

AZO (1009) – bibliothecarius, cardinal-bishop (Ostia, 1012/1013–1021?)

Name variants: Azo, Azzo, Autius, Actius. There are brief informations concerning his person and career. The place and time of birth is unknown. The *Liber Pontificalis* mentions a certain Ato protoscriniarius in 965, who visited with Narinus, bishop of Sutri the emperor Otto I on Saxony after pope Leo VIII's death to negotiate the election of the new supreme pontiff. They returned to Rome with Otgerus and Liuzi (Liutprand), bishops of Speyer and Cremona, where John, bishop of Narni was elected to pope (John XIII). The accuracy of this information is doubtful, because the text is a variant of the *Liber Pontificalis*, and its main text does not mention this legation, it highlights the emperor's approval and the election by the people of Rome.¹

He was mentioned as *nuncius* in the founding charter of the bishopric of Pécs (23 August 1009).² Azo became cardinal-bishop of Ostia in 1012 (or in 1013). He assisted to the donation of the monastery of Città Castellano (*S. Sepulchri et SS. Quatuor Evangelistarum, in castro Felicitatis, in loco Noceati*) as cardinal and *bibliothecarius*.³ He died probably in 1021.⁴

Primary sources:

LP	<i>Liber pontificalis</i>. I–II. Ed. DUCHESNE, Louis. Paris, 1886-1892. II. 246–247, 249, 21.
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Acta:

JK-JE-JL	<i>Regesta pontificum Romanorum ab condita ecclesia ad annum post Christum natum MCXCVIII</i> , edidit Ph. JAFFÉ, editionem secundam correctam et auctam, auspiciis G. WATTENBACH curaverunt S. LOEWENFELD, F. KALTENBRUNNER, P. EWALD, I-II, Lipsiae, 1885-1888. /JK = F. KALTENBRUNNER: Von den Anfängen bis zum Pontifikat Pelagius' II. (590); JE = P. EWALD: Vom Pontifikat Gregors I. (590) bis zum Pontifikat Johannes' VIII (882); JL = S. LOEWENFELD: Vom Pontifikat Marinus I. (882) bis zum Pontifikat Celestins III (1198)/ I. nr. 4000.
DHA	<i>Diplomata Hungariae antiquissima. Accedunt epistolae et acta ad historiam Hungariae pertinentia</i> . Volumen I. Ab anno 1000 usque ad annum 1131. Edendo operi praefuit Georgius GYÖRFFY. Adiuverunt Johannes Bapt. BORSA, Franciscus L. HERVAY, Bernardus L.KUMOROVITZ et Julius MORAVCSIK. Budapestini, 1992. 58.

Secondary literature:

BONNARD 1931	BONNARD, Fourier: '13. Azzon'. In: <i>Dictionnaire d'histoire et de géographie ecclésiastique</i> . Éd. BAUDRILLART, Alfred [et alii], I-XXXI., fasc. 184. Paris 1912–2013. 5 (1931), col. 1390.
CAPPELLETTI 1844–1870	CAPPELLETTI, Giuseppe: <i>Le Chiese d'Italia, dalla loro origine sino ai nostri giorni</i> . I-XXI, Venezia, 1844–1870. I. 446
CHARDAVOINE 1928	CHARDAVOINE, Eutrope: Essais de liste générale des Cardinaux. Les cardinaux du XII ^e siècle. In: <i>Annuaire pontifical catholique</i> 31 (1928) 111–159. 130–131: nr. 2;

¹ LP II. 246–247, 249, 21. „Eodem etiam anno dominus Leo papa obiit. Tunc legati Romanorum, Azo videlicet protoscriniarius et Marinus, Sutriensis ecclesiae episcopus, imperatorem pro instituendo quem vellet Romano pontifice in Saxonia adeuntes, honorifice suscipiuntur et remittuntur. Et Otgerus Spiriensis episcopus et Liuzo (Liutprand) Cremonensis episcopus cum eisdem Romam ab imperatore diriguntur. Tunc ab omni plebe Romana Ioannes Narniensis ecclesiae episcopus eligitur et sedi apostolicae pontifex intronizatur.”

² The interpolated foundation charter of the bishopric of Pécs refers to Azo: „cum consensu sanctissimi apostolici et presentia eius nuntii, Azonis episcopi” DHA 58., FRANKÓI 1901a. 16., GERICS – LADÁNYI 1996. 12.

³ JK-JE-JL I. nr. 4000.

⁴ CRISTOFORI 1888a. 2; CHARDAVOINE 1928. 130-131: nr. 2; GAMS IV; [MIRANDA: '2 Azzone'](#) (13/6/2012)

CRISTOFORI 1888a	CRISTOFORI, Francesco: <i>Cronotassi dei cardinali di santa romana Chiesa nelle loro sedi suburbicarie titoli presbiteriali e diaconie dal secolo V all' anno del Signore MDCCCLXXXVIII, compilata sui manoscritti originali et avtentici essistenti nella biblioteca e negli archivi vaticani e su molteplici altre fonti storiche edite et inedite antiche e moderne</i> . Roma, De propaganda fide, 1888.
GAMS	GAMS, Pius Bonifacius: <i>Series episcoporum Ecclesiae catholicae</i> . Leipzig, 1931 (ND: Graz, 1957). IV
UGHELLI	UGHELLI, Ferdinando: <i>Italia sacra</i> . I-IX. Ed, rev.: COLETI, Niccolò, Venezia, 1717-1722. I. col. 56.
MIRANDA 'Azzone'	<u>MIRANDA: '2 Azzone'</u> (Miranda, Salvador: The Cardinals of the Holy Roman Church - database /Florida International University: http://www2.fiu.edu/~mirandas/cardinals.htm)
FRAKNÓI 1901a	FRAKNÓI Vilmos: <i>Magyarország egyházi és politikai összeköttetései a római Szent-székkal</i> . I. 1000-1417. Budapest, 1901. 16.
GERICS – LADÁNYI 1996	GERICS, József – LADÁNYI, Erzsébet: A Szentszék és a magyar állam a 11. században. In: <i>Magyarország és a Szentszék kapcsolatának ezer éve</i> . Ed. ZOMBORI, István. Budapest, 1996. 9-20., 12.

K.G.