

MS. 405

Book of Hours, Use of Bourges, in Latin and French France; s. xv^{3/4}

Text

Described by Ker, *MMBL*, III, pp. 693-4.

[Item 1 occupies quires 1-2]

1. (fols. 1r-12v) Calendar, in French, with an entry for every day in red, blue, or gold; feasts in gold include William (10 Jan.), Sulpice (17 Jan.), Ambrose (4 Apr.), the translation of William (7 May), Austregesille (21 May), and Ursin (9 Nov.), all of whom were bishops of Bourges, except Ambrose (of Milan) to whom the city's Augustinian house was dedicated (Cottineau, *Repertoire topo-bibliographique*, col. 461).

[Item 2 occupies quire 3]

2. (fols. 13r-17v) Gospel Pericopes.

[Items 3-4 occupy quires 4-11]

3. (fols. 18r-80v) Hours of the Virgin, Use of Bourges, with some rubrics in French, with variant psalms for the days of the week, and three lessons at Matins.
4. (fol. 81r-82v, rubric on fol. 80v) '*La messe de nostre dame. Salve sancta parens enixa puerpera regem qui celum terramque regit ...*' (Chevalier, *Rep. hymn.*, no. 18197).

[Items 5-8 occupy quires 12-14]

5. (fols. 83r-86v, rubric on 82v) '*Oroison. deuote de nostre dame. Obsecro te ... Et michi famule tue ...*'.
6. (fols. 87r-90r, rubric on 86v) '*Oratio deuota O intemerata ... orbis terrarum inclina aures tue pietatis ... Esto michi peccatori ...*'.
7. (fols. 90v-95v, rubric on 90r) The Fifteen Joys of the Virgin, in French: '*Aultre oroison deuoste de nostre dame les quinze loyes ...*'.
8. (fols. 96r-98v, rubric on 95v) The Seven Requests of our Lord, in French: '*Cy sensuiuent les sept requestes a nostre seigneur. ...*'

[Items 9-16 occupy quires 15-23]

9. (fols. 99r-112r) The Seven Penitential Psalms.
10. (fols. 112r-116v) Litany, including Eutropius (7) and Cyricus (10) among ten martyrs; Ursin, William, Sulpice, and Ambrose (1-4), Austregesille (6), Silvanus (of Bourges) (10), and Lupus (14) among fourteen confessors; followed by two collects.
11. (fols. 117r-120r) Hours of the Cross.
12. (fols. 120v-123v) Hours of the Spirit.
13. (fols. 124r-164r, rubric and antiphon on 123v) Office of the Dead, use of Bourges: '*Pro deffunctis [sic] ad vespas ...*'

14. (fol. 164v) Prayer with 8000 years indulgence: ‘*Quiconques dira ceste oroison il aura viij^e. mille ans de pardon. Domine ihesu christe saluator & redemptor tocius mundi rogo te ...*’ (no example occurs in Leroquais, *LH*).
15. (fols. 165r-166r) Suffrages: ‘De saint sebastien. ...’, ‘De sainte katherine. ...’.
16. (fol. 166r-v) Added, contemporary prayers etc.: ‘Salve regina misericordie uita ducedo et spes nostra salve ad te clamamus ...’; and, slightly later, ‘Aue regina celorum aue domina angelorum ...’, and ‘Regina celi letare alleluya. | Qui meruisti Christum portare alleluya. | ...’.

Decoration

Twelve large miniatures, each above three (four on fols. 50r, 61r, 65r, 75v) lines of text, and a three-line (four-line, as above) foliate initial, and framed on all four sides by a foliate border:

1. (fol. 18r) Annunciation; framed by an archway.
2. (fol. 38v) Visitation.
3. (fol. 50r) Nativity. [[Image](#)]
4. (fol. 56v) Annunciation to two seated Shepherds (Alexander & Temple, pl. XLVII). [[Image](#)]
5. (fol. 61r) Adoration.
6. (fol. 65r) Presentation.
7. (fol. 69r) Flight into Egypt. [[Image](#)]
8. (fol. 75v) Coronation.
9. (fol. 99r) David in penitence. [[Image](#)]
10. (fol. 117r) Crucifixion.
11. (fol. 120v) Pentecost.
12. (fol. 124r) Burial service: a coped priest with an open book, black-clad mourners, and a crucifer look at a shrouded corpse in a walled churchyard(?).

One historiated initial:

(fol. 83r) Four-line initial ‘O’(bsecro): Virgin and Child, seated on a bench, the Child with a trefoil(or fleur-de-lys?)-headed object; in a landscape. [[Image](#)]

Other major texts with four-line foliate initials (fols. 81r, 87r, 90v), or three line initials in gold with a blue infill and rose ground, or vice versa, and white rinceaux (fols. 14r, 15v, 96r); psalms, prayers, suffrages, KL monograms in the calendar, etc., with similar two-line illuminated initials; verses, etc., with similar one-line initials; similar line-fillers.

