Hours of the Virgin. Sarum. XV cent.

Hours of the Virgin, for Sarum use, preceded by a Kalendar, prayers to Christ and Memoriae of the Saints.

Manuscript on vellum, written and illuminated in Flanders in the 15th century.

Decoration: There are 25 full-page miniatures and 8 historiated initials of ordinary execution which have been repainted, probably in the 16th century.

Text: English saints are prominent in the Kalendar and Litany. On ff.114-117 are prayers to the Wounds of Christ, illustrated with historiated initials. The usual Sequences of the Gospels are omitted. In part, 'in litany' is repainted.

213 + 2 leaves (4 x 2 7/8 inches) 18 lines. 32º.

Binding: 17th century rose velvet in blue morocco case lettered "Canterbury Horse".

History: A preliminary leaf bears a Latin inscription of presentation from Cornelius Herlemus (Hermes) of Rosenthal, Rector of the University of Dillingen, to Martha Kleindinstin, dated 13 March 1561. Obtained from Pearson, 1907.

For full description see typed sheets in folder for M.254.

Add. Cards:
MSS.-Illum.-Flemish-XV cent.
Use-Sarum
Jesus Christ: The Five Wounds — ff.114-117
Provenance - Herlemus, Cornelius (inscription dated 1561)
- Kleindinstin, Martha (inscription of presentation to her by Cornelius Herlemus in 1561)

MPH:1934

Iconography cards:
- Jesus Christ: standing, holding book, f.13r
- Trinity: crucified Christ, finial, f.12v
- John Baptist, holding lamb and book, f.25r
Evangelist John, with pear of cup f. 27
Thomas à Becket, murdered before high altar f. 29
George of Capadocia, playing dragon f. 32
Christopher & Lyca, lifting Christ Child f. 34
Anne, with Virgin and Child f. 36
Mary Magdalen f. 38
Catherine of Alexandria f. 40
Barbara & Nicomedea f. 42
Margaret & Amtsch, Holy Ghost descending f. 44
Jesus Christ in Gethsemane f. 46
Jesus Christ anointed f. 55
Jesus Christ below Palaestina f. 70
Jesus Christ, flagellation f. 75
Jesus Christ, crown of thorns f. 79
Passion, burial f. 83
Entombment of Christ f. 90
Mary the Virgin, conceit f. 98
Adam and Eve, fall of man f. 114
Jesus Christ wounds f. 115
David, communing with God, angel bearing sword f. 122
Jesus Christ, miracle of awakening Lazarus f. 144
Penitentiary, card, lifted to heaven f. 174
Gregory the Great, mass f. 191
Jerome f. 199
Horae Beatae Mariae Virginis secundum usum Sarum.

Anglo-Flemish  c.1470

213 & 2 ff.  18 lines.  Inches.

Bound in rose velvet (17th century) gilt edges; enclosed in blue morocco solander case, lettered on back, "Canterbury Horae".

Manuscript on fine vellum, written in black ink in small Gothic characters, with headings in a faint red.

Decoration  There are full-page pictures and large initial letters as well as 8 historiated initials illustrating the Prayers to the Wounds of Christ. The smaller initials, throughout the text, are in blue or gold. Every picture, as well as the page opposite it, is surrounded by a rather crowded border consisting of a light vine with pale green leaves and small pinkish-red flowers, through which is spread a heavy dark blue branch with thick and widely-spreading leaves; the border designs are practically identical throughout the book. The style of the pictures is distinctly Flemish, but the general decoration has a somewhat English air; as a rule the pictures are rough and poor. Those on ff.29, 32 & 38 (St. Thomas of Canterbury, St. George and St. Mary Magdalene) are by far the finest and may be the work of a special artist. The main interest of the book lies in the large number of English saints noted, the profusion of illustration and the unusual make-up (which, however, is met with in other English Books of Hours of this period).

The Use is of Sarum. The Calendar is unusually full of English saints. Among them, St. Ceadda of Lichfield, Edward - king, Richard - conf., George - martyr, John of Beverley, Dunstan - archbp., Guthburga of Wimborne, Edward - conf., Edmund - bp. of Canterbury, Hugh - bp. of Lincoln and St. Thomas of Canterbury who is noted 3 times - January and July and December 29th. In the Litanies are Edward, Oswald, Swithin, Prisca, Telea, Edith and Affra. There is a memorial, with pictures, to St. Thomas à Becket of Canterbury on f.29v (See Note 1) and a short one in Laudes (f.56v).

