

## 266. London, British Library, Harley 863

“Leofric Psalter”

[Ker 232, Gneuss 425]

**HISTORY:** Written in the third quarter of the 11c in Exeter. Lapidge (1991: 74) remarks that the manuscript may “very possibly [be] one of the two such psalters given to the Exeter chapter by Bishop Leofric in 1072.” Owned by Edward Stillingfleet (1635–1699), whose collection was bought by Robert Harley in 1707 (Wright 1972: xxxiv, 316). Incorporated into the British Museum in 1753.

**CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION:** [i] + 125 + [ii] leaves, foliated 1\*, 1–27, 27\*–123. Leaves measure 218 x 192 mm., with a writing grid of 190 x 145 mm. Ruled for 25 lines, with double bounding lines; prickings in the outer margins. Leaves are arranged HFHF. Leaves show some wear and are generally darkened throughout, with the gutters noticeably darkened. The book must have been without a cover for some while, since the last leaf is much dirtied and worn. Two leaves are missing after f. 48, originally containing Ps. 70.11 *Dicentes*–71.38 *faciet*. Another two leaves containing lections are missing after f. 120. Stitching appears on ff. 18, 27\*, 30, 50, 70, 83, 113. Modern repairs have been made to ff. 27\*, 30, 33, 36, 51, 63, 68, 84. Holes appear on ff. 19, 32, 56, 59, 96. The calendar employs red, green, and blue ink, in addition to brown. The display line to Ps. 1 is written in red and black ink. Initials throughout are in blue, green, and (oxidized) red ink. At the beginning of Ps. 51 is a large blank space after the title; to the left is an incomplete drawing in lead showing an oval containing a floral design. A small face in red ink appears in the upper margin of f. 20r. F. 54r has a figure in red drawn in the top margin, with a crowned human head and a serpentine body. Major psalm divisions occur at ff. 8r, 37v, 68r, and 77v. Psalm titles are in red. Psalms are preceded by versicles, many of which are neumed. Neumed responses are added in the margins. Responses to the lections are written in a smaller hand and are neumed.

**COLLATION:** I<sup>8</sup> (ff. 1\*-7), II<sup>8</sup> (ff. 8-15), III<sup>8</sup> (ff. 16-23), IV<sup>8</sup> (ff. 24-30, including f. 27\*), V<sup>8</sup> (ff. 31-38), VI<sup>8</sup> (ff. 39-46), VII<sup>8</sup> (ff. 47-53) (3 wanting after f. 48), VIII<sup>8</sup> (ff. 54-61), IX<sup>8</sup> (ff. 62-69), X<sup>8</sup> (ff. 70-77), XI<sup>8</sup> (ff. 78-85), XII<sup>8</sup> (ff. 86-93), XIII<sup>8</sup> (ff. 94-101), XIV<sup>8</sup> (ff. 102-109), XV<sup>8</sup> (ff. 110-117), XVI<sup>8</sup> (ff. 118-123) (4 and 5 wanting after f. 120).

**CONTENTS:**

- f. 1\*rv Jottings, in various late hands, include 'd(eu)s d(eu)s m(eu)s', 'O maria maris stella', and below that 'O maria maris stella'; Latin verse, a note on feria vi, saints' names, etc.
- ff. 1r-6v Calendar (12c), with late obits added in margins.
- f. 7r Verses on the Calendar: 'Aureus hac arte n(on)us format(ur) ap(er)te... Linea sola tenet nemo sic e(ss)e refutet'.
- f. 7v Sequence in Latin (14c), followed by **In festo Reliq(u)iaru(um) Exon(iensis) eccl(es)ie ad p(ro)cess(ionem)** '[S]alue festa dies toto uen(er)abilis euo | Qua datur i(n) s(an)c(t)is gl(ori)a digna deo' (ed. Bishop 1918: 407).
- ff. 8r-98v/22 Gallican version of the psalms.
- ff. 98v/23-99r/2 Explicit to the psalms and incipit to Psalm 151: **Explicit liber psalmorem habens uersus v̄cli | Hic psalmus p(ro)prię script[um] a dauid et extra numeru(m) | cu(m) pugnaui cum golia. Hic in ebreis codicib(us) no(n) habet(ur). | Sed nec a lxx. interpretib(us) edit(us) e(st) et idcirco repudiand(us).**
- f. 99r/3-15 Psalm 151: 'Pusillus eram inter fr(atr)es meos'.

