



<County: Yorkshire North Riding>

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<MS reference: Oxford, Corpus Christi College 155>

<Text: Lay Folk's Mass Book>

<fol. 252v>The worthyest thyng þ<sup>e</sup> maste of gudnes

Jn all þe welde þan is the mes

Jn all þe bokes of haly kyrke

y<sup>t</sup> haly men y<sup>t</sup> tyme gone wyrke

ye messe is praysed many falde

ye vertues may neuere be talde

For if a M<sup>l</sup> clerk<sup>e</sup>s did noght els

After y<sup>t</sup> þe boke tels

Bot talde ye vertus of messe singynge

And ye profet of the messe herynge

3itte sould<sup>e</sup> thay neuere fifte parte

For all yere crafte & yere arte

Tell ye vertus medes pardone

To yame y<sup>t</sup> w<sup>t</sup> deuocyon~

Jn clennes and gode entente

Dos worschyp to y<sup>t</sup> sacramente

<fol. 253r>Jn boke fynde J writen of ane

Saynte Jerome was his name

A deuoute man & religyous

Jn his buke he spekes thus

He says þ<sup>u</sup> sould<sup>e</sup> gude entent take

y<sup>t</sup> þ<sup>u</sup> at þe mes na jangelynge make

Grete ensauple he settes yere-to

Why it is full yll to do

Alsswa he telles how

y<sup>u</sup> sould<sup>e</sup> ye mes y<sup>t</sup> þ<sup>u</sup> heris now

When the priest sayes or if he synge

To hym þ<sup>u</sup> gif gude herkenynge

when the prieste Prayes in priuate

Tyme of prayer~ than is to þe

Jf þou apon the boke kan knawe it  
 Into Englische þ<sup>u</sup> drawe it  
 When þe priest hym revistis & y<sup>e</sup> messe bigynnes  
 And mekes hym to god for his synnes  
 þan say þou w<sup>t</sup> hym þy <lat>Confiteor</lat>  
 Or elles on ynglische yus yer-fore  
 J knawe to god full of myght  
 And to his moder mayden bryght  
 And to all halowes here  
 And to þe fader gastly  
 y<sup>t</sup> j haue synned largely  
 <fol. 253v>Jn many synnes sere  
 Jn thoghte in speche & in delyte  
 Jn worde in werke J am to wyte  
 And worthy forto blame  
 yerfore J praye the marye  
 And thy halowes haly  
 Jn goddes haly name  
 And þe priest to praye for me  
 y<sup>t</sup> god haue mercy and pite  
 for his grete mede  
 Of my wricchyd synfulnes  
 And gif me grace of forgifnes  
 Of my mysdede . Amen  
 When þ<sup>u</sup> yere þy <lat>confiteor</lat> has done  
 Say a <lat>pater noster</lat> & an <lat>Aue</lat> fast yere-on  
 yan w<sup>t</sup>-owten any tariynge  
 On þis wise be saiynge  
 God for yi gudnes  
 At the beginnyng of yis mes  
 Graunte all y<sup>t</sup> it sall here  
 Of yere synnes y<sup>t</sup> yay be clere  
 Lorde saue the priest y<sup>t</sup> it sall saye  
 Fra temptacyon~ yis ilke daye  
 y<sup>t</sup> he be clene of will & thoght  
 y<sup>t</sup> ye ill wild spirite noy hym noght  
 <fol. 254r>y<sup>t</sup> he fulfill this sacramente  
 W<sup>t</sup> clene herte & gude entent  
 Firste hyghly to þe honour

y<sup>t</sup> suffrayne is of all socour  
 And to ye moder mayden clene  
 And to thy halowes all be dene  
 y<sup>t</sup> this mes be till *sure* sawll hele  
 Helpe & *grace* in allkyns wele  
 and to all y<sup>t</sup> we have in mynde  
 Syb and fremd be any kynde  
 Gode lorde graunte for this mes  
 Of *yere* synnes forgifnes  
 and reste and pes y<sup>t</sup> lastes aye  
 To cristenyd sawlles passyd awaye  
 And to vs all thy socour sende  
 And brynge vs all to þy ioi w<sup>t</sup>outen ende Amen  
 & Jf þ<sup>u</sup> of letter kan  
 To þe priest herken yan  
 hys office *prayer*~ & pistill  
 And answer *yere*-to w<sup>t</sup> gude will  
 Or on a boke yy-selfe it rede  
 J wate *yerfore* nane vnspede  
 Jf þ<sup>u</sup> kan noghte rede ne saye  
 yy *Pater noster* rehers alwaye  
 To dekyn or *preste* ye gospell sall rede  
 <fol. 254v>Yere-till þ<sup>u</sup> take righte gude hede  
 At the biginnyng tenten þou take  
 A large crosse on þe þ<sup>u</sup> make  
 Saiand þus on this maner~  
 Als þ<sup>u</sup> may se writen here  
 ¶ Ye name of the fader & sone & haly gaste  
 And sothfast god of myghtes maste  
 Goddes wordes be welcome vnto me  
 Joy and louuyng lorde to þe  
 After þe gospell ay whil þe crede  
 Ye tyme is nere w<sup>t</sup>-owten drede  
 Y<sup>t</sup> men sould *profer yere* offrandes  
 Or the priest take water to his handes  
 Offer or leve whether þe liste  
 How þou sould praye j walde þ<sup>u</sup> wyste  
 Als nexte is writen j rede þ<sup>u</sup> saye  
 On this manere god to paye

