

<County: Suffolk>

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<Text: Speculum Vitae>

<fol. 3v>For in schort wordys cryst made it alle
 A preyer of *Profyte* it ys ryth
 For þorw þat we axe of god almyth
 Al þat is nedful for þis lyf here
 And for þat odyr þat ys more clere
 þys Preyer ys schort in wordys wrouth
 It is in sentense long in þouth
 It ys lyth to say Preyande
 It ys sotel to vndyrstonde
 Schort in word ys þis Preyere
 For men yt schuld þe schortlyer lere
 And thorgh schortnesse of yt be kende
 han yt þe soner in mende
 In sentense it ys long to se
 For þe more benecyon~<?> þer-in schul be
 For þe naked lettyr þ^t ys nouth heuy
 Men schuld seyn w^t mouth only
 And all þe sentense of yt
 Vndyrstonde and in <exp>knytt</exp> hert knytt
 It ys also lyth to say
 For men schuld yt þe oftener Pray
 Sotel to vndyrstond ys yt
 For men schuld more settyn here wytt
 On þe sentense of þat namly
 T^[h]row grett besynesse and stody
 þis bede puttyth all euyl a-way
 And all þat good ys yt wynnyth vs ay
 It fasten^t in vs all good to laste
 And makyt owre herte to god stedfaste
 In þis Preyer Arn askynges seuene

Weche þei arn J schal 3ow nempne
 Of weche seuene J fynd be skyl
 þre þat don a-way alle ylle
 <fol. 4r>J fynde also þre oder askynges
 þat all þat good ys to vs brynges
 3ett ys þere on as J canne telle
 þat fastenyth owr herte in god to dwelle
 So þat iche of þo askynges sere
 hath dyuerse offyce as 3e may here
 ye fyrst þre don a-way all ylle
 þat oftyn fallyth lowde or styлле
 For all maner of yll we calle
 Of þat ys or was or may be-falle
 For þe ylle þat we haue done
 þus we sey to fordon yt sone
 <lat></lat>
 In þys we aske to clere owr þouth
 For-3eue vs þat we an wrouth
 For all þat men may aftyr do
 þus sey we as fallyth þer-to
 <lat></lat>
 In þys we axe *sum* sleythe to se
 A-3ens all yll þat may be
 For þe ylle þat we don euery day
 Ne sey þus to puttyth a-way
 <lat></lat>
 In þys we aske ryth abstinence
 Of all euyl þat folw^t owr *consyence*
 3ett arn þere odere askynges þre
 For all kyn good þat be
 For all maner good or bodely ys
 Or gostly good or good endeles
 For bodyly good here to haue
 Owr sustenannse þus we craue
 <lat></lat>
 In þys we aske strenthe and myth
 <fol. 4v>For to susteyn~ owr lyf ryth
 For goosly good here to stere vs
 To loue god we sey thus

<lat></lat>

In þys we aske nyth and day
 Stedfast wyll to serue god ay
 For good to haue wyt-owtyn ende
 In <exp>d</exp> god sey we thus preyande

<lat></lat>

We say thus wer so we wende

<lat></lat>

In þys þe blys of heuen we craue
 And grace to be werþy yt to haue
 For festenyng~ of owr herte to stande
 In god sey we thus preyande

<lat></lat>

In þys we aske wyll stedfast
 W^t-owtyn~ faylyng in good to laste
 Sweche maner of askynges bene
 In þys holy preyer sene
 But þys preyer begynnyth ryth
 W^t foure wordys of gret myth
 On weche at þe begynnyg~ hynges
 Al þe sped of þe seuene askynges
 Thorw foure wordys þ^t we may fele
 3yf we vndyrstonde hem wele
 How we schuld reule vs be skylle
 To do most þat ys goddys wylle
 þer-for fyrst be-houyth us nede
 3yf we schal of owr askyng spede
 þese foure wordys wel vndyrstonde
 And lede owr lyf as þey comaunde
 And ellys arn we nouth worthy
 To ben herd of god almythty

