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Flanders, s. XV<sup>2</sup>

Ceremonial for a nuns' convent, in Latin and Dutch

1. ff. 1r-9r *Van der cleedinghen der susteren.* Als een persoon die men totten abiten der religien ontfaen sal ghenoeuch geexamineert es in dine dinghen die der oordenen aangaen, so sal men in den daghe die daertoe gheordineert es, na den ghetide dat voor die hoomesse gaet, dien persoon voor den graet des autars bringhen. Ende nadien dat die priester haer begheerte ghevraghet heeft ende daerop eene curte vermaninghe ghedaen heeft, so beghint hij op de knien dese ymne: Veni creator, Spiritus, mentes tuorum visita ... Als de messe ute es so seit de priester: Dominus vobiscum. Et cum spiritu tuo. Coll. Omnipotens sempiterna Deus, castorum corporum benignus, etc. Als die collecte ute es, so leedtse de priester in tslot. ende men singt die antiphona Prudentes vir<gines>.

Ceremonial for the vestment of a nun. In the litany (ff. 3r-4r) no saints occur which could point to the destination of the manuscript.

2. ff. 9v-11r *Hoe men een zieke suster communiceren sal.* Als men [this word added above the line] een suster die siec es communiceren sal, so doet die priester een choorcleet of sine cappe an ende een stoole, ende gaet totter zieken ende draecht dat lichame Ons Heeren reverentelic in eene ciborie. Ende voor hem gaen twee van den susteren, van denwelken die eene draecht die lanteerne, daer een ontsteken wassen keerse in es, ende een bellekin dat se luydt; die ander draecht dat wijwater ende anpullen met wine ende met water. Ende als die priester totter sieken comt so seit hij: Pax huic domui. Ende die ander veranwoorden: Et omnibus habitantibus in ea. Daerna seit hij: Asperges me, etc. ... qui custodiat, foveat, protegat, visitet et defendat omnes habitantes in hoc habitaculo. Per Christum Dominum, etc. § Hierna gaen sij weder ter kerkenwaert in dier ordinancien als sij quamen.

Ceremonial for the communion of a sick nun.

3. ff. 11r-14v *Hoe men een zieke suster olyen sal.* Als men een sieke suster olyen sal, so sal de costersse daer bereet hebben de dinghen die daer van noode sijn, als dat heilighe olye weert [corrected in wert?] of eenen linen douc om den priester sijn vingher mede te drooghene als de sieke gheoliet es; een lanteerne met eender berrender wassener keersen; dat wijwater ende dat cruce voor de sieke. Daernaer gheeft men een teekin dat die susteren alle te choore commen ... ende ten lesten volghet die priester metter heligher olyen. Ende als hij totten sieken comt so seit hij: Pax huic domui. Ende tconvent verandwoort: Et omnibus // [1 leaf missing] ... Ende tconvent gaet weder ter kerkenwaert in der manieren dat zij quamen. Oratio. Dominus Ihesus Christus, qui dixit d(iscipulis) s(uis).

Ceremonial for administering the extreme unction.

4. ff. 14v-18r *Als een suster stervet. Als een suster met allen der doot ghenaeect, so slaet men die tafele oft men gheeft een ander teekin in tclooster. Ende die susteren commen haestelike totter sieken al lesende Credo in Deum. Ende deghene die eerst commen totter suster die sterft die beghinnen de letanien te lesene ... Ende als die suster ghestorven es, so henden sij rechtevoort den psalm dien sij leesen met Requiem eternam. Ende sij lesen dan de officie van den commendacien als hier volcht.*

Ceremonial at the death of a nun. Note in the litany (ff. 15r-16r) Remigius and Willebrordus among the confessors.

