

475. Vatican City, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana,  
Pal. lat. 68

“Glossa in Psalmos”

[Ker 388; Gneuss 909; *CLA* 1.78]

**HISTORY:** Written by Edilberict son of Berictfrid (colophon, f. 46r, ed. Gameson 2001: no. 6) in insular minuscule of the first half of the 8c, presumably in Northumbria, at a center where there was Irish influence, as the manuscript contains Irish as well as OE glosses. The scribe used a system of marginal references to indicate sources, e.g., ‘hir’ = Jerome on f. 3r beside the commentary on Ps. 47:14–15 (McNamara 1986: 12, on the sources themselves 46–56); this method was adapted from one used by Bede (Laistner 1933; Gorman 2002: 258–61; Schipper 2007: 29–30). Later additions on f. 46v (McNamara 1986: 18), including the Frankish name ‘CUNIBRAHT’ (top), indicate that the manuscript was already on the continent when they were written, probably at Lorsch or Mainz, since these are the centers from which the Palatine manuscripts mostly come. A 12c inscription at the bottom of f. 1r ‘codex sancti’ followed by an erasure may have read ‘codex sancti nazarii’ or ‘codex sancti albani’, as these are known forms of inscriptions in books from Lorsch and Mainz respectively. Together with others in the Palatine collection this manuscript was removed from Heidelberg to the Vatican in 1623 (see Montuschi 2014). At the bottom of f. 1r there occurs the early modern number ‘23’. Modern binding of white vellum provided by the Vatican in common with other manuscripts in their collections. Modern foliation provided in the top right-hand corner of recto leaves.

**CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION:** Folios 46, membrane of good quality, thick and strong and slightly yellow, with only two holes in the text area (on ff. 16, 33), measuring approx. 308 × 187 mm. Fol. 3 has had a tear repaired, and ff. 39/46, the outer sheet of quire V, has apparently been fused back together. Hair side mostly outside, but in quire III HFHFH, and in quire IV HHHHF; the membrane is well prepared so it is sometimes difficult to distinguish the two sides. The written area (from the top of the as-

enders on the top line to the bottom of the descenders on the bottom line) is variable, but approximately as follows: quire I, 261 × 155 mm., quire II 268 × 155 mm., quire III 271 × 147 mm., quire IV 265 × 143 mm., quire V 267 × 155 mm.

Prick-marks for the horizontal long lines ruled with hardpoint were provided down the single vertical frame boundaries for leaves when folded, as, e.g., on f. 19, there are 40 on the inside margin and 41 on the outside margin. The number of written lines per page varies from 39 to 46, and the size of the writing and the space between lines also varies between quires. The scribe may have been copying page by page from an exemplar, as there are frequent instances of words or phrases added below the bottom line of writing, as ff. 3r, 5r, 5v, etc., and also of the last line of text ending before the end of the line set for writing, as ff. 6v, 7r, 7v, 8v, 15v, etc. Occasionally the scribe has added matter in the outside margin, as on f. 9r. Interlinear corrections also occur, as on ff. 12v/10, 13r/4, 17v/16, etc. Generally there is no color other than the brown ink of the text, except on f. 10r there is red highlighting in Ps. 68. Each psalm begins with a large capital followed by some smaller capitals and is marked in the margin by a cross, e.g., 'FUNDamenta' on f. 18r/34 at the beginning of Ps. 86.

**COLLATION:** I<sup>8</sup> (ff. 1–8), II<sup>10</sup> (ff. 9–18), III<sup>10</sup> (ff. 19–28), IV<sup>10</sup> (ff. 29–38), V<sup>8</sup> (ff. 39–46).

Quire signatures added later (or written over scribal numbering?) in the center of the bottom margin in darker ink on ff. 8v 'i', 18v 'ii', 28v 'iii', 38v 'iiii', and (at the beginning) 39r 'v'.

### CONTENTS:

ff. 1r/1–46r/46 "Glossa in Psalmos": beg. imperf. at Ps.39:11 '[. . .] a concilio multa i(d est) toto isr(ae)l p(re)dicabo'; commentary ends at Ps. 151:7: 'Et obstulli obp(ro)prium de filis isr(ae)l. | i(d est) per xl. dies p(ro)uocabat nos ad bellum'; followed by a scribal colophon at f. 46r/41: 'finit liber psalmoru(m) . . . Edilberict filius berictfridi scripsit hanc glosa(m) | Quicumque hoc legat oret p(er) scriptore. et ipse similiter omnib(us) populis | Et tribubus et linguis et universo generi humano aeternam salute(m) optat | :- :- :- :- :- , In Chr(ist)o. amen. amen' (ed. McNamara 1986: 91–311; ff. 1r and 46r previously ed. Maurice Sheehy from photographs in McNamara 1973: 281–4; Stegmüller no. 11035; Lapidge and Sharpe, no. 1261).

**OE glosses**, of which there are five, occur as an integral part of the text on ff. 12v/31–2 (Ps.73:14), 15r/20–23 (Ps.77:45), 20v/20 (Ps.89:13), where, they

are distinguished from the Latin by multiple strokes in the shape of acute accents written above them (ed. Napier 1900: no. 54, and recorded in McNamara 1986: 24–5, who prints OE ‘æ’ as two letters).

Irish glosses of which there are twenty-five in the manuscript (e.g., ff. 4r/20 [Ps.49:13], 11v/3 [Ps.71:10]) are distinguished from Latin in the same manner as the OE glosses (ed. Stokes and Strachan 1901–3: 1.3, and McNamara 1986: 19–24).

f. 46v blank apart from later pen-trials and scribbles.

IMAGE NOTES: There is a complete high-quality digital facsimile available at “Bibliotheca Laureshamensis Digital” [[http://bibliotheca-laureshamensis-digital.de/bav/bav\\_pal\\_lat\\_68](http://bibliotheca-laureshamensis-digital.de/bav/bav_pal_lat_68)].

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