<fol. 5r>Þese arn þe foure wordys to here

þat arn þe entre of þys preyere

<lat></lat>

Þese arn on englych þus to nempne
 Fadyr owr þat art in heuen~
 þese foure mechel matyr byndys
 As clerkys in holy bokys fyndys
 <gap for initial y>e fyrst word ys pater ryth

þat ys a word of gret myth
 For yt may make vs sone to spede
 Of ovr askyng whan we haue nede
 As we mown boþe se & fele
 3yf we vndyrstond þys word wele
 Fyrst seynt bernard seyth þat þys preyere
 yat begynnyth ryth on þys manere
 W^t þys swete name to neuene
 þat ys cald þe fadyr of heuene
 3euyth and helpyth to purchase
 Al þat we aske here of grace
 þys word fadyr to vndyrstond
 3et makyth swett al <exp>to</exp> þe remenand
 And schewyth vs wat we schul trowe
 And wat we schuld don here and owe
 It schewyth þe lengthe of goddys beyng
 þat ys ay w^t-owtyn endyng
 That ordeynyth hym þat ys ware
 To leue w^t hym euer mare
 3e schuld wele vndyrstand þan
 Þat fyrst qwan god schuld make man
 Jche man to god ordeynyd he
 And wyste wat iche man wold be
 Who wold be good who wold be ylle
 For qwy he 3af iche man fre wyllle
 For to chese or for to halde
 Good or ylle wedyr þey walde
 For he destened no man to blys
 <fol. 5v>But only þat woldyn ben hys
 þys word Pater steryth vs to knowen euyn~
 Pre þynges in god fadyr of heuen
 And pre þynges in hys sone to se
 þ^t louyth þe fader w^t herte fre
 fyrst in god þe fadyr ys myth
 an þer-w^t wysdam and goodnesse ryth
 In god þe fader arn all þese pre
 For he ys o god in trinite
 Myth ys euere in hym only
 For he ys god fader almythy

Mayster and lord as clekys kan~ telle
 Of heuene of erthe and of helle
 God of all þyng maker he ys
 And begynnyng of all goodnesse
 So men moun~ as J vndyrstonde
 knowen~ hys myth þat ys ay-lestande
 In god þe fader ys wysdam
 þat of hym-self only be-com~
 Throw weche he hys mene ledys
 And gouernyth hym-self wysly and spedys
 And namly hys chyldren þ^t he wroth
 þat lowyn~ hym wele in herte and þouth
 So may me knowen ~~wel~~ wele wo so wele
 hys wysdam be kende skylle
 In god þe fader ys bounte
 Þat ys þe þredde þyng to se
 For god þe fadyr chyldren loues
 And fro tyme here he hem *proues*
 And whan he seeth þ^t þei do wrong
 he bedyth and chastyseth ^[hem] a-mong
 And 3yf þey for-sake hym certeyn~
 And sythe wele *turne* to hym a-geyn~
 he hem receyuyt de-boun.^[r]ely
 <fol. 6r>And fayn ys of here *cumpany*
 So men mown knowe þe goodnesse
 þat in god þe fader ys
 þer-fore schuld hys chyldren alle
 Also ofte as þey fader calle
 knowen in hym þese þynges þre
 Myth wysdam and bounte
 3ett in hys chyldren men may knowe
 þre þynges to telle here on rowe
 þay þey han of þe fader mast
 As J wele 3ow schewyn in hast
 þe two ben noblesse and rychesse
 þe þrydde ys beute as J gesse
 Noblesse fyrst ys as J wene
 In hem þat goddys chyldren bene
 For more noblesse may no man se

