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Hungarians in Hell
The Visions of Laurentius de Tar

This paper presents the visions of Laurentius de Tar in Saint Patrick's Purgatory. Laurentius descended the cave in 1411. Laurentius sought to find out what the soul was and what was its destiny after death. Attacked by devils disguised as pilgrims or women, helped by Archangel Michael, Laurentius ascended from Hell strengthened in his faith. Laurentius' visions made an impact in Hungary. The decoration of Saint Michael's Church in Tar might have represented a pilgrimage scene. 'Hellgoer' Lawrence's visions hit home in Buda Castle: King Sigismund started to build Saint Sigismund Chapel as an act of penitence in 1412 at the price of pledging sixteen cities in Upper Hungary to Poland. In the sixteenth century, Sebastyén Tinódi Lantos gave a political twist to Laurentius' visions.