History  On first(vell.) fly-leaf ? Requiescat deus ac Magnificus Dominus D. Cornelius Herbenus a Rosenthal sacris theologiae Baccalaureus formatus praepositus S. Viti Prisingue de Universitatis diligens rector donavit piam ac devotam virginem Martham Kleminstein hoc libello in perpetuum memoriam fuit ? cum valide corret ei die 13 Mensis Martii Anno 1561

Note 1  This same memorial occurs in Mr. Morgan's Ms. No. 259
Collation (not possible)

Contents
1. Calendar in red and black ff. 1 - 12
2. Fifteen "O" Prayers 14 - 21v
3. Memorial to Trinity 23 - 24v
4. Memorials to Saints 26 - 45v
5. Hours of Virgin 47 - 98
6. Hymn or Salutation to the Virgin (Salve Virgo Virginnm) 98v - 103v
7. Prayers to the Virgin 103v - 110v
8. Seven Joys of the Virgin 111 - 114v
9. Prayer to the Image of Christ 114v
10. " " " Crucifix and Wounds 114v - 117v
11. " " " Virgin 117
12. " " St. John Evang. 117v
13. Prayer of Bede on the Seven Words 117v - 124v
14. Seven Psalms and Litany 126 - 146v
15. Office of the Dead 148 - 173v
16. Commendation of Souls 175 - 190v
17. Psalter of the Passion 192 - 198v
18. Psalter of St. Jerome 200 - 213v

Pictures
1.f. 15 Fifteen "O" Prayers
Christ, haloed, stands full-face beneath red canopy in vaulted room with 2 windows. One bare foot shows. His right hand is upraised in blessing, open book in left; gray and green checkered floor. The opposite page has large florescent initial and is bordered as in all cases.

2. 22v Memorials. Trinity
God, the Father, robed in red is seated upon a golden throne. He upholds the naked Christ who stands upon the globe; the Crown of Thorns upon His head and blood trickling from the wounds; a white cloth is at His back and around His loins; the Dove flies toward His head.

3. 25v St. John Baptist.
He stands in an open landscape with buildings of a city in the background; clad in ragged, brown garments, full beard, long hair feet bare, a white girdle about his waist; in left hand he holds a closed book upon which is the nimbed Lamb.

4. 27v St. John Evangelist.
He stands nimbed in rocky landscape, green robe on over which is a pink mantle; in left hand, the poisoned chalice with serpent at rim.

5. 29 St. Thomas à Becket (Martyrdom)
Clad in white alb with gold chasuble, he kneels before an altar, his hands raised in prayer. Upon the altar, a cup with wafer and an open book. Back of St. Thomas, a group of soldiers one of whom pierces his side with long lance; a second attacks with sword.
St. George.
Rocky landscape. Mounted upon a white horse with blue trappings, he rides furiously toward gray-green dragon emerging from a cave, and pierces him through mouth and neck with spear. He wears a suit of steel armour with red cuirass. Plumed helmet around which is a scarf.

St. Christopher
He stands in water above ankles, staff over shoulder and puts both hands beneath arms of Christ Child who, clad in gray, stands upon the shore.

St. Anna.
Full face, in blue robe with red mantle, white coif about her head. Seated in high golden chair, beneath green canopy, one hand pressed to her heart, an open book upon her knee. At her feet the Virgin sits holding the Infant Saviour in her arms. She appears a young girl with flowing hair, brown dress with blue mantle.

St. Mary Magdalen.
Within a vaulted room with 2 windows, she stands facing the right. A green robe with rich pink mantle hanging from one shoulder and drawn into waist on other side; the golden casket of ointment is held in left hand, the right is pressed to her heart.

St. Katharine
She stands in delightful green landscape with turreted buildings showing in background. She is crowned and wears a necklace, a sword in her left hand, the right pressed to her heart. On either side, at her feet, half of broken wheel.

St. Barbara
Within a high walled enclosure (half seen) a high tower to left; she stands, full face; a blue robe and pink mantle; palm in left hand; with right she touches tower.

St. Margaret
Within a cell showing a barred window, she holds gold cross and emerges from back of a large gray dragon; the Dove flies toward her from the right; she wears a green robe and red mantle.

**Hours of Virgin - Matins**

Agony in the Garden. Rolling hilly landscape. In upper right corner is the kneeling Christ with hands folded in prayer. In centre and front foreground are 3 sleeping disciples.

