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Sancte Marie, virgine (Godric of Finchale)
GB-Cul Mm.iv.28, f.149r

## Source and Contents

This page, left mostly blank at the end of the main text in the book (a collection of Lives of the Fathers and Saints), after a scribal colophon naming one 'Willelmus de Brueria', is filled with slightly later additions, beginning with a short extract from the Life of St Godric, narrating the occasion on which the Blessed Virgin Mary and Mary Magdalene visited the hermit and taught him the following song. The song *Sancte Marie virgine* is then written in English, with notation, and followed by a Latin translation which does not attempt to fit to the melody. Note the replacement of 'N' for 'Godric' in this Latin version to make the prayer more universally applicable (see Deeming, 2005, for further discussion of this).



Two other short prayers beginning 'Sancta Maria virgo' have been added, along with a short passage of alphabetically arranged definitions, and numerous pen-trials.

## Notation Notation

A neat, but relatively casual notation written on a four-line stave. Virgae and longer neumes lean to the right, and the tails of the virgae may be slightly curved and protrude slightly above the note-head (e.g. **JESU**).





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The punctum is used rarely, always on relatively low notes, and is oblique in form. The climacus takes the form of three oblique note-heads with a tail to the left of the first (the so-called 'English coniunctura' as on **GODric**).



Longer note-groups are generated through combinations of pes, clivis and climacus shapes (the diagonal stroke of the porrectus is not used, even for HLH patterns, eg the second group of notes on **HEHTlic**).



## References

Deeming, Helen: 'The Songs of St Godric: A Neglected Context', *Music & Letters* 86 (2005), pp. 169-85.

Hartzell, Karl Drew: Catalogue of Manuscripts Written or Owned in England up to 1200 Containing Music (Woodbridge: Boydell Press in association with the Plainsong and Medieval Music Society, 2006), no.17, p.16;

Ker, N.R.: Catalogue of Manuscripts Containing Anglo-Saxon (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1957), no.28.

For further references on this source please see the DIAMM bibliography.

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