Jhesu y<sup>t</sup> was in bedlem borne  
 And thre kynges come þe biforne  
 Yere thay offerd þe golde ensens & myrre  
 And þ<sup>u</sup> forsoke noon of þir  
 Bot wyssed yame wele all three  
 Hame agayne to yere cuntre  
 Right so oure offrandes y<sup>t</sup> we offyr  
 And oure prayers y<sup>t</sup> we profer~  
 <fol. 255r>þ<sup>u</sup> take lorde to thy lowyng  
 And be oure helpe in alkyn thyng  
 Y<sup>t</sup> all perils before done  
 Oure gode 3ernyng þ<sup>u</sup> graunte vs sone  
 Of all oure mys þ<sup>u</sup> vs amende  
 In all oure nedes vs socour sende <mrg>Amen</mrg>  
 After the waschyng ye priest will loute  
 Ye awter and sithen turne hym aboute  
 Y<sup>t</sup> he askes with still steven  
 Ilke man prayers to god of heuene  
 Swilke prayers j walde 3e toke  
 Als nexte folowes on the buke  
 ¶ The haly gaste in þe light  
 And sende grace into þe righte  
 To rewle thy herte and þy spekyng  
 To godes worschep & his lovyng  
 God resceyf thy servyce  
 And this solempne sacrifice  
 For the priest and for vs all  
 Y<sup>t</sup> now er here or be sall  
 this mes to here or worschep do  
 Yis sacryng to se or praye yere-to  
 And for all y<sup>t</sup> leues in goddes name  
 Y<sup>t</sup> thay be kepyd fra synne and schame  
 And for the saulles y<sup>t</sup> er past  
 Y<sup>t</sup> thay have reste y<sup>t</sup> euere sall laste  
 <fol. 255v>The priest will than in y<sup>t</sup> place  
 Sethen bigynne the preface  
 Y<sup>t</sup> begynnes with <lat>per omnia</lat>  
 & sethen w<sup>t</sup> <lat>sursum corda</lat>  
 And at the ende says <lat>sanctus</lat> thryes

\*<lat>In excelsis</lat> he newen bot twys  
 Of all gude þ<sup>u</sup> thankes god yan  
 And praye also euere-ilke a+man  
 Of ilke a-state and ilke degre  
 So will the lawe of charite  
 Yer-fore begynne this prayer~ sone  
 When þe preste the p*re*face has doone  
 Oure lorde honourde þou be  
 With all my herte and my degre  
 J thanke the lorde as me wele awe  
 Of mare gude than j kan knawe  
 Y<sup>t</sup> j haue of þe resceyved  
 Sen the tyme j was consauyd  
 My lyfe my lymys you has me lente  
 My righte witte þou hase me sente  
 Þou has me kep*id* of thy grace  
 Fro many p*er*ils in many place  
 All my helpe and my levyng*e*  
 Haly hafe of thy givynge  
 Þou boghte me dere w<sup>t</sup> thy blode  
 <fol. 256r>And dyed for me opon the rode  
 J have done agayne thy will  
 Synnes many grete and ill  
 Þ<sup>u</sup> erte redy of thy gudnes  
 For+to graunte me forgifnes  
 Of this gude and many ma  
 J thanke the lorde & prayes alswa  
 Þ<sup>t</sup> all my gilte þ<sup>u</sup> me forgif  
 And be my helpe whils j sall lyf  
 Gif me grace for+to eschewe  
 To do y<sup>t</sup> me sall rewe  
 And gif me will aye for+to wyrke  
 Lorde thynke of state of haly kyrke  
 Of the pape byschope priestes clerkes  
 Y<sup>t</sup> yai be kepyd in all gude werkes  
 the kynge the lordes of the lande  
 Y<sup>t</sup> thay be wele mayntennand  
 Yere states and all gudnes  
 And rewle the folke in rightwisnes

Oure sybmen and oure wele-willandes  
 Oure frendes sugettes & servandes  
 Pater noster Aue Credo & c~  
 All thy childer & wymmen  
 Merchaundes men of craftes & tilmen  
 Ryche & pore grete and small  
 J pray the lorde for thame all  
 <fol. 256v>Y<sup>t</sup> thay be kepyd specially  
 Jn gode hele and lyfe haly  
 To thame y<sup>t</sup> er in ill lyfe  
 Jn sclaunder myscomforth or in stryfe  
 Seke men or prisoned or apon ye se  
 Pore or exsilyd disheryd if thay be  
 To all this þou sende socoure  
 To hym worschep & hym honoure  
 All y<sup>t</sup> er in gude lyfe to-daye  
 And clene lyues to þy paye  
 kepe thame lorde fro all foly  
 & fro all synne for thy mercy  
 And gif thame grace to laste and lende  
 Jn yy servyce to yere ende  
 Yis werlde y<sup>t</sup> turnes many ways  
 Make gude to vs in all days  
 the wedders grete and vnstabill  
 lorde make gude and sesonabill  
 Ye frute of the erthe make plenteuous  
 As þ<sup>u</sup> seys best ordan for vs  
 Swilke grace to vs þou sende  
 Y<sup>t</sup> on oure laste daye at oure laste ende  
 When this werlde and wee sall seuere  
 Bringe vs to y<sup>t</sup> ioie y<sup>t</sup> lastes euere Amen  
 <lat>Pater noster Aue Maria & c~</lat>  
 ¶ than is the tyme nere of ye sacrynge  
 <fol. 257r>A litill bell men is to ryng  
 Yan is skill to do reuerence  
 To ihesu criste awghen presence  
 Y<sup>t</sup> may lese all bandes  
 Kneland halde vp thy handes  
 And with inclinacyon~

Behalde þe Eleuacyon~  
 Swylke prayer~ þan þou take  
 As the likes best for+to make  
 Many men prayes sere  
 Ilke man prayes on his manere  
 Schorte prayer sould be w<sup>t</sup>-owten drede  
 And yere-with a pater-noster & crede  
 J set here & may be sayde  
 Jf þou be vnpuruayde  
 Jf j merke it here in letter  
 Pou may schewe it for a better  
 ¶ Welcome lorde in fourme of brede  
 For me þ<sup>u</sup> sufferde herd deede  
 Als þou bare the crown~ of thorne  
 Pou suffer me noghte be+forlorne  
 When the preste the eleuacyon~ has made  
 He will sprede his armes on brade  
 Sethen dresdam in ye firste stede  
 Pan is tyme to praye for þe dede  
 For all cristen saulles sake  
 <fol. 257v>Swilke as þou will take  
 God for thy haly grace  
 Here oure prayere here in this place  
 Graunte vs lorde for oure prayer~  
 Y<sup>t</sup> cristen men y<sup>t</sup> passed er  
 Fra this life y<sup>t</sup> synfull es  
 Y<sup>t</sup> ilke an have parte of this messe  
 For yere saulles j praye derly  
 Y<sup>t</sup> j sall neven sekirly  
 Y<sup>t</sup> yis may be yam mede  
 Helpe & hele fro alkyn drede  
 For fader saulles moder & brother dere  
 Syster saulles sybmen & other sere  
 Y<sup>t</sup> vs gode wolde or vs gude dydde  
 Or any kyndenes vnto vs kydde  
 And to all in purgatory pyne  
 Yis messe be mede & medecyne  
 To all cristen saulles haly  
 Graunte þy grace & thy mercy

