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Miscellany of Prayers

In Latin and German, illustrated manuscript on paper, with a section from a printed book

[Southern Germany (Bavaria ?) or Austria] dated 1466

124 folios, collation impracticable, on paper, of different formats, written in brown ink, rubrics in red, on long lines (justification varies), in a semi-cursive script, by several scribes, many folios repaired, some folios browned and rubbed, certain folios remounted and tipped in, numerous marginal notes in Latin, WOODCUT OF THE VIRGIN PRAYING accompanying the printed text, browned, used, some edges torn, overall but intact. CONTEMPORARY BINDING of wood boards engraved recto and verso with a key (metaphorically alluding to the reader's entrance to the book), half-covered with blind-stamped leather with floral scroll work in vertical columns, on three thongs, with a brass clasp. Dimensions c. 150 x 105 mm.

Modest hybrid manuscript, unusual for its particular combination of miscellaneous prayers and suffrages probably for lay use and incorporating a short insert in Middle German of verses with a woodcut from an incunable. The copy is dated and still in its original binding with the unusual feature of a stamped key, which offers additional interest.

PROVENANCE

1. Made in Germany, perhaps near Eichstätt (or perhaps Austria, based on later provenance) because of liturgical features, language, fabrication, binding, etc.
2. From the Jesuit College, Stella Matutina, in Feldkirch, in the beginning of the seventeenth century (Austria). On the pastedown of the upper cover: "Stella matutina/ M.C.S./ 1519," and on the pastedown of the lower cover in the same hand "Spes mea Deus.

TEXT

ff. 1-6, Office of the Dead, beginning Vespers, rubric *Placebo*, incipit, "Dilexi quoniam";

ff. 6-10v, rubric, *De Passione Domini nostri, introitus misse*, inc., "Humiliavit ...";

ff. 11-12v, Prayers, begins incompletely, ending trimmed and incomplete;

ff. 13-27, rubric, *Vigilia mortuorum* [Office of the Dead for the Use of Eichstätt], Matins, with the following readings: 1 "Ne des alienis," 2 "Melius est nomen," 3 "Memento creatoris," [4] "Hec dicit dominus," [5] "Multi de quys qui dormiunt," [6] "Viverit mortui," lacuna (1 folio between ff. 21 and 22), 7, "Sicut lucidam," 8, "Ecce mysterium vobis," 9, "Ipsi fratres diligentes," f. 25, Lauds, the second part not copied; at the bottom of f. 13, a partial prayer to Saint Oschiraldo;
f. 28, blank;

ff. 29-54, Hours of the Virgin (Use unrecorded), f. 29, Matins, f. 34v, Lauds, f. 38v, Prime, f. 41, Terce, f. 43, Sext, ff. 44, None, f. 46v, Vespers, f. 51v, Compline, added prayer inserted, f. 50, on paper of a smaller format, "Salve sanctissima virgo Maria mater Domini" with a note concerning Sixtus IV, and the date 1402, on the verso;

ff. 55-60v, rubric, *Accessus altaris/ Sancti Spiritus assit nobis gratia*, Prayers to the Trinity;

f. 61, blank and ruled;

ff. 62-83, Ferial Psalter, f. 62, Prime, f. 68, Terce, f. 70, Sext, f. 72v, None, f. 83v, Vespers and Compline, at the end, f. 83v, "Anno Domini 1466."

ff. 84-85, Two prayers, "de caritate Dei";

f. 85v, Prayer, "de compassione Jhesu Christi";

ff. 86-92v, printed text in German verse, incipit "Sein töchter waren das bescheiden/ Ser eugel thed in warnung gut.....Maria Clarer dan die son/ Ersucht uns in den letzten stund/ Amen." on f. 89, woodcut of the Virgin in Prayer (5 x 12 mm.);

f. 93, Two prayers to the Virgin, in Latin;

f. 93v, note in German and Latin, recording a gift to his order by an owner named "Symon Simmort";

ff. 94-98, Votive office on the conception of the Virgin, f. 94, Matins, f. 95, Prime, f. 95v, Terce, f. 96, Sext, f. 96v, None, f. 97, Vespers, f. 97v, Compline;

ff. 98-98v, Prayer attributed to Anselm of Canterbury;

f. 98v, Prayer of Saint Bernard, "Ubi nomen Mariam";

ff. 99-100v, Prayers;

ff. 101-102v, Quotations

f. 98-98v, prayer attributed to Saint Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109).

f. 98v, Prayer of Saint Bernard, "Ubi nomen Mariam";

f. 99-100v, miscellaneous prayers;

ff. 101-102v, Citations from Gilles, Augustine, Jerome, and the Vitae Patrum;

ff. 102v-116v, Diverse prayers including a prologue by Saint Jerome,.

ff. 117-121, Prayers on the Mass;

ff. 121v-122v, Suffrages to Saints (Augustine, Jerome, Gregory, Ambrose, Francis).

ff. 122v-124v, Prayers in Latin and Dutch.

Online Resources

On Stella Matutina

<http://www.jesuitalumni.de/svs/wir.htm>