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**MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE MANUSCRIPTS**

MS 483.3

France, s. XV

Book of Hours

f. 1r //De sancto nicholao ant. Beatus nicholaus ad huc puerulus ... v. Ora pro nobis  
beate nicholae ... Oracio. Deus qui beatum nicholaum ... liberemur. Per christum  
dominum nostrum. amen.

St. Nicholas (6 November). The bottom two lines are blank.

f. 1v De sancta katherina. ant. Ave gemma claritatis ... v. Specie tua et ... [Oracio]  
Deus qui dedisti legem ... et precibus ad montem qui//

St. Catharine of Alexandria (25 November).

Parchment. 1 folio. 185 x 138 mm (written space 108 x 74 mm). 18 lines. Ruled in red ink for text and for marginal decorations.

Written in gothic script (*littera textualis*). Two miniatures of mediocre quality, one for each saint. The miniature of St. Nicholas shows him in bishop's clothing, holding a staff and a book, and standing next to a tub with two children in it. St. Catharine is depicted as crowned, holding a book and a sword; on the floor behind her is the wheel upon which she was tortured. The floor in each miniature is checkered with yellow and light orange, and the wall is dark red with gold flowers on the bottom and blue-grey on the top. The antiphons and orations begin with a 2-line initial in gold on an alternating ground of blue with white filigree or red with white filigree. Initials on blue grounds are filled with red, and initials on red grounds are filled with blue. 1-line initials are black and are highlighted with yellow. Punctuation consists of the

punctus. Hyphenation is in the same ink as the text. Rubrics are written in red minuscule. The upper, lower and outer borders are decorated with blue and gold vines, red vines with blue and red or gold and blue berries and yellow vines with green and purple thistles. A thin black vine stem with gold flowers is in the inner margin on the recto only. The border in the outer margin is of a higher quality than that of the upper and lower margins, which appear to be later additions.

Gift of Henrietta C. Bartlett in 1954.

**Bibliography:**

DeRicci, 1:173, no. 3.