þan yt ys goddys chyldren to be
 That ys so hey an emperour
 And kyng of all kynges of honowr
 Rychesse also to hem falles
 That men goddys chyldren calles
 For more rychesse may no man haue
 þan god on hys chyldren woucheth saue
 For he makyt hem hys eyres ryth
 Of the kyndam of heuen bryth
 þer all ken rychesse may be-falle
 Arn sen and all ken delytes w^t all
 Bewte in goddys chyudren ys
 For god hem made to hys lykenesse
 And aftyr hys schap þ^t ys so fayre
 he made here soules of þe ayre
 More bewte myth neyere be sene
 Pan in hys lyknesse ys as J wene
 <fol. 6v>For so gret bewte as ys þer-inne
 Þ^t on herte may þynke ne ymayge
 þer-for hys chyldren schuld þynke ay
 As oftyn as þey fadyr say
 On þese þre þynges þat þey haue
 Of þe fadyr þat wouchyth saue
 Sweche þynges to 3eue hem þ^t here be-houe
 þer-for they owe wyl here fader to loue
 Also þys word þ^t fader ys <exp>fader</exp> cald
 Axeth of *vus* sexe þynges to hald
 That J wele rekene here on rowe
 These sex schuld hys chyldren knowe
 loue . and drede . and obedyense
 Seruyse . honowr . and reuerense
 þe fyrst þyng þ^t god askyth of *vus*
 Js loue þat we lowe hym thus
 W^t all oure herte in body wrouth
 W^t all oure soule w^t all oure þouth
 Wyth all oure herte þat ys to say
 þat we on no þyng nyth ne day
 Settyn oure hertys to louen mare
 þan on god how so we fare

For in no þyng þat man may neuē~
 han more delyte þan in god of heuene
 W^t all oure soule we schuld hym loue
 þat ys to say 3yf we wele proue
 We schuld sonere þole 3yf we *wer* wys
 Owr lyf to depart fro owre bodys
 þan from god departed be
 That ys owre fader ful of pete
 þ^t ys we schuld owre deth erst take
 Er we schude oure fadyr for-sake
 We schuld hym loue w^t all oure þouth
 þat ys to sey we schulde nouth
 <fol. 7r>Owr wytt ne owre vndyrstondyng
 Ne owre þouth throw ymagynyng
 A-bowtyn no þyng more occupye
 þan in god fader almy³thye
 The secunde þyng ys dred also
 To haue in herte wer so we go
 þat we god drede w^t all oure myth
 Throw sones drede þan do we ryth
 And not throw drede þ^t men calles
 Cherlys drede þ^t oftyn fallys
 For cherlys dreden her~ lordys for awe
 And nouth for loue as men may knawe
 þe good sones þorgh loue þey drede
 T<exp>t</exp>o wrathen here fadyr in word or dede
 þys may wyl be sones dred cald
 Sweche drede in herte schu.^[1]d we hald
 And dredyn ay more goddys greuaⁿnce
 þan peyne of helle or vengeaⁿnce
 For drede of peyne only to se
 Js drede w^t-owtyn charyte
 Al þat men don in sweche a drede
 Schal turne hem to lytyl mede
 but fyrst throw ferdenesse may drede begynne
 Only for vengeaunce of synne
 Throw weche men mow begynne to do wel
 And aftyr-ward a swete loue to fele
 þat þe holy gost w^t drede schal knytte

In here hertys to stable here wytt
 Drede makyt a+man synne for-sake
 And loue makyt a+man good *vertues* to take
 Tho yat þese two in herte wyl halde
 <fol. 7v>Goddys sonys may ryth be cald
 Tho sonys mow calle here baldly
 God here fadyr almy³thy
 þe þrydde þyng obedyense ys
 þat ys to sey buxumnesse
 That we be buxu~ to goddys wyll
 All hys comaundmens to ful-fylle
 For þe sone schuld be obedyent
 To do the faderys comaundment
 hys comaundmens who so wele loke
 May fynd hem aftyr in þys boke
 The forthe þyng ys seruyce
 For we arn holdyn of offyce
 To serue god owr fader to pay
 W^t al þe besynesse þ^t we may
 And al oure herte and al oure wyl 3eue
 To don þat hym ys most leue
 Sweche seruyce may most lye
 In all þe werkys of mercye
 As men may fynd in the bok
 Aftyr-ward who so wele look
 þe fyfte þyng ys honowr told
 þat we schullyn alle 3ong and old
 loue god w^t good talent
 Of alle good he hath *vus* sentt
 Of weche good we schul tak kepe
 To spendyn yt to hys worchepe
 And in no ryotys ne folyyss
 For an we do we arn not wys
 For vs be-houyth a-<exp>eu</exp>-cowntys to 3eue
 Of al þat we don whyle we here leue
 And of al þ^t god wele *vus* here sende
 And schewe whow we han hem spende
 <fol. 8r>And of alle þo folyyss yat we do
 And of yche owre <exp>or</exp> .^[and] tyme þer-to

