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MS 782

Southern Italy, s. XV²

Saints' lives, in Latin

1. ff. 1r-4r *Incipit vita sancti Renati episcopi*. Igitur beatissimus Renuus nobilissimus secundum seculi prosapiam ortus parentibus, fide tamen nobilior et operibus Endegavensi solo extitit oriundus ... parva de pluribus, si Dominus dederit, ad memoriam revocemus.

Life of St. Renuus, bishop of Angers, afterwards of Sorrento (s. V). BHL 7177 (without the prologue). B. Capasso, ed., *Memorie storiche della chiesa Sorrentina* (Naples, 1854; repr. Bologna, 1971), pp. 203-208. Subdivided into 9 Lessons by means of marginal captions.

2. ff. 4r-5v *In sanctorum Renati et Valerii*. Operante divina clemencia reddit [*sic*] comunibus votis optata sollempnitas et lux annue festivitatis effulsit, natalis nobis sacerdotum atque Christi confessorum Renati et Valerii diem provehens ... ut mereamur in eterna cum eis natalis eorum festivitate letari. Ubi regnant cum Domino Deo nostro Ihesu Christo, qui est benedictus in secula seculorum. Amen.

Sermon on the miracles of Sts. Renuus and Valerius. BHL 7179. F. Ughelli, *Italia sacra* (2nd ed., Venice, 1717-1722), v. 6, 600A-601B.

3. f. 6r-v *Annua nobis revoluzione festivitas celebranda est, in qua sanctorum Renati et Valerii sacerdotum Christi et confessorum miracula longum est enarrare ... Cui assenciens uterque properaverunt, gracias simulque agentes Deo, qui cotidie in sanctis suis mirabilia operari non desinit. Cui est honor et gloria in secula seculorum. Amen.*

Sermon on the miracles of Sts. Renuus and Valerius. BHL 7180. F. Ughelli, *op. cit.*, v. 6, 601C-602A. Important corrections.

4. ff. 6v-20r *Incipit prologus sancti Antonini confessoris*. Commendat nobis orthodoxorum tradicio, ut ad salutis nostre augmentum, ad fidei quoque confirmationem necnon ad beate spei certitudinem sanctorum operum insignia seu virtutum miracula in lucem prolata propagemus ... Deinde virtutes per ipsum hominibus demonstratas, quantum ad nostras aures pervenit, subnectentes ad calcem operis perveniemus. *Explicit prologus*. [f. 7v:] *Incipit narracio eiusdem*. Quo tempore Longobardorum ferina immanitas Campanie provinciam hostili gladio et incendio vastavit, sanctus iste noster patronus Antoninus has partes advenisse et episcopo Stabiensis ecclesie dicitur adhesisse ... quatinus Deo serviendo et te amando et venerando officium complens, hic et in futuro mercedem accipiat ab eo, qui est retributor omnium bonorum, Christo Ihesu Domino nostro, qui cum Deo Patre et Spiritu Sancto vivit et regnat, Deus per infinita secula seculorum. Amen.

Life of St. Antoninus, abbot of Sorrento (d. c. 830). BHL 582. *Acta Sanctorum*, Febr. II, 3d ed., pp. 787-795.

5. ff. 20r-22v *In sancti Bacculi episcopi et confessoris.* Beatissimus igitur Bacchulus Neapolitane urbis civis fuit. Hic et nobilis genere et nobilis extitit sanctitate ... barbarorum pestis, ut prefati sumus, interiit. Precemur igitur individuum Trinitatem, ut tantorum meritis patronorum nobis nostrorum criminum veniam largiatur. Quod nobis concedat Deus, cui sit honor et laus per infinita secula seculorum. Amen.

Life, translation and miracles of St. Baculus, bishop of Sorrento (c. 660). BHL 894-895. Ughelli, *op. cit.*, v. 6, 603D-606A. Subdivided into 9 Lessons by means of marginal captions.

6. ff. 22v-23v *Residuum pro sanctis Renato et Valerio.* Corroborantur ea penitus certe, que in sancto eloquio dicuntur: Gloriosus Deus in sanctis suis ... Credentes nos eorum oracionibus ab hostium insidiis atque cunctorum imminentibus periculis et contagiis liberari. Per Dominum nostrum Ihesum Christum, qui cum Deo Patre et Spiritu Sancto vivit et regnat in secula seculorum. Amen.

