

RARE BX2080.A2  
Book of Hours for Dominican Use  
Northwestern France? S. XV<sup>2/4</sup>

## CONTENT

The Seven Penitential Psalms (f.1r); a Litany of the Saints (f.12v3); *Agnus dei* (f. 17v5), *Alma Redemptoris Mater* (f.18r1), Suffrages (f. 18v2), the Hours of the Cross (f.20v1); the Hours of the Holy Spirit at Matins (f.23v1); Memorials to the saints (f.26r1); the Office of the Dead with vespers, Matins (first, second, and third night readings), and Lauds (f.31r1 1-61v3); Prayers for use at Mass (f.63v7), the hymn *Ave verum corpus* (f.66r2), and the *Obsecro te* (f.67r1).

## MODERN EDITIONS

Medievalist.net. "A Hypertext Book of Hours." <http://medievalist.net/hourstxt/home.htm>.

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Parchment. 71 folios. Multiple scribes. 9 quires I-II<sup>8</sup>, III<sup>6</sup>, IV-VIII<sup>8</sup>, IX<sup>9</sup> lacking final blank. Catch words at the end of each quire provide the first word of the next quire. HF'FH. Bound, s. XV. Dimensions of folio 11.5 cm X 8.7 cm. Text dimensions 6 cm X 5 cm. 14 long lines, ruled by dry point with single vertical bounding lines. Prickings in outer margins. *Gothic textura*. Blank spaces left for miniatures (f.1r, 31r). Decorated initials in gold leaf, frequently with red pen flourishes. Decorated initial D in purple box (f.1r). Decorated initial D in a decorated square bordered in gold with gold dots and filled in purple, purple and gold dots continue staining the left upper and outer margins; the decoration is not complete, only part of the outer left margin has been stained purple, and some bole dots were added without the gold leaf decoration. (f.20v). Decorated initial D incorporating a coat of arms depicting two white fleurs-de-lis and a black square with a white canton against a red ground, initial contained in a box filled with a purple flower pattern (f.23v). Gold leaf initial D against purple background (f.31r). Decorated/historiated initials in gold leaf with red penwork and a small face within the letter (ff. 18v, 61r). Other alternating blue and red initials. Some red highlighting. Text varies from brown to very black. Marginal gloss, previous collection number in upper margin f.1.

## BINDING

Blind stamped calf over wooden boards. Roll tooled panels and borders, raised bands. Remains of clasps. Back cover pastedown has been removed and quire ties are visible where they are woven to the board.

## PROVENANCE

Mid-sixteenth century, owned by François Pinnard whose autograph appears on two leaves. Eighteenth century, Lenormand de Coudray from Orléans with his paraphe at the head of the title page. Nineteenth century, lower margin of title page contains two autographs: Chanonie Hitzler and John Rolls, 1824. Twentieth century, Mrs. June O'Donnell (d.1979) bought at Sotheby's 5 July 1965; J. Pope purchase at Sotheby's 25 June 1985; Twenty-first century: Ellis Library Centennial Purchase (purchased from Sokol Books, March 2016).<sup>1</sup>

## DETAILED RECORD

### **Seven Penitential Psalms (f.1r12- 12v2)**

- f.1r12: Psalm 6. Incipit *Domine ne in furore*
- f.2r14: Psalm 32. Incipit *Beati quo(rum)*
- f.3r: Psalm 38. Incipit *Domine ne in furore*
- f. 6r: Psalm 51. Incipit *Miserere mei deus*
- f, 7r: Psalm 102. Incipit *Domine exaudi*
- f. 10r: Psalm 130. Incipit *De profundis*
- f. 11v: Psalm 143. Incipit *Domine exaudi*
- f. 12v3: **A Litany of the Saints**. Incipit *Kyrie eleison*
- f.17v5: **Agnus dei** (imperfect). Incipit *Agnus dei quitollus peccata mundi parte nob(is) d(omi)ne*
- f.18r1: **Alma Redemptoris Mater** (imperfect). Incipit *Post partum virgo i(n)violata p(er)ma(n)sisti*  
Note: Missing first two sections of the prayer.
- f. 18v3 **Suffrages**. Incomplete, does not include Payer to the saints. Incipit *Protege Do(min)e famulos tuos subsidiis pacis*
- f.20v1: **Hours of the Cross at Matins**. Incipit *Dominine labia mea aperies*  
Note: Text begins with a gold leaf initial D with gold borders and gold dots. The decoration is not complete, only part of the outer left margin has been stained purple, and some bole dots were added without the gold leaf decoration.
- f. 23v1: **Hours of the Holy Spirit at Matins** Incipit *Domine labia mea aperies*