þer-fore we schuld god honowre
 Ilke a tyme and ilke an oure
 Wodyr in word or dede
 Or in þey þouth hym honour bede
 And þanke hym oftyn and loue hym ay
 Of þ^t he doth vs nyth and day
 So schuld þe good sones be skylle
 honowr þe fadyr þ^t ys hys wyll
 Reuerence ys þe sexte and þe laste
 For we schuld w^t herte stedfast
 Do god al maner of reuer^{<exp>u</exp>}ence
 And namly here in hys presence
 In chyrche and stedys w^t-oute
 þer hys body ys born a-bowte
 We schuld for reuerence knelyn~ down~
 Be yt in feld or in toun~
 hys presence ys here ouer-all
 Þere we may speke to hym or call
 But holy chyrche hys hows J hald
 þat most stede of preyer ys cald
 þere schuld we hym most reuerence do
 W^t deuocyon~ þ^t fallyth þer-to
 For whan we speke to god or pray
 We schuld don hym reuerence ay
 þ^t ys to seye lowte or knele
 w^t bare heed þan do we wele
 And we nouth knele we schuld stand
 3yf we may wele þat were semand
 And nouth stond þer w^t coueryd heed
 <fol. 8v>To speke w^t god in holy stede
 Ne in chyrche þat fallyth hys hous to be
 We schuld not speke of vanyte
 For lasse reuerence do we to hyn þan
 þan we wold don an erþely man
 For ^{<exp>w</exp>} 3yf we were as J vndyrstonde
 In ye kynges chambre of yngelonde
 To pray þe kyng of hys grace
 how wold we beryn vs in þat place
 wold we nouth þere in hys syth

Don hym reuerence w^t all oure myth
 And kepe vs so þ^t we no þyng
 Schu^{ll}d say þ^t schuld mys-plese þe kyng
 Mechel more reuerence þan schuld be-falle
 To god þat ys kyng of all
 For he ys kyng of alle kynges
 Of whom all grace and goodnesse sprynges
 þer-fore to god <ill>1 char</ill>an we schul prey
 We schul do reuerence þat we may
 So mow we alle oure askynges haue
 3yf yt be skylful þat we craue
 sweche reuerence to þe fadyr falles
 Of hys chydryn þat on hym calles
 þere-for we schul nyth and day
 Wan we þe pater noster sey
 As meke chyudryn þan schuld we be
 To oure fadyr ful of pete
 As we wele he be to vs
 A<exp>nd</exp> good fadyr and a gracyous
 And 3yf we wele hys good chydren be
 <fol. 9r>Vs be-houyth alle folys to fle
 And loke þat we ben clene w^t-yne
 Whan we schuld þe pater noster begynne
 In thys word noster lyth a questyon~
 At the begynnyng of þys oryson
 why a+man schal oure fader seyn ay
 And may as welle my fader say
 And who fallyth felawes w^t hym to be
 Wan he seyth 3eue vs and not 3eue to me
 To þys may men ansuere sone
 And telle skyl why yt ys done
 Throw skyl schal non my fadyr say
 But he þat ys goddys sone verray
 Throw kende w^t-outyn begynnyng
 And w^t-outen ende faylyng
 But throw kende hys sonys arn we nouth
 But in-as-mechel as he vs wrouth
 To hys lykenesse as ys sene
 As boþe jewe and sarasenes ben~

