

# Judith of Brittany

**Judith of Brittany**, also called **Judith of Rennes** (982–1017), was Duchess of Normandy from c. 1000 until her death.

## Life

Judith, born in 982, was the daughter of Conan I, Duke of Brittany and Ermengarde-Gerberga of Anjou.<sup>[1]</sup> She was the mother of Robert I, Duke of Normandy and paternal grandmother of William the Conqueror.<sup>[2]</sup>

She was a part of an important double marriage alliance between Normandy and Brittany first recorded by William of Jumièges.<sup>[3]</sup> In 996 her brother Geoffrey I, Duke of Brittany married Hawise of Normandy, daughter of Richard I, Duke of Normandy while in c. 1000 Judith married Richard II, Duke of Normandy, Hawise's brother.<sup>[4]</sup> The duchess Judith died on 28 August 1017<sup>[1]</sup> and was buried in the abbey of Bernay, which she had founded in 1013.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Family

Judith married Richard II, Duke of Normandy<sup>[6]</sup> c. 1000.<sup>[2]</sup> They had six children:

- Richard (c. 1002/4), Duke of Normandy.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Alice of Normandy (c. 1003/5), married Renaud I, Count of Burgundy.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Robert (c. 1005/7), Duke of Normandy.<sup>[2]</sup>
- William (c. 1007/9), monk at Fécamp, d. 1025.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Eleanor (c. 1011/3), married to Baldwin IV, Count of Flanders.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Matilda (c. 1013/5), nun at Fecamp, d. 1033. She died young and unmarried.<sup>[7]</sup>

## References

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- K.S.B. Keats-Rohan, 'Poppa of Bayeux And Her Family', *The American Genealogist*, Vol. 72 No.4 (July/October 1997), p. 192 n. 12
- David C. Douglas, *William the Conqueror* (University of California Press,1964), p. 29
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**Judith of Brittany**



Leaden sarcophagus of Judith of Brittany a.k.a. Judith de Conan (982–1017). The sarcophagus was made in the 11th century and found in the 19th century in the foundations of the church of the abbey Notre-Dame in Bernay. The skeleton in the sarcophagus was that of an important woman of small body height with a congenital deformation of the haunch. Deformations of this kind were common among women of Brittany, sometimes, but not always, making it impossible for them to give birth to children.

<b>Born</b>	982
<b>Died</b>	1017 (aged 34–35)
<b>Buried</b>	Abbey of Bernay
<b>Noble family</b>	Rennes
<b>Spouse(s)</b>	Richard II, Duke of Normandy
<b>Issue</b>	

- 6. K.S.B. Keats-Rohan, 'Poppa of Bayeux And Her Family', *The American Genealogist*, Vol. 72 No.4 (July/October 1997), p.. 192 (here calling her Judith of Rennes)
- 7. David C. Douglas, *William the Conqueror* (University of California Press, 1964), p. 31

Richard III, Duke of Normandy
Alice of Normandy
Robert the Magnificent
William of Normandy
Eleanor of Normandy
Matilda of Normandy
<b>Father</b> Conan I, Duke of Brittany
<b>Mother</b> Ermengarde of Anjou

Preceded by <b><u>Gunnora, Duchess of Normandy</u></b>	<b><u>Duchess consort of Normandy</u></b> 996–1017	Succeeded by <b><u>Papia of Envermeu</u></b>
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