5. ff. 18r-40r *Hier volghen commendacien. Subvenite, sancti Dei. R. Occurrite, angeli Domini suscipientes animam eius ... [f. 37v:] § Als die commendacie ute es ende die doode ghecleedt es ende up die bare ghestelt, so neemt die priester een stoole ende besprayt dat lichame met wijwatere ende thurificeert daerup ende seit: Dominus vobiscum ... [f. 39v:] Als trespons Libera metten versen ute es, so seit die priester: V. A porta inferi ... preces nostras, quibus misericordiam tuam supplices deprecamur etc.*

Commendations for the dead nun. The respons with musical notation “Libera me” (f. 39r-v) was inserted afterwards.

6. ff. 40r-46v *Van den begravene eender dooder suster. Als men die doode suster ten gravewaert draghen sal, so luydt men de clocke drie verscheeneslaghe voorgaende. Ende die costersse oordineert dieghene die tcruce, dwieroeecat ende die de keersen draghen sullen ... Collecte. Absolve, quesumus, Domine, animam famule tue ab omni vinculo delictorum, etc. Fidelium Deus omnium etc.*

Ceremonial for the burial of a nun.

7. ff. 46v-51v *Hier volgt de seven psalmen. Domine, ne in furore tuo arguas me ... Et perdes omnes qui tribulant animam meam; quoniam ego servus tuus sum. Gloria Patri. Sicut erat etc.*

Seven Penitential Psalms.

8. ff. 51v-82r *Lumen ad revelacionem gencium et gloriam plebis tue, Israel ... [f. 79v:] Cum inducerent Ihesum parentes eius ... benedixit Deum dicens: Nunc dimittis, Domine, servum tuum in pace. [f. 80r:] Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto ... [f. 81r:] Alst maius duplex es ende solempne. Deo dicamus gracias ... [f. 81v:] In der messen up *Ite missa est.* Deo gracias ...*

Antiphons, Responses and Hymns for the aspersions with holy water and the processions, with musical notation and rubrics in Latin, for the feast of Purification of the Virgin (2 Febr., f. 52v), Palm Sunday (ff. 54r and 59r), Maundy Thursday (f. 61r), Easter, Ascension, Pentecost (ff. 66r and 68r), the Rogation Days (f. 69r), the Vigil of Pentecost, Corpus Christi (f. 73r), the Assumption of the Virgin (15 August, f. 74v), the Dedication of the Church (f. 76r), Trinity

Sunday (f. 78r) and again Purification (f. 79v). These are followed by the various melodies, with Dutch rubrics, for three liturgical formulas.

9. ff. 82v-84v *In den Advent versus* [rubric on f. 82r]. *Rorate celi desuper ... Van allen helighen. Letamini in Domino et exultate, iusti. Et gloriamini omnes recto corde.*

Text of Versicles for various periods and feasts of the ecclesiastical year.

10. ff. 84v-85v *De apostolis. In omnem terram exivit sonus eorum ... Plurimarum virginum sicut plurimorum martirum, sed ad 9: Adducentur regi virgines post eam, proxime eius afferentur tibi.*

Versicles for the Common of the Saints.

11. f. 86r-87v *Dese oracien sal men lesen voor die in haer uterste ligghen. Kyrieleyson. Christeleyson. Kyrieleyson. Pater noster. Ende en leedt ons niet in becoringhen ... ende verleent, lieve Heere, dat zy met al huwen huutvercoornen verbliden moet in eewicheden. Die leefs ende regneers metten Vader ende den Helighen Gheest in der eewicheit. Amen.*

Dutch prayers for a dying nun.

12. ff. 88r-94v § Item in Purificatione beate Marie benedictio candelarum. Maer de collecte die sal men sijngghen met accentuasien ... R. Et delectentur in leticia. Collecta. Sanctorum confessorum tuorum, etc.

Ceremonial for the consecration of candles at Purification, the consecration of ashes on Ash Wednesday, the consecration of palms on Palm Sunday, the washing of the altar on Maundy Thursday, partly with musical notation.

13. f. 95r-v//tium. Alleluia. *Loquebantur variis linguis apostoli ... misit eos in universum mundum predicare et testificari qui crediderit et //*

Fragment of the Antiphons for Pentecost, with musical notation.