Sermon on the miracles of Sts. Renatus and Valerius (see artt. 1-3). BHL 7181. Ughelli, *op. cit.*, v. 6, 602B-603A.

7. ff. 23v-25v *Incipit vita et obitus sancti Severi episcopi* [et Basili *added by another hand and afterwards deleted*]. Secretum regis celare bonum est, opera autem Dei revelare et confiteri honorificum est... In hiis temporibus accidit nobis, ut Severus, Neapolitane sedis episcopus, sicut in antiquos olim sanctos, operari mirabilia illum ostenderet [*sic*] Dominus dignatus est ... Nam et corpus beati Ianuarii sacerdotis et martiris ipse condivit [*l. condidit*] manibus suis in ecclesia foris portam civitatis huius miliario uno, in quo nunc requiescit.

Life of St. Severus, bishop of Naples (d. c. 409). BHL 7676 (chapter 2 to the beginning of chapter 6). *Acta Sanctorum*, April. III, 3d ed., p.777. In the outer and lower margins of f. 23v the Office of St. Severus added by later hand.

8. ff. 25v-26v *Incipiunt miracula sancti Agrippini episcopi.* Fratres dilectissimi, divinis ac sanctis admonicionibus prebere debemus assensum, quibus hortamur sanctorum merita virtutesque Christianorum auribus non celare ... optantes omnes maiora sibi ab eis ac preciosa tribui beneficia, quod et supplicantibus sibi prestare non cessant usque in presentem diem, in nomine Domini nostri Ihesu Christi, qui cum Patre et Spiritu Sancto vivit et regnat in secula seculorum. Amen.

Miracles of St. Agrippinus, bishop of Naples (s. IIIⁱⁿ), introduction and chapters 1-7. BHL 174. B. Capasso, *Monumenta ad Neapoli ducatus historiam pertinentia* (Naples, 1881-1882), v. 1, pp. 322-324. In the outer and lower margins of f. 25v the Office of St. Agrippinus added by later hand.

9. f. 27r-v *In sancti Bacchuli episcopi et confessoris Invitatorium.* Gloria sanctorum quum sit ipse deus deorum, hunc decet hac hora nostra prius ire per ora [*corr. from hora*]. Responsorium primum. Parthenope natus Bacchulus fuit iste beatus ...

Invitatory and 9 Responsories of the Office of St. Baculus (see art. 5). The Invitatory and Responsories 1-4 are printed in Ughelli, *op. cit.*, v. 6, 603B-C.

10. ff. 27v-28v *In sancti Renati episcopi et confessoris ad Magnificat Antiphona.* Expansis manibus Syrrentinus populus ad sancti Renati accellerat [*corr. from accellerant*] domicilium. *Invitatorium.* Adoremus Dominum, qui beatum Renatum stolam glorie induit.

Psalmus. Venite. ... Insignis sacerdos Domini Renatus nobis a Deo optimus datus est. Antiphona. Agapitus Dei famulus ortabatur populum ut oracionibus insisteret protinus. ... Responsorium. [f. 28r:] Agapitus episcopus suis civibus condolens, Dei fretus auxilio, contra suos hostes armis eos instruit pugnare celestibus ...

Office of St. Renatus (see artt. 1-3 and 6). There are 8 Responsories and another hand made important additions at the end of the text and in the margins.

11. ff. 28v-41r *Incipit prologus sancti Agnelli confessoris*. [I]nter cetera nimirum documenta virtutum, quibus nos instruit beatus apostolus et sanctarum scripturarum exempla nobis ad memoriam revocet dicens ... Ergo, Deus clemens, tu nostris annue inceptis, munere de cuius omnia facta sunt. *Explicit prologus. Incipit narratio eiusdem*. [I]gitur vir Domini sanctissimus Agnellus iuxta nominis sui puritatem ab ipso puericie sue tempore innocenter vivens, nichil terrenum nichilque carnale hincians [sic] ... statim sensit per Dei potenciam quantum valeret fidelis devocio quantumque sanctorum apud Deum sancta precatio.