**Canticles:**

- f. 99r/16-99v/4 **Canticum isaie prop(het)e** | 'Confitebor tibi d(omi)ne'.
- ff. 99v/4-100r/8 **Canticum ezechię regis iudę.** | 'Ego dixi in dimidio dierum meorum'.
- f. 100r/9-100v/7 **Canticum anne.** | 'Exultauit cor meum in d(omi)no'.
- ff. 100v/8-101r/25 **Canticum moysi.** | 'Cantemus d(omi)no gloriose enim honorifi | magnificatus' [*honorifi* on erasure by another hand and underlined to signal deletion, *magnifi-* added; thus *honorificatus* > *magnificatus*].
- ff. 101v/1-102r/20 **Canticum abbacuc prophetae.** | 'D(omi)ne audiui auditionem tuam'.
- ff. 102r/20-104r/20 **Canticum moysi in deutro | nomio ad filios israhel** | 'Audite caeli quae loquor'.

- ff. 104r/21–105r/1 **Ymnus s(an)c(t)i uicetii aepiscopi** | ‘Te deum laudamus’.
- f. 105r/2–105v/5 **Ymnus Trium puerorum**. | ‘Benedicite omnia opera d(omi)ni d(omi)no’.
- f. 105v/6–24 **Canticum zacharię prophete** | ‘Benedictus d(omi)n(u)s d(eu)s isr(ahe)l’.
- f. 106r/1–14 **Canticum S(an)c(t)e marię matris d(omi)ni** | ‘Magnificat anima mea d(omi)n(u)m’.
- f. 106r/14–20 **Cant(icum) S(an)c(t)i Simeonis** | ‘Nunc dimittis seruum tuum d(omi)ne’.
- f. 106r/21–106v/3 **Incipit oratio dominica S(e)c(un)d(u)m matheum**. | ‘Pater n(oste)r qui es in celis s(an)c(t)ificetur no|men tuum’.
- f. 106v/1–16 **Incipit simbolum apostolorum**. | ‘Credo in deum patrem omnipotentem | creatorem cęli & t(er)re’.
- ff. 106v/17–107r/5 **Ymnus angelicus** | ‘Gloria in excelsis deo’.
- ff. 107r/5–108r/19 **Incipit fides | catholica athanasii alexandriei episcopi** | ‘Quicumq(ue) uult saluus esse ante om(n)ia | opus est ut teneat catholicam fidem’ [gloss:] ‘swa hwa swa wile hal wesan toforan eallum | þearf ys þ(æt) healde þone fulfremedan geleafan’ (ed. Holt-hausen 1942–1943). [The OE gloss stops after v. 31 (end of f. 107v). The explicit, **Finit.**, occurs on the same line as the incipit to the next item.]
- f. 108r/20–108v/9 **oratio post psalterium**. | ‘LIBERATOR ANIMARVM | mundi redemptor ie(s)u chr(ist)e d(eu)s’ (ed. Dewick 1914: 434).
- ff. 108v/9–111v/20 Litany, with closing petitions: **Incipit Letaniae** (ed. Lapidge 1991: 193–202, ed. Dewick 1914: 435–43).

Incipits to Prayers (ed. Dewick 1914: 443–45):

- ff. 111v/20–112r/4 **p(re)ces** ‘Pat(er) n(oste)r. Et ne nos’.
- f. 112r/4–8 **Item**: ‘Et ueniat sup(er) nos’.
- f. 112r/8–112v/8 **Item preces**. | ‘Ego dixi d(omi)ne miserere mei’ (ed. Dewick 1914: 444–45).

Prayers (ed. Dewick 1914: 445–54):

- f. 112v/8–19 **Or(atio) propria alicuius** ‘ | Om(n)ip(oten)s et misericors d(eu)s’.
- f. 112v/19–23 **Alia** | ‘D(eu)s cui p(ro)priu(m) e(st) parcere saluare & n(on) p(er)dere’.