**Betrayal.** Night scene. Large group of mailed and helmed soldiers with lances and torches. Christ stands in centre - front. Three soldiers roughly grasp Him. To left, St. Peter kneels upon the ground and grasps the head of Malchus with one hand, a sword upheld in the other; Malchus with terrified expression. The lantern is lighted.

Prime. Christ before Pilate.
Within domed room. Pilate in green robe with pink sleeves is seated in a high chair, beneath a canopy, a sceptre in his hand. Christ, with hands crossed and bound, stands before him. Mailed
15. 70° (continued) soldier holds Him by one arm; the accuser, with cap doffed, stands on His left; back of Christ, a group of soldiers are seen pouring in through an open doorway.

16. 75° Tiers. Flagellation. Within gray-walled, vaulted dungeon, Christ, naked, stands with his back to a column back of which His hands are tied; on either side, a man with scourge. In the foreground, on the floor, the gray garment and bunch of whips tied together.

17. 79° Sext. Bearing the Cross. Snowy landscape. In centre foreground, Christ in seamless violet robe carries the Cross over His left shoulder. His feet are bare and He steps forward briskly. A soldier in red coat, helmet and lance, with object resembling a pipe in mouth, faces Him. Back of Christ, 2 soldiers and a group of men, warmly clad.

18. 83° None. Stabat Mater. Christ naked upon the Cross, with traces of an inscription; a white girdle about His loins. To right, St. John the Baptist in red; to left, the Virgin in blue; landscape of rolling hills with green, flowering trees.

19. 87° Vespers. Deposition. In front foreground, the naked Christ, laid upon a white robe; by His side (left), 3 nails and Crown of Thorns; the Virgin is stretched back of Him, with right arm supporting His head; back of Her, to left, St. Mary Magdalene who, weeping, holds a white handkerchief to her eyes. The Three Crosses show on a high hill, to the left. In the background, turreted buildings.

20. 90° Compline. Entombment. Large, open grey tomb into which Joseph and Nicodemus place the Body of Christ, which lies upon the white sheet. The Virgin, supported by St. John, bends over toward the Body, with clasped hands; St. Mary Magdalene, to the right; upon a hill, to the left, the Three Crosses, 2 of which are falling. Within small initial S, the Virgin in a glory and standing upon a crescent holds the Infant Child.

19. 98° Salve Virgo. Prayer to Image of Christ. Within initial O, Adam and Eve, naked, face tree (column) around which the Serpent, with a human head, is twisted.

21. Cross. Within the initial T, the Crucifixion.

22. 115 Head of Christ. Within the initial A, the head and shoulders of Christ. The Crown of Thorns.

23. 115° Wounds. Right hand showing a wound, in a glory.

24. 116 " Left " " " " " " " " " " " " Heart and 4 wounds, red on a rayed green ground.

25. 116 Right foot showing a wound, in a glory.

26. 117 Left " " " " " " " " " " " " " (All of the above initials are very poor)
30. 126° Seven Psalms. A gray, rocky landscape. David kneels in the front foreground. He wears a brown robe, with blue sleeves, white girdle, collar and undergarment; on the ground, in front of him, the Harp and his cap; his hands are clasped and he gazes upward to the angel who points the sword backward (to the doomed city).

31. 147° Office of Dead. Raising of a dead man (Lazarus ?). In the centre foreground, a naked man in a white shroud rises from the grave; to the right, a high official in a red robe trimmed with ermine, and a woman in black; back of Lazarus, an old man, nimbed; to left, Christ with hand upraised in blessing; back of Him, a woman in green robe and coif. Scene in a church-yard.

32. 174° Commendation of Souls. Two large winged angels, in brown, carry between them a naked Soul, with hands clasped, held in a white sheet. God, the Father, above in a glory. A blue background of sky with a hill and green earth seen beneath.

33. 191° Psalter of the Passion. Mass of St. Gregory. An altar with white cloth and blue hanging; above and back of it (like a reredos) the open tomb (brown) in which Christ, naked, stands surrounded by instruments of the Passion; both hands, which show wounds, are upheld. Upon the altar, a golden chalice covered with a white napkin; an open book upon a stand. St. Gregory, nimbed, with hands clasped, kneels before the altar. He wears a white alb and golden chasuble; to the right, two officiating priests in red robes; one holds a Pope’s hat (?)

34. 199° Psalter of St. Jerome. In rocky landscape showing large trees, St. Jerome, in red robe, faces slightly the right; he holds double sceptre in his left hand; his right touches the lion at his side.

History 1907

Purchased by Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan from Pearson of London.
Morgan MS. No. M. 254

For printed text or notices of this MS. see:
