

<County: Warwickshire>

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<Text: Religious prose>

<Tranche 1>

<fol. 30r>¶ Þe ferþe þinge þ<sup>t</sup> schuld stir man to  
 leue his synne is þe grete mercy of god  
 þat he schewes to synful man *in* þis  
 dedyle lyfe : þat he suffereþ hem &  
 abydeþ what-euer þei doo : & wol no3t  
 take veniaunce : but lokes after *amen*  
 dyngge . þat he euer desyres / ¶ But ri3t  
 as god is ful of mercy to þe synful  
 here *in* þis lyfe : so schal he be ful of  
 ri3twisnes at þe day of dome / for  
 als ~~mercyful as~~ ~~merciful~~ as we fynde  
 hym . þe whyle we lefen here : Als  
 ri3twise schul we fynde hym whan  
 we dyen hennes : for þan his ry3t  
 wisnes scal dryue to venge hym on  
 synne : for þe *prophete* seiþ . / <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> þat god schal ven  
 ge hym on his enemyes as he were  
 wode / for grete hastynes & stoyr  
 nes þat schal seme *in* god : whan  
 he schal deme mankynde to helle  
 þat he 3afe his hert blode fore //  
 ¶ 3if þou sei3e a+moder kest hyr  
 childe in-to þe fure : & lette alle  
 <fol. 30v>oper þat none my3t helpe it . soþely þ<sup>u</sup>  
 my3test sey þat sche were wode . ri3t  
 so at þe day of dome god schal kest  
 into þe fure of helle þe wicked men

of þis world þat wolen no3t leue  
 her synne ¶ Þe fifþe þinge þ<sup>t</sup> schuld  
 stir man to drede synne is þe grete  
 power & my3t þat god schal schewe  
 at þe dome . as ysai þe prophete seiþ :  
 <lat></lat>

J schal take veniaunce & no+man schal w<sup>t</sup>  
 stande . for þer is no helpe nowþer wip  
 power ne preyer for none creature  
 þer schal dure speke a word for oþer . but  
 ri3t as a+man passeþ oute of þis  
 world . so he schal þere a-byde þe dome  
 of god . & for drede her of man schuld  
 make hym redy er he wente hennes  
 oute of þis world : for sodeynly deep  
 schal come er he lest wene . & þanne  
 is no place of redynesse / <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> / for after þat he is  
 deed no+man may worche to encrease his  
 ioy no medeful werke : And þerfore god  
 <fol. 31r>dis lawe seiþ <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat>

<lat></lat> þat alle þe goode þ<sup>t</sup> man  
 may doo ; doo it þe whyles he liffeþ :  
 for noþer werke ne connyng ne wys  
 dome is at helle ¶ Þe sixte þinge  
 þat schuld fere a man to do any syn  
 ne is þe grete wreche þat god  
 þur3 ri3twisnes haþ taken for syn  
 ne . first in his feyre angel þat he cast  
 oute of heuene into þe depe putte of  
 helle : Also for brekyng his hest  
 he drofe adam oute of þe ioye of  
 paradyse into þis wretched world ;  
 to suffur hunger & colde & many  
 oþer myschefes & to suffur deep bo  
 þe of body & soule : & also for veniaun  
 ce of synne . how he drenched alle þis

worlde owtake ei3t soules . noe &  
 his wife & his pre sonnes & her wy  
 fes & þerfore leue synne or elles *in* veyn  
 þou trowes þat god wol spare þe /  
 for forto venge hym on synne he suffurd  
 <fol. 31v>his owne sone to be peyned & suffur  
 hard deep on þe cros . And seynt ber  
 nard seiþ siþ he wold no3t spare his  
 owne derworþe sone to peyne hym  
 for oþer mennes synne . his enemye &  
 þe synful man how schuld he spare  
 to peyne hem for her owne syne /  
 ¶ Þe seuent cause þat schuld make us  
 to drede synne . is þe grete repreue  
 & schame þat schal be to man þat  
 is taken *in* synne for god & alle his  
 angelis & alle man-kynde þat euer  
 was or schal be fro þe byginyng  
 of þe world vnto þe day of dome  
 schul wondre on hym & schame hym ;  
 whan þe ri3twisnes of god schal  
 dampne hym for synne : & oure lorde  
 god hym selfe schal scorne hym as holy  
 writte seiþ <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> & godis lawe  
 seiþ þat alle þe world ~~schal~~ . wiþ  
 god schal fei3t a3eyne þe wodeness  
 of synnful men þat wold no3t nou3t  
 <fol. 32r>leue her synne <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> / for þou3 synne  
 be nowe neuer so priuey : hit schal be  
 þan opun & knowen as þe gospel tel  
 liþ <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> : for as a holy man seiþ  
 <lat></lat> / þe  
 conscience schal þanne be knowen  
 to alle men // **drede**  
 Drede may be lykened to þree ma  
 ner men . to a porter þat kepeþ

a 3ate . to a ri3twis domesman & to  
 a waker weyte : first to a porter for  
 drede kepeþ þe 3ates of þe herte ;  
 þat no enemye of synne may come  
 inne : but whan þe fende wiþ any temp  
 tacion of synne comeþ : drede stekeþ  
 þe 3ates of þe soule þ<sup>t</sup> no consente  
 of synne come inne ; & what-so-euer it  
 be þat he knoweþ is a3eynes . <mrg>his</mrg> lor  
 des wyll he holdeþ þer-oute & for no  
 þinge wol sufur none yuel to come  
 wiþ-inne þe conscience / þat schuld greue  
 god ¶ Also drede is likene to a+ri3t  
 wis domesman ; þat þeues & traytours  
 <fol. 32v>demes to þe deep . whereso þei mey  
 be founden . & peynes hem in prisonen //  
 so drede peynes þe flesche as a  
 þefe þat is worpi to be punys  
 ched : and þerfore dauid preyde our  
 lord þat he wold pricke his flesche  
 wiþ drede <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> ¶ Also drede is likened  
 to a weyte þat is in þe londe of wer  
 re emonge enemyes : þat trumpes  
 & cries up on þe kny3tes þat þei  
 schul no3t slepe lest þe enemyes  
 comen on hem & kylden hem : alle  
 we ben here in þis world euer emonge  
 oure enemyes : & on þre halfe we  
 ben beseged . wiþ oure þree enemy  
 es þat kenely us aseyles . þe world  
 our flesche & þe fende of helle <smudge> þes  
 þree a3eynes us han traueþe pli3t  
 to-geder : þat iche schal helpe oþer  
 wiþ alle his power : to wyne  
 us fro oure lord þat bou3t us  
 so dere : & make us falle gretly  
 in many dyuers synnes : & so lette  
 us of oure ioy & brynge us to

peyne : And þerfore it is grete  
 <fol. 33r>nede þat drede awake us sharply ;  
 þat we slepe no3t *in synne* : ne non  
 fals lykyng þat falles to luste &  
 wickednesse a3eynes oure lordys  
 wyll : but euer stande redye *in* truste  
 of goddis helpe : strongly to fei3t  
 a3eyne þes þree enemyes / ¶ Dre  
 dede serues to mannes soule : as cha  
 pitre to religion : for as *in* chapitre  
 þe religious is acused of of þer trespas .  
 & mekenes hem to do penaunce þer  
 fore : so doþ drede acused man of  
 his synne : & wiþ a gode wille to  
 do penaunce þerfore : & ri3t as rely  
 gyon wold sone worþe to no3t 3if  
 þere were no chasteysynge *in* cha  
 pitur / ri3t+so 3if þer were no drede *in*  
 mannes hert : sone wold his lyfyng  
 torne to synne & his soule perisch / /  
 as salomon seyþ <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> 3if þou hold þe no3t *in*  
 þe drede of god : sone wol þi hous  
 be ouerturned : þ<sup>t</sup> is þi soule wol  
 falle *into* synne ¶ And foure þinges  
 a gode religious doþ whan þei  
 <fol. 33v>comen *into* þe chapter lions / : / fyrst he  
 kneles lowe downe to þe erþe :  
 Sipe he knowlacheþ his trespas /  
 After þat he nakens hym of hys  
 cloþinge and þanne he receyueþ  
 mekelich betynges for his trespas  
 ses / ¶ Drede makeþ a trewe *cristen*  
 man to doo þes foure þinges *in* þe  
 si3t of his god : first he makeþ  
 hym to lowen hym selfe *in* alle me  
 kenes & to hold hym-selfe an vn  
 worþi wretche : & schameþ so wiþ

hym-selfe þat he schule do so vn  
 kyndely a3eynes þe wyll of his lord  
 in many hede synnes þat he is a  
 schamed to lyfte vp his heued ;  
 þus dude þe puplycan . þat god for  
 3afe his synnes . as þe gospel tel  
 liþ . þat durst no3t loke up to  
 heuene . but loked mekelyche to  
 þe erþe . & knocked on his brest :  
 & seyde þes wordes / lord god for  
 þi pyte haue mercy on þis synful  
 wretche . & for his mekenes he  
 was iustified / But þe proude  
 <fol. 34r>pharasee þat hei3ed hym selfe was  
 no3t iustified / Siþen dred makeþ a  
 man as ~~dauid~~ dauid dude to know  
 lache his trespass to god & seyde  
 <lat></lat>  
 lord J knowlache þat J haue syn  
 ned to þe ful myche . wherfore J  
 axe þe mercy/ & for þis meke confes  
 syon god for3afe hym his synnes  
 Also it telleþ in þe . <mrg>secunde</mrg> boke of kynges  
 in goddis lawe : þat kyng dauid  
 sende hys kny3ttes into þe lond  
 of Jude & of israel to noumbre alle  
 þe men þat were þerinne . <mrg>of elde</mrg> able to  
 to fei3t : & þe noumbre of þe lond  
 of israel was <add>nyne</add><over erasure by other hand> hundred þou  
 sandes . & of þe lond of jude fy  
 ue hundred þousande of strong  
 men & conynge in bateyl & of wer  
 res / & of þes grete noumbre & þe  
 kyng hade pride : & for þis dede  
 god was wroþe wiþ hym : and  
 sende his angel : & slowe wiþ-inne  
 a lytel tyme seuenty þousand of  
 þat folke þ<sup>t</sup> was noumbrede : and

## <Tranche 2>

<fol. 185r>haue nede of gostly comford : 3if þou  
 kanste þou art holden to teche hem  
 or to gede oþer þat ben wyser þan  
 þou to teche hem þe best wey to  
 leue her synne & to loue god / and  
 3if þei ben dede ny3t & day to prey  
 for hem . þat god of his endelesse mercy  
 & godenesse 3if þei ben in payne of <mrg>body</mrg>  
 relesche hem of her peyne / And 3e  
 schul vnderstande þat þer ben twey  
 maner of faders . bodyle & gostly . bo  
 dyle as it is before seyde / gostly  
 fader . as he þat mynystreþ to þee /  
 sacramentis of holy chirche & te  
 cheþ þee þe law3e of god & con  
 seyleþ þee to goode & bryngeþ  
 þe forþe to be a+childe of god / &  
 of þi moder holy chirche þat is alle  
 holy men & wymen þe whiche þ<sup>u</sup>  
 schalt worschip / & prey to god to  
 encrese þat noumbre / /

### þe fyfþe comaundment

þe secunde comaundment of  
 þe secunde table is þis <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> / þou schalt no3t slee / /  
 <fol. 185v>And euer man schuld fle manslau3ter for  
 it is most a3eyne kynde / for þe wyse  
 man seiþ in goddis lawe <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> euery vnreso  
 nable best loueþ þat best þat is ly  
 che to hym / Moche more þan schuld  
 a man þat is a resonable best loue  
 his owne lykenes & fle manslau3ter / /  
 & man is þe likenes of god : & god  
 alonely whan hym likeþ puttþ  
 lyfe into þe body: & so it longeþ  
 to god whan hym likiþ alonely

to take lyue fro þe body & And *in* to  
 ken þat þis synne is orible *in* þe si3t  
 of god / þis is one of þe þree syn  
 nes þat *in* holy writte criep to god  
 veniaunce as wittnesse god hym-self  
 <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> / Loo seiþ god  
 to caym . þe blode of þi broþer criep to  
 me fro þe erþe / / 3e schul vnderstande  
 þat þer is þree maner of manslau3ter . þat  
 is to sey / of hand . / of tonge / & of  
 herte / Manslau3t of hande is whan  
 any man or woman smyteþ an-oþer  
 <fol. 186r>wher-of deef foloweþ þe secunde manere  
 of manslau3ter is : whan a man or wo  
 man for envie bryngeþ a goode man  
 or a+woman : owte of her goode name  
 or fame into an yuel name . wiþ fals  
 slaundrynge of her tonges / whoso  
 doþ so *in* as myche as *in* hem is þei  
 sleen hem / / ¶ Þe þridde maner of  
 of manslau3ter is *in* herte . whan a  
 man or woman bereþ envye or hate  
*in* her herte / to her euen cristen : wyl  
 lynge envyously . þat veniaunce or mys  
 chefe fel vp-on hem . & 3itte þerto  
 cursen *in* hert & *in* mouþe / and seynt  
 Jon seiþ he þat hateþ his broþer is  
 a mansleer <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> / for þei sleen here owne soule /  
 & *in* þat . þat *in* hem is oþer mennes  
 also / /

**vj**

Þe þrid comaundment of þe  
 secunde table is þis <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> / þou schalt doo  
 no lecherie . noþer weddyd ne sen  
 gle / lered ne lewed / man ne womman  
 do noo lecherie ; for it is a dedyly synne



by-twene a sengle man & a sengle wo  
 man / it is myche mor greuouse synne  
 of a wedded man or a weded woman /  
 for brekyng of þe heiȝe sacrament  
 of wedlac / But ȝif prestes þat lyue  
 in chastyte as angelis & be a merour  
 of clannes to þe puple . þere is myche  
 more sorowe / Here ȝe schul vnder  
 stande in þis general worde þou schalt  
 do no lecherie / god forbedeþ al ma  
 ner vnleueful lykyng / & treetyng  
 of mannes priue membris or wommans /  
 & he forbedeþ alle maner lecherie . In  
 wille & word & dede / þerfore kepe þi  
 hert clene for lecherous þenkyng /  
 þi mouþ fro lecherous kysyng . &  
 spekyng . for of vnclene speche  
 cummeþ myche synne . as vnclene yma  
 ginacoon . / vnclene þouȝtes & many  
 oþer wickenesse / And þi body & alle  
 þi membris fro vnclene towchyng  
 or vnleueful dedys doynge / euery man  
 & womman in hys degre / ȝif þou be a  
 sengle man or womman . by þenke  
 þe nyȝt & day : þat þou wolt neuer  
 <fol. 187r>forsake god : to bytake þe to þe deuel  
 body & soule : to haue þat cursed  
 lykyng of lecherie / þe whoche  
 þou may haue resonable vsed in law  
 ful matrymonye / & þerfore kepe ȝow  
 clene to þat ȝe come to þ<sup>t</sup> holye  
 sacrament ¶ And ȝe þat haue ta  
 ken þe heiȝe sacrament of matri  
 monye kepe ȝou fro vnleueful doyn  
 ges & vse ȝoure doynge wip  
 drede of god to his worschyp / /  
 And neuer for noo erþely gode bre  
 ke þat heiȝe sacramente & bounde  
 of trewe þat god ordeyned in para

dyse . byfore þat adam or eue dude  
 synne / But oþer sacramentes were  
 ordeyned *in* remedye for synne / So  
 þat þis sacrament was ordeyned  
 of god : & confermed of *crist in* þe gos  
 pel of Matheu . ix . c<sup>o</sup> wher *crist* an  
 swered þus to hem . þat asked of  
 hym : <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> / 3if it be leueful  
 to a man to forsake his wife for  
 any maner cause / & *crist* answered &  
 seyde / <lat></lat>  
 <fol. 187v><lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> Rede 3ee no3t  
 þat he þat made hem at þe bygyn  
 nyng . male & female he made hem :  
 and seyde to hem for þis schal a man  
 leue fader & moder : & holde hym to  
 his wyfe . for þei schul be ~~on~~ boþe  
 one þat þat god haþ ioyned man  
 schal no3t depart Loo how þis  
 hei3e sacrament of matrimonye is  
 confermed by crist / And herfore seiþ  
 seynt paule / <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat> / þat men loue her wyfes as  
 her owne bodies : he þat loueþ his  
 wife loueþ hym-selfe : & no+man ha  
 teþ his flesche but norischip & fedip  
 it / and also he seiþ . wymmen be su  
 gete to her huboundes as to her  
 lord / <lat></lat>  
 <lat></lat>  
 <fol. 188r><lat></lat> And seiþ seynt paule þis  
 sacrament is grete : but J seiþ he seiþ

*in* crist & *in* þe chirche / þat is to sey  
 þis sacrament bytokeneþ knyttyng  
 to-geder of *crist* & of . <mrg>holy</mrg> þe chirche by  
 grace : and þat bytokeneþ þe trouþ  
 pli3ttyng at þe chirche dore / And  
 þerfore siþ þis sacrament is so hei3e  
 þat it bytokeneþ ioynynge of *crist*  
 & of alle seyntes & *cristen* soules to  
 geder by studefast loue & grace / /  
 Pou þat wolt wytyngly make a  
 ny fals deuors / or ellis þur3 synne  
 breke þis hei3e sacrament / in as  
 mychel as *in* þe is / þou puttes vp  
 on *crist* þat he is falsly knytte wiþ  
 mannes soule : & þat he wol wiþ  
 oute any cause forsake mannes sou  
 le / And þis is a synne of blasphe  
 mye . of a dispite done to þe godhed  
 of god / and þerfore for þe loue of *cristis*  
 flesche & his blode : spendes no3t 3oure  
 flesche & 3oure blode *in* seruice of þe  
 deuel : þat was 3euen to 3ou to be  
 spendide *in* þe seruice of god / & to  
 <fol. 188v>3oure owne sauacomm : / & kepe 3ou cle  
 ne fro lecherie In þou3t & worde  
 & dede . for þe most pryue þou3t of  
 3oure herte is *present* to god / <blank line>  
 Þe furþe comaundment of þe secunde  
 table is þis <lat></lat>  
 þou schalt doo no þefte / þefte  
 may be done *in* dyuerse maneres : as to  
 take þi ney3bores goode fro hym  
 wrongfully a3eynes his wille : oþer  
 by *priue* stelynge . or by opun robbynge  
 by ny3t or by day / or by fals slei3t  
 tes of mannes lawe . or fals pleyn  
 tes . or fals enditement or any  
 wrongwise manere . or by slei3tes *in*  
 bying or *in* sellynge wytyngly to



bygyle þi euencristene . / or by fals  
wei3tes ; oþer þan þou schuldest re  
sonable wilne . þat þi nei3bore du  
de to þee in þe same caas / For þou3  
it be leueful þat a champman or a  
marchaunte may selle derre þan þei  
<fol. 189r>bye in resonable maner to wynne her ly  
uelode by // it is no charyte ne trouþ  
þat þei coueyte to wyne as my  
che as þei may . by any slei3e or  
cautele . but onely to wynne to sus  
teyne hem resonble in her traueyles  
And whoso doþ oþerwise : doþ a3eyne  
þis comaundment takynge his nei3  
bores goode a3eyne his wille ;  
& þat is þefte /