But we ben chyldryn throw grace
 And throw chesyng to folwyn hys trace
 As men mown fynde in su~ londe
 Sweche a lawe as J vndyrstond
 þat he þ^t ys a ryche man knawe
 þ^t hath no chyld of hys awe
 May chese a pore mannys chyld þ^t ys feyre
 And maken yt+hys sone and hys eyre
 þys grace vs dede god almy³thy
 As seyth seynt poule openly
 Whan he made vs throw grace come
 <fol. 9v>To ryth trouthe and to crysteyndom~
 þat were fyrst pore and naked to telle
 And chyldryn of wratthe and of helle
 Were-fore whan we sey þus
 Owre fadyr and sey 3eue vs
 We gadre to-gyddre *our* breþeryn alle
 þ^t to grace of baptem cryst wele calle
 þat þe chyldryn of holy chyrche bene
 Throw trouthe of baptem þ^t ys clene
 Thys word noster vs scheew^t þe-by
 þe largesse and þe curtesy
 Of god þat sonere y-now 3eues
 þan~ lytyl to hem þat here leues
 And sonere to many yan to ane
 þ^t here han þe ryth trouthe tane
 For seynt gregory spekyt on þys maner
 And seyth þat a ryth Preyere
 þe more þat men in comoun~ mas
 The more yt ys worpy and vertu has
 As a candel þ^t seruyth ys brythere token
 þat seruyth to an halle ful of men~
 Than þe þat seruyth of lyth
 But only to mannys syth
 Thys word noster vs byddyth also
 loue god *our* fader were so we go
 And w^t all *our* herte þanke hym sone
 Of grace þat he hath for *us* done
 Throw weche we ben hys chyldren fre

And hys eyrys ordeynyd to be
 And þat we loue be-forn all odyr
 <fol. 10r>Jhesu cryst owr oldest brodyr
 That in hys grete grace vouchyth saue
 vs hys owen brederyn to haue
 þys word noster vs comandyth 3ett
 þat we ryth kepe w^t all oure wytt
 In oure hertys þe holy gost
 þat ys swettnesse here to vs most
 Of þe grace of chesyng of vs
 þat may be skel be called thus
 As a wedd þ^t ys most to prays
 As seynt poule þe a-postel says
 Throw weche we arn seker be ryth
 To haue þat ~~to~~ vs erytage þ^t to vs ys dyth
 Of god oure fader yat ys ryth-wys
 þ^t ys þe blys of paradise
 3ett on þys noster hyngys
 A-mong alle odyr two þyngys
 þat we schuld han in herte ay
 As oftyn as we the pater noster say
 On hys loue of brodyrhode
 An-nodyr seker hope to spede
 loue schuld throw þys word fele
 þat yche on of vs loue odyr wele
 For we Arn alle boþe lowe and hye
 Brederyn as iche man schuld knowe
 Of o fadyr and o modyr ryth
 Oure fadyr ys god most of myth
 And oure modyr ys hooly kyrke
 Aftyr whom yt be-houyth vs to werke
 Jchon schul loue as suster and brodyr
 <fol. 10v>And non of vs schul dysplesyn odyr
 But ichon odyr schul honoure
 And helpe in nede and sokoure
 As don þe lemys in þy body
 Jchon helpyth odyr ful kendely
 lemys of o body arn we all
 þat body hooly chyrche we calle



Of weche body god ys þe heed
þer-fore schuld iche odyr rede
And ichon here for odyr pray
As men may here seynt James say
For þ^t Prayer may to alle avayle
þ^t doth holy chyrchys counnsayle
For he þat makyth hys preyer comoun~
W^t good herte and deuocyon~
he mak^t hym felawe of þe comonyng
Of alle holy chyrche in all þyng
and for yche pater noster þ^t he says
Nyth or day whan he prays
he wynnyd hym as J vndirstonde
Part of A hondred þousande
þys word noster ys my3thy
vs techyt to hate þre synnys namly
On ys a synne þ^t pryde men calles
A-nodyr ys hatrede þ^t oftyn falles
The þredde synne ys auaryce
þese schuld we fle 3yf we were wyse
Pryde þat dyspyseth to haue mastri
Puttyth a man out of cumpany