Peter, Subdeacon at Naples, Miracles of St. Agnellus abbot in the neighbourhood of Naples (d. 596). BHL 150. Capasso, *Monumenta*, v. 1, pp. 307-322. Several hiatuses in the text on f. 40v. The saint's Office added by other hand in the margins of f. 28v.

12. ff. 29r-32r, in the margins, by a later hand *In sancti Euphepii lectio prima*. Sanctissimus Christi confessor sanctus Euphebius post multa annorum curricula, ex quo mortali exutus tunica ad caelestia regna migravit ... inter tot procellas et turbines predictum lignum cum solidis, sanctissimo presule invisibiliter gubernante, Neapolis cum pluribus aliis lignis, quę tempestas impulerat, applicavit portum. Ille (?) autem //

Miracles of St. Euphebius bishop of Naples (s. III). BHL 2705 (without the introduction and the end). *Acta Sanctorum*, Mai V, 3d ed. 238-240.

13. ff. 41v-46r *Incipit passio beatissimi Ianuarii sacerdotis et martiris*. Temporibus Diocliciani imperatoris, consulatu Constantini Cesaris quinquies et Maximiani Cesaris sexties, erat persecutio Christianorum. Eo tempore convocans [corr. from est vocatus] Dioclicianus imperator Timotheum quendam paganum crudelissimum ... Septem namque pariter beatissimi sancti martirizati fuerunt [corr. from martirizaverunt], quorum una <extitit> septenarii forma omnipotentis Dei et Domini nostri Ihesu Christi martyrii eorum capta corona vinxerunt [sic] in secula seculorum. Amen. *Explicit vita* [this word deleted] *passio beatissimi Ianuarii sacerdotis et martyris*.

Passion and Translation of St. Januarius bishop of Benevento (s. III/IV) and of his companions Sosius, Festus, Proculus, Desiderius, Eutyches and Acutius. BHL 4115-4118. *Acta Sanctorum*, Sept. VI, 3d ed., pp. 866-868 and 869-870, with slight variants. In the margins of f. 45r-v a contemporary hand wrote the captions "Neapolitani sanctum Ianuarium", "Misenates sanctum Sossium", "Puteolani sanctum Proculum et sanctum Euticetem et sanctum Acucium", "Beneventani sanctum Festum et sanctum Desiderium habent". In the margins of ff. 45v-46r a s. XVI note in Italian relative to the miracle performed by the bodies of the saints in favour of a pagan senator from Benevento named Cyphius ("Aficis" in the text of art. 13). In the outer and lower margins of f.41v the Office of St. Januarius added by a later hand.

14. ff. 46r-51r *Incipiunt miracula eiusdem*. Operante divina misericordia reddit [sic] communibus votis optata sollempnitas ... Temporibus enim quibus omnipotens Deus

mortalium est iratus sceleribus ... ut percussis [*l. percursis*] optate incolumitatis gaudiis gloriemur in Domino Ihesu Christo ...

Miracles of St. Januarius. BHL 4138. *Acta Sanctorum*, Sept. VI, 3d ed., pp. 884-887.

15. ff. 51r-52v *In natali sancti Eligii episcopi et confessoris*. Factum est autem in diebus illis, postquam Eligius cuncta mundi huius adversa cunctosque labores equanimiter tolleravit ... et in antiquam possessionem diu peregrinata celo gaudente, terra plorante, angelis etiam plaudentibus tandem ovans ostendit.

Last words and death of St. Eligius bishop of Noyon (d. 659). Shortened version of *Vita sancti Eligii* (BHL 2474-2476), Book II, chapters 34-36. B. Krusch, ed., MGH, *Scriptores rerum Merovingicarum*, IV, pp. 718-720; PL 87.562-566.

16. ff. 52v-54r *In festo sancte Restitute virginis et martyris*. Eo namque tempore quo hec gerebantur et Romanam ecclesiam Gayus Dei pontifex et martyr optime gubernaret, erat quedam virgo ... ad locum ubi dicitur Ad Ripas, que distat a civitate Parthenope fere miliaria XXX.

Passion of St. Restituta venerated in Naples (s. III/IV). BHL 7190 (chapter 2 to the beginning of chapter 15). *Acta Sanctorum*, Mai IV, 3d ed., pp. 21-24. In the lower margin of f. 53v, by later hand, a prayer: "Oratio sanctę Restitute".

