

YALE UNIVERSITY
BEINECKE RARE BOOK AND MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY
MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE MANUSCRIPTS

MS 696

England and France (?), s. XIV²-XV^{ex}

Carthusian Breviary (Diurnale)

I.

1. ff. 1r-16r Ferial Psalter.
2. f. 16r *In festo Sancte Trinitatis ad Vesperas super Psalmos Antiphona*; f. 19v *Oratio de sancta Anna. Philiberti abbatis oratio. Hugonis episcopi et confessoris oratio*; f. 20r § In festo XI Miliū Virginum.

II.

3. ff. 21r-99r Temporale: Hymns, Lessons, Ordinarium, Temporale.
4. ff. 99r-107v *Incipiunt orationes et capitula sanctorum per anni circulum.* From Andrew (30 Nov.) to Annunciation (25 March).

III.

5. ff. 108r-115v Sanctorale (Annunciation, 25 March).
6. ff. 109r-110v *Incipit commune sanctorum.*
7. ff. 110v-115v Sanctorale: from Tiburtius, Maximus and Valerianus (14 April) to John the Baptist (24 June).

IV.

8. ff. 116r-143r Sanctorale: John the Baptist (24 June) to Thomas apostle (21 Dec.).
9. ff. 143v-153r Commune sanctorum.
10. ff. 153r-155v Dedication of the church.
11. ff. 155v-156v Commemorations.

V.

12. ff. 157r-162v Carthusian Calendar. One page for one month. Computistical data: duration of the solar and the lunar month, Golden Number, Day Letter, Roman Calendar. Noticeable feasts: Commemoration of benefactors (in red, 8 Jan.), Hugh bishop of Grenoble (in red, 1 April), Dedication of the church (in red, 24 May), Philibertus (20 August), Louis (25 August), *Festum reliquiarum* (8 Nov.).
13. ff. 163r-166r *Lucerna pedibus meis ... non sum oblitus* [Ps. 118:105-176].
14. ff. 166r-169v *Sequitur Litanía*. Among the confessors: Remigius, Hugh, Louis; among the virgins: Blandina, martyr in Lyons.
15. f. 170r-v *Benedictiones in I^o Nocturno*. *Suscipe, Domine Ihesu Christe, deprecationem servorum tuorum ... Sectatores sancti evagelii faciat nos misericordia Christi* [Benedictions for the first, second and third Nocturn].

Parchment, ff. 170, 130 x 95 mm. One leaf missing after f. 36.

There are five parts:

Part I (ff. 1-20).

Ruled with ink for one column of 19 lines below top line (20 lines above top line; both occur).

Written by hand A in careless Northern Gothic Textualis Formata.

Red headings. Alternately red and blue 2-line plain initials and 1-line versals. On f. 1r 3-line littera duplex in the same colours.

Part II (ff. 21-107).

Ruled with ink for one column of 20 lines below top line. Ruling type 13.

Copied by hand B in narrow, angular and bold Northern Gothic Textualis Formata.

Rich illumination. Red headings (missing ff. 29r-36v). Numerous 1-line dentelle versals and 2-line dentelle initials. Unfinished 3-6-line foliate initials, with foliate extensions and with or without a two-coloured bar border in the left margin with ivy and other leaves. 1-line plain versals in alternately red and blue are seen on f. 53r-v. Space for square miniatures (not executed) above 6 lines of text and a 6-line foliate initial on ff. 44r (Nativity, sketch in lead outlines: the Virgin lying feeding the Child as Joseph watches), 48v (Epiphany, the initial is at the top of f. 49r), 78r (Easter), 85r (Ascension), 88v (Pentecost), 104v (Candlemas), 106v (Annunciation).

Part III (ff. 108-115).

Ruled with ink for one column of 20 lines below top line. Ruling type 13.

Copied by hand C in a less formal Northern Gothica Textualis Formata.

2-line dentelle initials as in Part II.

Part IV (ff. 116-156).

Ruled with lead for one column of 20 lines below top line. Ruling type 13.

Copied by hand D in angular Northern Gothica Textualis Formata close to hand B.

Red rubrics and paragraph marks. 2-line dentelle initials as in Parts II and III. 1-line plain versals in alternately red and blue. Unfinished 3-4-line foliate initials as in Part II.

Part V (ff. 157-170).

Ruled with ink for one column of 19 lines below top line, as in Part I. In the Calendar a supplementary line has been traced between every two horizontal lines.

The Calendar is copied by hand A (?), the other texts by hand E, who writes Northern Gothica Textualis Libraria with long ascenders.

Alternately red and blue 2-line plain initials and 1-line versals.

Binding: undecorated sheepskin over pasteboard. Rebacked in the eighteenth century. Spine with four raised bands, gold-tooled with a floweret. Remnants of a gold-tooled title label.

This composite manuscript makes a chaotic impression and seems to have been made in three stages. It consists of a s. XIV unfinished section, consisting of Parts II and IV (?). The handwriting of Part II looks English. In a second stage, s. XVⁱⁿ, Part III was added, and the dentelle initials were executed in Parts I, II and III. Finally, s. XV^{ex} Parts I and V were added. The unfinished illuminations in Parts II and IV are highly instructive as to the methods of illuminators. The manuscript belonged in the seventeenth century to a French owner called Perard, the births of whose daughters Marguerite and Bernarde in 1667 and 1668 he consigned on the last page and the rear flyleaf of the codex. On the front pastedown a paper label with the printed inscription "Ex lib. E. Mathieu". Purchased from Laurence Witten on the Edwin J. Beinecke Fund.