bishop and Patriarch of Jerusalem, Albert degli Avogadri, who drew up the Formula of Life for the First Carmelites.



The first unit outlines Albert's early years, from about 1150 to 1184, when Albert was elected as Bishop of Bobbio. It describes his probable family background, his education, his vocation to the Canons Regular of the Holy Cross of Mortara and his role as Prior of the mother-house of the Canons at Mortara.

Unit 2 describes the year he spent as Bishop-Elect of Bobbio and the first period of his time as Bishop of Vercelli, from 1185 to 1191.

The third unit describes his time as Bishop of Vercelli under Pope Celestine III (1191-98) and Pope Innocent III (1198-1205).

Unit 4 describes his activities in the Holy Land as Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem (1205-14).

The final unit outlines his likely contribution to the Formula of Life that he drew up for the first Carmelites.