17. ff. 54r-55v *In festo sancti Athenasii episcopi et confessoris*. In Italie provincia Campanie, frugum omniumque pomorum fecunda civitate Neapolis, primum appellata Partenopen a quadam puella virgine ... statimque tenebris oculorum repulsis lumen recepit, quod cunctis attulit gaudium, benedicientibus Deum qui glorificavit sanctos suos.

Life and Translation of St. Athanasius bishop of Naples (d. 872). BHL 739. See G. Waitz, ed., MGH, *Scriptores rerum Langobardicorum*, pp. 439-449 (this version is much longer than our art. 17) and Ughelli, *op. cit.*, v. 6, 73B-C (the final miracle only). In the margin of f. 54v, by later hand, the Office of St. Athanasius.

18. f. 55v *In festo sancti Aspreni* (authore Alberico). Princeps apostolorum Simon Petrus, Anthiocensi fundata ecclesia, Romam accedens ad menia urbis Neapolitane transeundo pervenit; ubi, longo fatigatus itinere, quiescens paululum quandam mulierculam senem transire // [conspexit] [*added by other hand: nomine Andida*].

BHL 724. Beginning of the first Lesson of the office of St. Aspren bishop of Naples (s. I/II) (not by Albericus). *Acta Sanctorum*, Aug. I, 3d ed., p. 201. In the outer and lower margins, by later hand, the Office of St. Aspren.

Paper, ff. 56, 220 x 140 mm. The original foliation, in arabic numerals from "1" to "55", is erroneous: it has ff. 45 and 45bis.

I-VII⁸. Vertical catchwords in quires I-V (ff. 1-40).

Frame-ruling in lead (?) for one column of 24-30 lines, 140-160 x c. 95 mm.

Copied in Gothica-Humanistica (Gothica Hybrida Libraria under Humanistic influence, visible in some majuscules and the occasional use of the ampersand), probably by one hand lacking consistency: the handwriting is more rapid starting f. 41v, and again more calligraphic from f.

51r, l. 11 from the bottom (art. 15); in this final section looped *d* is generally replaced by Humanistic *d*. The later hand (s. XVI) who made extensive marginal additions in artt. 7, 8, 11, 13, 16-18 and copied art. 12 writes Humanistica Cursiva Currens.

Pale red headings. The decoration proper does not extend beyond f. 26v: red heightening of the majuscules and red plain initials (2-3 lines), occasionally with guide letter. On f. 1r large flourished initial *I* in red and black, with penwork extension in the inner margin.

Contemporary binding in bad condition: limp parchment, part of a notarial document in Latin in handwriting close to the main hand of the manuscript. Deals with a marriage (“in casu dissolucionis et separacionis dicti matrimonii”), a “domicella Angela”, a certain Bernard and his successors and a certain Philip and his successors. It bears the signatures of “Trojanus iudex de Amia (?)” and “Petrus abbas (?) *****”.

At the bottom of the last page (f. 55v), seemingly by another contemporary hand: “fere MCCCCLXV”. If it is by the same hand as the words “anno (?) domino (?)” written in an open space a few lines higher, it could point to the date of the manuscript: “about 1465”. The expression could on the other hand be a reminiscence of the last words of art. 16: “fere miliaria XXX”. On the blank turned-in verso of the notarial document at the rear of the manuscript the main scribe of our codex has written a list of the saints treated (with the exception of art. 12, of course): “De sancto Renato ... De sancto Aspren. De sancta Candida”. The last item is entirely missing.

Written in Southern Italy, as with the exception of art. 15 the entire content points to that area, especially Naples and Sorrento. The manuscript was obviously written at various moments, apparently by one hand. On the turn-in of the front cover, in s. XVII handwriting: “Fu del vescovo di Vico Paolo Regio. Ora è della casa di Vico questo libro, prestatomi dall p(adre) d(on) Nicola, vicario, e poi dal p(adre) d(on) Ambrosio (?) Tipaldo, vicario, an(no?) [date not entered]”. A bishop of the small diocese of Vico Equense near Sorrento with the first name Paul is not recorded. Neither is it clear which convent is meant by “casa di Vico”. Purchased from Bernard M. Rosenthal, San Francisco (MS 20 in his collection).

R 14.04.10

Albert Derolez