The initial on fol. 13r was cut out at an unknown date, the hole filled by a 19th(?) -century replacement. [[Image](#)]

Physical description

Parchment, c.185 x c.140 mm., of fine quality.

ff. i (17th-century parchment) + 166, foliated sporadically in 20th-century pencil, initially on every fifth leaf or so (1, 5, 10, 13, 15, 20, 25, etc. to 40), then usually only on the first leaf of each quire (49, 57, 67, etc.), correct except for '110' on fol. 109: i, 1-166.

Quires mostly of eight leaves each: 1-2⁶ (fols. 1-12); 3⁶⁻¹ (6th leaf cancelled) (fols. 13-17); 4⁸ (fols. 18-25), 5⁸⁻¹ (7th leaf cancelled) (fols. 26-32), 6-8⁸ (fols. 33-56), 9¹⁰ (fols. 57-66), 10-11⁸ (fols. 67-82); 12⁸ (fols. 83-90), 13-14⁴ (fols. 91-98); 15-22⁸ (fols. 99-162), 23⁴ (fols. 163-166); catchwords or traces of them survive in many quires, in the middle of the lower margin, or to the gutter side; that on fol. 66v written vertically.

Ruled in pale red ink, with 16 horizontal lines, the top one and bottom one extending the full width of the page, between single vertical bounding lines extending the full width of the page; the ruled space c.107 x c.69 mm.

Written with 15 lines per page in a fine gothic script, with rather pronounced serifs, using only the point on the line for punctuation; rubrics by the main scribe, often in French.

Secundo folio: 'Fevrier' (Calendar, fol. 2r), 'factum est' (fol. 14r).

Binding

Sewn on four thongs, and bound in 17th-century limp parchment; each cover stamped with a gilt centrepiece; foliate gilt stamps on the spine [[Image](#)]; with parchment pastedowns and front flyleaf (a back flyleaf perhaps missing); the edges of the leaves gilt; the bottom of the spine inscribed '7' in reddish crayon(?); in a cardboard box, the spine with a paper label inscribed 'M 24', later crossed though in ink and changed to '405', this paper label overlapped by another blue-edged one inscribed '405'.

Provenance

1. Written c.1460-70, probably in Bourges, apparently for a women, to judge by the feminine forms used in the prayer 'Obsecro te'; the presence of only two suffrages to saints may suggest personal selection, but there are no early marks of ownership; still in France in the 17th century, when rebound.
2. Hans Heinrich von Howart Eninische Kanzler, bought 7 March 1697, with his purchase note stuck to the back pastedown: 'Hoc Psalterium Manuscriptum ex seculo decimo tertio emi pro ducentis florenis 7^{tem} die martii 1697. Hans Heinrich von Herwart bairische (?) Kanzler' [[Image](#)]; the foreground of the miniature on fol. 99r inscribed (with his name?): 'He[...]'; that on fol. 124r is similarly inscribed; with the remains of his armorial bookplate, partly torn away: '[...] Henrich Freijherr [...] auf Hohenburg D[er...y... ..]rlicher Cammer herr und Reich(?) HoffRath. Anno 1674.', the arms surmounted by a coronet (cf. F. Warnecke, *Die deutschen Bücherzeichen* (1890), no. 826; for the quartered arms of Hörwarth von Hohenburg, see Rietstap, pl. 227).
3. William Jackson (died 1878) (on whom see *Alumni Oxonienses*; Magrath, *Queens*, II, pp. 186-93, etc.), provost of Queen's, with his bookplate engraved with his crest, seal as archdeacon, arms, and motto 'VIRTUTI VIGILIA' (fol. i verso); apparently given by him to his daughter, Georgiana Magrath.

4. Georgiana Magrath, wife of J. R. Magrath (1839-1930) (on whom see *Alumni Oxonienses*; Magrath, *Queens*, II, pp. 196-8, etc.), provost of Queen's College.
5. Queen's College, given by Georgiana Magrath, as recorded on a College bookplate, also inscribed 'M 24' (cf. spine of box) crossed through, and 'MSS. CCCC.V.', and in pencil '40' (fol. i recto).

Bibliography

Not in Coxe: acquired after publication; cf. T. W. Allen, 'Migrations of historical manuscripts: Queen's College', *Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research*, 2 no. 6 (1925), pp. 98-9, at p. 99.

Alexander & Temple, *College libraries*, no. 767, pl. XLVII (fol. 56v, most of page, borders cropped).

Status: Draft