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Our interest in the intersections of sanctity and literature began when Eva, working on her dissertation on the *Scottish Legendary* and its narrative art, decided to organise a conference called 'Sanctity and Literature' at the Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany, in November 2010. The response to the call for papers was overwhelming – clearly the topic had touched a nerve. Anke was invited as a speaker and so began our many conversations about this topic, which culminated in our decision to put together a collection of essays that would open it up to wider discussion. We invited a selection of contributors who could cover a range of pertinent issues; we were excited that this brought together a combination of younger and more established researchers in the field. We would like to thank our anonymous readers, whose feedback and suggestions were immensely helpful and constructive. Thank you also to our contributors – it has been a pleasure working with you on this project!

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Sanctity always requires witnesses who record its occurrence, and you have all become witnesses in recording the manifold instances of sanctity as literature in medieval Britain.

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