- ff. 112v/23–113r/3 **p(ro) compunctione** | **lacrimaru(m)** ‘Om(ni)p(oten)s mitissime d(eu)s’ [*mitissime* on erasure].
- f. 113r/4–9 **p(ro) temptatione diabolica** ‘Parce d(omi)ne parce | peccatis meis’.
- f. 113r/9–17 **p(ro) fr(atri)b(us)** | **et soror[ibus]** | **et familia|rib(us)** | ‘Om(ni)p(oten)s sempiternę d(eu)s. qui es | mis(eri)c(or)dia inestimabilis’.
- f. 113r/17–23 **al[ia]** | ‘D(eu)s qui caritatis dona per gr(ati)am’.
- f. 113r/23–113v/5 **p(ro) [salute uiuorum]** | ‘Pretende d(omi)ne fidelib(us)’ [heading obscured by sewing].
- f. 113v/5–9 **pro inimicis**. | ‘D(eu)s pacis caritatisque’.
- f. 113v/9–11 **Or(atio)** | **contra hostes chr(ist)iani nomi|nis**. | ‘Hostium n(ost)r(o)r(um) d(omi)ne’.
- f. 113v/12–15 ‘Om(ni)p(oten)s d(eu)s chr(ist)iani nominis inimicos’.
- f. 113v/15–20 **pro pac[e]** | ‘D(eu)s regnorum omnium regumq(ue)’ [heading partly illegible].
- f. 113v/20–25 **p[ro] [it]er agen[ti]bus** | ‘D(eu)s qui diligentibus te mis(eri)c(or)diam tuam’ [heading partly illegible].
- f. 114r/1–6 **p(ro) nauigantibus**. | ‘D(eu)s qui transtulisti patres | n(ost)ros’.
- f. 114r/6–end of leaf **Oratio** | **uniuersalis**. ‘Pie et exaudibilis d(omi)ne d(eu)s n(ost)er’.
- f. 114v/1–8 **p(ro) omnib(us) fidelib(us) defunct(is)** ‘D(eu)s cui proprium est’.
- f. 114v/8–17 **Oratio ad personam patris**. | ‘D(omi)ne d(eu)s pater om(ni)p(oten)s. qui consubstantia|lem’.
- f. 114v/17–end of leaf **Oratio ad personam filii** | ‘D(omi)ne ie(s)u chr(ist)e fili dei uiui’.
- f. 115r/1–10 **Oratio ad personam et sp(iritu)s s(an)c(t)i**. | ‘D(omi)ne s(an)c(t)e sp(iritu)s. d(eu)s om(ni)p(oten)s qui coequalis et co|ęt(er)nus’.
- f. 115r/10–21 **Or(atio) ad s(an)c(t)am et indiuiduam trinitatem**. | ‘D(omi)ne d(eu)s om(ni)p(oten)s eternę et ineffabilis sine fine’.
- f. 115r/21–115v/13 **Or(atio) ad s(an)c(t)am crucem**. | ‘Per gloriam et uirtutem s(an)c(t)ę crucis’.
- f. 115v/13–end of leaf **Or(atio) ad sanctam mariam** | ‘Singulari[s] meriti solo sine exemplo mater | uirgo S(AN)C(T)A MARIA’.

- f. 116r/1–8 **Oratio ad ordines angelorum.** | ‘Precor uos s(an)c(t)i angeli et archangeli’.
- f. 116r/8–16 **Or(atio) ad ap(osto)los.** | ‘S(an)c(t)issimi ap(osto)li d(omi)ni mei’.
- f. 116r/17–end of leaf **Oratio ad s(an)c(t)os innocentes.** | ‘S(an)c(t)i innocentes immo uirgines’.
- f. 116v/1–9 **Oratio** | **ad martyres** ‘S(an)c(t)i martyres gl(ori)osi qui fortes | extitistis’.
- f. 116v/9–14 **Oratio ad confessores.** | ‘S(an)c(t)issimi confessores qui in pace’.
- f. 116v/14–end of leaf **Or(atio) ad uirgines.** | ‘S(an)c(t)ę uirgines gloriosę quibus data est’.
- f. 117r/1–8 **Oratio ad om(ne)s s(an)c(t)os.** | ‘Rogo uos om(ne)s s(an)c(t)i patriarchę et p(ro)phete’.
- f. 117r/8–14 **Item alia.** | ‘D(omi)ne d(eu)s om(ni)p(oten)s per intercessionem omnium | s(an)c(t)orum tuorum’ [followed by neumed incipits to antiphons, etc., all in a smaller hand (ll. 15–18)].

Office (see Dewick 1914: 454):

- f. 117r/19–21 **cap(itu)l(a)** ‘Gaudete p(er)fecti ... uobiscu(m) [followed by incipits to hymns with neumed responses (ll. 21–22)].
- f. 117r/23–25 **Coll(ecta).** ‘Exaudi q(uesumu)s d(omi)ne gemitu pop(u)li’ [followed by neumed response (l. 25–f. 117v/1)].
- f. 117v/2–10 **Lec(tio) .i.** | ‘Primu(m) quide(m) gratias ago d(e)o’ [followed by neumed response (ll. 10–13)].
- f. 117v/13–21 **L(ectio) .ii.** | ‘Nolo aute(m) uos ignorare fr(atre)s’ [followed by neumed response (ll. 21–24)].
- ff. 117v/25–118r/6 **L(ectio) .iii.** | ‘Reuelatur eni(m) ira d(e)i de celo sup(er) omne(m)’ [followed by neumed response (ll. 6–10)].
- f. 118r/10–19 **Lec(tio) .iiii.** | ‘Quia cu(m) cognouiss& d(eu)m. non sicut d(eu)m glorifica|uerunt’ [followed by neumed response (ll. 19–21)].
- f. 118r/22–118v/5 **Lec(tio) .v.** ‘Qui commutauer(unt) ueritate(m) d(e)i in mendaci(u)m’ [followed by neumed response (ll. 5–7)].
- f. 118v/7–15 **Lec(tio) .vi.** | ‘Et sicut non p(ro)bauerunt d(eu)m habere in notitia’ [followed by neumed response (ll. 15–18)].
- f. 118v/18–24 **L(ectio) s(ecundum) e(uangelium) s(ancti) ioh(an)nis.** | ‘In ill(o) t(em)p(or)e’ [followed by neumed response (ll. 24–f. 119r/1)].