Parchment, ff. 94??, 160 x 120 mm.

Originally all quires probably were quaternios. After the mutilation of the manuscript the collation is: I<sup>8</sup> (-7, -8, with loss of text; ff. 1-6), II<sup>8</sup> (-6, with loss of text; ff. 7-13), III-V<sup>8</sup> (ff. 14-37), VI<sup>8</sup> (+ 1 singleton = f. 39; ff. 38-46), VII-X<sup>8</sup> (ff. 47-78), XI<sup>8</sup> (+ 1 singleton = f. 85; ff. 79-87), XII<sup>8</sup> (-8, blank?; + 1 singleton = f. 95; ff. 88-95).

Rake ruling for one column of 17 lines below top line, the vertical lines traced in lead, the horizontal ones in brown ink. Ruling type 11.... ; there are 20 lines below top line on ff. 91r-92v.

The pages with musical notation have 6 black four-line staves (staff width: ...), the distance between two staves equals the staff width; 5 staves on ff. 89r-90v.

The main scribe (A) wrote Gothica Textualis Formata on ff. 1r-46v, l. 4 (with the exception of f. 39, where another hand wrote a smaller Gothica Textualis Formata). Hand B wrote Gothica Hybrida Formata (Bastarda) on ff. 46v, l. 6 – 87v, l. 4 (artt. 7-11). Hand C copied ff. 88r-94v (art. 12) in Gothica Textualis Formata. F. 95 is a s. XVI addition copied in a clumsy Gothica Semitextualis. The musical notation is a variant of the Hoefnagel type. There are several later additions of music and text.

Rubrics, underlining and paragraph marks in red; red stroking of majuscules. 1-line versals and 2-line plain initials in red. 2-line flourished initials alternately red and blue; cadels with red heightening on the pages with musical notation; 3- or 4-line litterae duplices with penwork extensions in red, blue and green on ff. 1r (art. 1), 18r (art. 5), 40r (art. 6), 46v (art. 7) and 86r (art. 11).

Binding s. XV/XVI: blind-tooled brown calf over wooden boards, both covers decorated with twice a panel containing two rows of four animals in tendrils in a frame of 16 dragons in tendrils (the so-called 24 Animals panel), separated by a frieze with the Peasants' Dance. For the panel, see *Boekbanden uit vijf eeuwen. Catalogus van de Tentoonstelling. Bijdragen tot de Bibliotheekwetenschap*, 1 (Ghent, 1961), nos. 53, 59, 62-65, 82-84, 86, 91, 141; for the frieze, see nos. 33, 40-42, 61, 69, 71, 187-189. The frieze is also reproduced in E.Ph. Goldschmidt, *Gothic and Renaissance Bookbindings* (London, Boston, New York, 1928), pl. XLII. For the combination of both, which is considered typical of Ghent workshops, see *Gent. Duizend Jaar Kunst en Cultuur* [Exhibition Catalogue] (Ghent, 1975), v. 2, pp. 165-166. Spine with three raised bands. Remnants of two clasps. The pastedowns are two parts of a document in Dutch on parchment (a large section between the two is missing) datable 25 August 1443. It is a chirograph in documentary cursive script, stating that before the court of Geraardsbergen ("Gheerondsberghe", Fr. Grammont, East Flanders) parties have promised to pay a debt of £ 200 in eight instalments over the next four years, 1443-1446. Among the persons mentioned are Heinrik den Haec (?), the lady de Tiennes, the aldermen of Edingen (Enghien, Hainaut??), Collaert van den Foreeste, alderman of Geraardsbergen and Coppenole, councillor of the same city. The design and letters appearing at the top and at the bottom of the document prove that it was made in three copies.

In the upper margin of f. 73r the name of a s. XVIII owner (?): "M. Cainus Schietecatte". Purchased from Les Enluminures (Chicago, Paris).

Albert Derolez