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<sup>1</sup> Matthias Budisin (ed.), "SDBM\_206559," *Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts*, last updated October 2016, <https://sdbm.library.upenn.edu/entries/206559>.

f. 26r1: **Memorials of the Saints**. Incipit *Matir Xp(ist)o foro*

### **Office of the Dead**

#### **Vespers**

f.31r11: Psalm 114. Incipit *Dilexi qu(on)i(am) exaudiet d(omin)us*.  
Lines 1-10 left blank for a miniature.

f. 34v9: The Magnificat/Canticle of Mary. Incipit *magnificat: a(n)i(m)a mea d(om)niu(m)*

f.35v6: Psalm 145. Incipit *lauda anima mea Dominu(m) laudabo*

f.36v6: Prayer for the Dead. Incipit *Deus venie largitor et humane salutis a(u)ctor*

f. 37r2: Opening Prayer for the Mass of the Dead. Incipit *Deus qui nos patrem et matrem honorare precepisti*

f.37r8: Prayer at Vespers (imperfect). Incipit *fdeliu(m) deus ommiun conditor et redemptor*

#### **Matins, First Nocturne**

f. 37v2: Psalm 5. Incipit *verba mea audibus p(er)cipe domine*

f. 39r3: Psalm 7. Incipit *Domine deus meus in te sp(er)avi salvum me fac*

f. 40v12: The First Lesson Job 7: Parce mihi, Domine, nihil enim sunt dies mei

f.41v8: Lectio Secunda Job 10. Incipit *Tedet a(n)i(m)am mea(m) vite mee*

#### **Matins, Second Nocturne**

f. 43r13: Psalm 22. Incipit *Dominus reget me et nihil mihi deerit*

f. 44r7: Psalm 24. Incipit *Ad te domine levavi a(n)i(m)am meam*

f. 46r10: Psalm 26. Incipit *Dominus inluminatio mea et salus mea*

f. 48r8: Lectio quarta Job 13. Incipit *Responde mihi, qua(n)tas habeo i(n)iquitates et peccata*

f.49r6: Lectio quinta Job 14, 1-6: Incipit *Homo natus de muliere brevi vivens tempore*

#### **Matins, Third Nocturne**

f. 5011: Lectio Sexta Job 14, 13-16. Incipit *Quis mihi hoc tribuat*

f. 50r14: Response to the eighth reading.<sup>2</sup> Incipit *Domine secundu(m) actum meum noli me iudicare*

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<sup>2</sup> As in Knud Ottosen, *The Responsories and Versicles of the Latin Office of the Dead* (Copenhagen: Arhus University Press, 1993), 8.

- f.50v9: Psalm 39 of David. Incipit *Exspectans exspectavi Dominum*
- f.53r6: Psalm 40. Incipit *Beatus qui intelligit sup(er) egenu(m) et paupe(re)m*
- f. 54v3: Psalm 41. Incipit *Quemadmodu(m) desid(er)at cervus*
- f. 56r10: Job 17. Incipit *Sp(irit)us meus attenuabiyur dies mei breviabunt(er)*
- f. 57r10: Job 19. Incipit *Pelli mee (con)sumptis carnib(us)*
- f.58r10: Lectio nona Job 10. Incipit *Quare de vulva eduxisti me*