- f. 119r/2-9 L(ectio) .viii. 'Nunc aute(m) quia bona est' [followed by neumed response (ll. 10-12)].
- f. 119r/12-17 L(ectio) .viii. | 'Porro taciani & martiani' [followed by neumed response (ll. 17-21)].
- f. 119r/21-119v/4 In laudibus | 'Mirabilis in excelsis' [in same hand as that of response; neumed].
- f. 119v/4-6 Cap(itu)l(a) | 'Caritas d(e)i & dilectio maneat nob(is)-cu(m) [followed by neumed response (ll. 6-7)].
- f. 119v/7-10 Or(atio) | 'Conserua q(uesumu)s d(omi)ne pop(u)-l(u)m tuu(m)' [followed by neumed response (ll. 10-14)].
- f. 119v/15-16 c(a)p(itula) | 'Benedictus d(eu)s & pater d(omi)ni n(ost)ri' [followed by neumed response (ll. 16-17)].
- f. 119v/17-21 coll(ecta) | 'D(omi)ne d(eu)s pater om(ni)p(oten)s nos famulos tue' [followed by neumed response (ll. 21-22)].
- ff. 119v/22-120r/2 L(ectio) .ii. | 'Scimus q(uonia)m iudiciu(m) d(e)i est s(e)c(un)d(u)m ueritate(m) in eos' [followed by neumed response (f. 120r/2-5)].
- f. 120r/5-14 L(ectio) .ii. | 'S(e)c(un)d(u)m duritia(m) aute(m) tua(m)' [followed by neumed response (ll. 14-16)].
- f. 120r/17-120v/23 L(ectio) .iii. 'Gloria & honor & pax omni op(er)anti bonu(m)' [followed by response (f. 120r/23-120v/3)].
- f. 120v/3-6 cap(itu)la. | 'Nox precessit. dies aute(m) app(ro)pinquabit' (followed by neumed response (ll. 6-8)].
- f. 120v/8-12 coll(ecta). | 'Matutina supplicu(m) uota q(uesumu)s d(omi)ne p(ro)piti(us)' [followed by neumed response (ll. 12-15)].
- f. 120v/15-17 cap(itula) | 'D(omi)n(u)s aute(m) dirigat corda n(ost)ra' [followed by neumed response (ll. 17-18)].
- f. 120v/18-22 coll(ecta). | 'Exaudi d(omi)ne famulos tuos' [followed by neumed response (ll. 22-23)].
- f. 120v/23-25 L(ectio) .i. | 'Si aute(m) tu iudeus cognominaris & requiescis in lege' [ends imperfectly at '& nosti uoluntate(m) ei(us) & p(ro)bas', followed by a loss of the central bifolium in the gathering].
- f. 121r/1 Begins imperfectly, after a loss of two leaves after f. 120: '... ad effundendum sanguinem' [followed by neumed response (ll. 1-16)].
- f. 121r/16-21 L(ectio) .i. | 'Quod d(eu)s incommutabilis summus & et(er)nus | existat' [followed by response (ll. 21-25)].
- f. 121r/25-121v/6 L(ectio) .ii. | 'Ac p(ro) hoc quia in deo mutabilitas'

- [followed by neumed response (ll. 6–9)].
- f. 121v/9–15 L(ectio) .iii. | ‘Nam de incommutabili d(e)o scriptum est’ [followed by neumed response (ff. 121v/16–122r/6)].
- f. 122r/7–14 L(ectio) .i. ‘Dum ad hanc mutabilitate(m) toto affectu’ [followed by neumed response (ll. 14–18)].
- f. 122r/19–23 L(ectio) .ii. ‘Sicut p(er) beatum iob dicitur’ [followed by neumed response (f. 122r/23–122v/1)].
- f. 122v/1–5 L(ectio) .iii. | ‘In hoc namq(ue) quod de diuine nature potentia | audiuimus’ [followed by neumed response (ll. 6–22)].
- ff. 122v/23–123r/7 ‘Parce michi d(omi)ne’ [followed by neumed response (ll. 7–12)].
- f. 123r/13–23 ‘Tedet anima(m) mea(m) uite meę’ [followed by neumed response (f. 123r/24–123v/6)].
- f. 123v/7–13 ‘Man(us) tue d(omi)ne fecer(unt) me & plasmauer(unt) me’ [followed by response (ll. 14–25), ending incompletely].

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