Forgif thame all *yere* trispase  
 lese thame of *yere* bandes & lat thame passe  
 Fra all pyne & fra all kare  
 Into þe ioie y<sup>t</sup> lastes eueremare  
 When ye preste for þe righte  
 Says <lat>*pater omnia*</lat> all on heghte  
 <fol. 258r>He will saye with hygh steven  
 his *pater-noster* to god of hevene  
 Herken hym w<sup>t</sup> gode will  
 And answer hym lowde or still  
 And saye it priualy  
 Other prayer noon *yere*-by  
 Eftsones the prieste on heght will saye  
 Be redy at answer hym allwaye  
 Herken how he spekes on pes  
 Says agnus thryes or he ses  
 In þe y<sup>t</sup> pes may noht be  
 If þ<sup>u</sup> owte of charite be  
 than is gude on god to craue  
 Y<sup>t</sup> þ<sup>u</sup> charite may haue  
 Wharfore when the priest þe pax will kysse  
 loke y<sup>t</sup> þou be sayand this  
 Goddes lambe y<sup>t</sup> best maye  
 Do the synne of þis werlde awaye  
 Of vs haue *mercy* and pite  
 And graunte vs pes and charite  
 For in charite er thre kynde loues  
 Y<sup>t</sup> *profet* pes nedlynges behoues  
 The firste luf is *certainly*  
 To thy lorde souerandly  
 Yerfore j praye the god of myghte  
 Pou make me lowe bothe daye & nyghte  
 <fol. 258v>Be sikirly set euerilke a dele  
 Soueranly to luf ye wele  
 Y<sup>t</sup> be thy myghte and *gouernynge*  
 J be euere in thy 3ernynge  
 Soueranly þe to paye  
 In all y<sup>t</sup> euere j kan or maye  
 And pyrst be arly and late



To my degre and myn~ astate  
 All gude dedes to fulfille  
 And to eschewe y<sup>t</sup> er ille  
 ¶ Ye secunde is a priuay luf  
 Y<sup>t</sup> nedfull is to my behoue  
 Whilke loue is *propirly*  
 Betwix the saule and þe body  
 Yere make þou gude lorde  
 My body and my saull accorde  
 Y<sup>t</sup> ayther be of oon assente  
 To saryf the w<sup>t</sup> gude entente  
 And lat neuere my body do y<sup>t</sup> ill  
 Y<sup>t</sup> it may my saull spyll  
 ¶ Þe thynde luf is w<sup>t</sup>-owten doute  
 To luf thy neghbur the aboute  
 And of y<sup>t</sup> luf for no thyng þ<sup>u</sup> ses  
 Yerefore j praye the prynce of pes  
 Y<sup>t</sup> þ<sup>u</sup> will as þ<sup>u</sup> may best  
 Mikell to be in pes and reste  
 <fol. 259r>And redy to luf all manere of men  
 My sybmen namely than  
 Neghburs seruau<sup>nt</sup>3 & ilke suget  
 Felawes frendes nane forget  
 Bot luf ilkane fer and nere  
 Als my-selfe w<sup>t</sup> herte clere  
 And turne yere herte swa to me  
 Y<sup>t</sup> wee fully frendes be  
 Y<sup>t</sup> j of yere gude & thay of myne  
 Have a ioie w<sup>t</sup> herte fyne  
 Als j praye for my selfe here  
 Graunte so to other on this manere  
 So y<sup>t</sup> ilke man luf wel other  
 Als he ware his awen brother  
 And amange vs be y<sup>t</sup> sacramente  
 Y<sup>t</sup> now is in *presente*  
 And be vertue of this messe  
 Wee mowght have forgifnesse  
 Of oure gilte & oure mys  
 Y<sup>t</sup> wee may come vnto thy blysse

¶ When the preste hase done  
 He will speke on heghte sone  
 More forthe of his offys  
 And sethen make ende of y<sup>t</sup> servyce  
 Euere þ<sup>u</sup> gif gude herkenynge  
 <fol. 259v>lowde or still aye answeyng  
 For þe mes is noght sest  
 Or þe tyme of <lat>ita missa est</lat>  
 When þ<sup>u</sup> has saide <lat>jte</lat>  
 Or <lat>benedicamus</lat> wheder it be  
 Yan is the messe all done  
 Bot 3itte this prayer y<sup>u</sup> saye sone  
 After y<sup>t</sup> wele þou maye  
 In goddes name lyve to paye  
 God be thanked of all his werkes  
 God be thanked of priestes & clerkes  
 God be thanked of ilke a man  
 And j thanke hym in y<sup>t</sup> j kan  
 J thanke god of his gudnes  
 And alswa of this mes  
 And of all the prayers y<sup>t</sup> here er prayed  
 J pray hym y<sup>t</sup> he be payed  
 In mynde of god here j me blysse  
 W<sup>t</sup> my blissynge god sende me hys  
 How tyme of the messe is spendyd  
 How j talde now will j endyd  
 Þe rubryke is gude vmwhile to luke  
 Þe prayers to cun w<sup>t</sup>-owten buke  
 It is swilke w<sup>t</sup>-owten doute  
 Y<sup>t</sup> ilke man þe mes luffes and loute  
 For of all thinges in yis worlde is þe mes  
 <fol. 260r>The worthyest and maste of gudnes  
 <lat>Expliciunt premia misse</lat>