## Lauds

- f. 59v10: Psalm 64. Incipit *Te decet hy(m)nus Deus in Sion*
- f. 61r8: Psalm 62. Incipit *Deus Deus meus ad te de luce vigilo*
- f. 61v3: Canticum Ezechiae/Isiah 38. 10-20. Incipit *Ego dixi i(n) dimidio die(rum)*
- f. 63r3: Series of incipits. Psalm 148: incipit Laudate d(o)m(inu)m de celis, Canticum Zachariae (Luke 1): incipit Benedictus Do(minus) De(us), antiphon: incipit Ego sum resurrection, another antiphon: incipit A porta inferi erue d(omi)ne a(n)i(m)as
- f.63v7: **Prayers for use at Masses**. Incipit *Om(ni)p(oten)s et*
- f. 66r2: **Ave verum corpus**. Incipit *Ave Verum corp(us)*
- f. 67r1: **Obsecro te**. Incipit *Obsecro te d(omi)na sa(n)cta ni Mat(er) dei*

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Book of hours was one of the new devotional texts that flourished in the thirteenth century due to the increase in private devotion.<sup>3</sup> Books of hours were mostly used by women, often to instruct children. The text typically includes extracts from the bible (around 85% came from the bible) and prayers to the Virgin. Medieval women were encouraged to emulate the life of the Virgin. The Seven Penitential Psalms were allegedly written by King David who had committed the seven deadly sins but was returned to God's favor after reciting these words. The Office of the Dead was meant to be a reminder of death and contains parts of the book of Job.<sup>4</sup>

RARE BX2080.A2 is an unfinished manuscript, as indicated by the text box left open for illumination on f.1r. Most books of hours include the liturgical calendar, which allowed the

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<sup>3</sup> C.M. Kauffmann. *Biblical Imagery in Medieval England 700-1550* (London: Harvey Miller Publishers, 2003); *Sacred Time: The Book of Hours from the Middle Ages to the Present Day*, Bruce Peel Special Collections Library, University of Alberta, June 3- September 9, 1996.

<sup>4</sup> Christopher de Hammel, "Reading the Hours: The Medieval Experience of the Bible," TextManuscripts/Les Enluminures, accessed October 19, 2017, [http://www.textmanuscripts.com/blog/entry/3\\_16\\_reading-the-book-of-hours](http://www.textmanuscripts.com/blog/entry/3_16_reading-the-book-of-hours).

reader to keep track of the important feast days of the liturgical year.<sup>5</sup> Also missing from the Columbia manuscript are passages from the four Gospels and the Hours of the Virgin. Perhaps intended for the Dominican convent of Le Mans as several locally revered saints, Sebastian, Eutropius, Serenicus, Fiacrew and Aventinus appear in the litany.<sup>6</sup>

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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de Hammel, Christopher. "Reading the Hours: The Medieval Experience of the Bible." *TextManuscript/Les Enluminures*. Accessed October 19, 2017. [http://www.textmanuscripts.com/blog/entry/3\\_16\\_reading-the-book-of-hours](http://www.textmanuscripts.com/blog/entry/3_16_reading-the-book-of-hours). (October

Kauffmann, C.M. *Biblical Imagery in Medieval England 700-1550*. London: Harvey Miller Publishers, 2003.

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*Sacred Time: The Book of Hours from the Middle Ages to the Present Day*. Bruce Peel Special Collections Library, University of Alberta, June 3- September 9, 1996.

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<sup>5</sup> *Sacred Time: The Book of Hours from the Middle Ages to the Present Day*, Bruce Peel Special Collections Library, University of Alberta, June 3- September 9, 1996. See also Medievalist.net, "Introduction to the Book of Hours," <http://medievalist.net/hourstxt/hrsintro.htm>.

<sup>6</sup> Matthias Budisin (ed.), "SDBM\_206559," *Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts*, updated October 2016, <https://sdbm.library.upenn.edu/entries/206559>.