Intercessory Poetry

| | To our Blessed Laidy the Aduocate of Sinners (B | odleian) |
|------------|--|----------|
| [fol. 10v] | All haile o virgin crowned w th sta ^r res And Moone vnder thy feet ¹ Obteine vs pardon of our sin <i>n</i> es of Christ our Sauiour sweet For though th'art Mother of my God Yet thy humilitie Disdaineth not this simple wrech y ^t flies for helpe to thee | 5 |
| | Thou knowest thou art more deare to me Then anie cane expresse And that I doe congratulate | 10 |
| [f. 11r] | w th ioye thy happines Thou who art Queene of heauen & Earth Thy helping hand me lend That I may loue & praise my God And haue an happie End | 15 |
| | And though my sin <i>n</i> es me terrifie yet hoping still in thee I find my Soule refreshed much when to thee I doe flie, For thou most willingly to God | 20 |
| | Petitions do'st present And do'st obteine much grace for vs In this our banishment | 25 |
| | The honour and y ^e glorious praise By all be giuen thee Which Iesus thy beloued Sonne Ordain'd Eternallie For thee; whome he exalts in heauen aboue y ^e Angels all And whome wee sinners finde a Mother | 30 |
| | When vnto thee wee call. O Mater Dei, Memento Mei.² Amen. | 35 |

¹ "And a great sign appeared in heaven: A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars" (Apocalypse 12:1, Douay-Rheims Bible). ² "O Mother of God, remember me."

| | To Ovr Blessed Lady the Aduocate of Sinne | ers (1658) |
|-------|---|------------|
| [279] | Al hail, <i>O Virgin</i> , crownd with stars, | |
| | aund Moone vnder thy feet, ³ | |
| | Obtaine vs pardon of our sinnes | |
| [200] | of <i>Christ</i> our <i>Sauiour</i> sweet. | 5 |
| [280] | For though thou art Mother of my <i>God</i> , | 5 |
| | yet thy Humility | |
| | Disdaineth not this simple wretch, | |
| | that flyes for helpe to thee. | |
| | Thou knowst thou art more deare to me, | 10 |
| | then any can expresse, | 10 |
| | And that I do congratulate | |
| | with ioy thy happinesse; | |
| | Who art the Queen of Heauen and earth, | |
| | thy helping hand me lend, | 15 |
| | That I may <i>loue</i> and praise my <i>God</i> , | 15 |
| | and haue a happy end. | |
| | And though my sins me terrify, | |
| | yet hoping stil in <i>thee</i> | |
| | I find my soul refreshed much | 20 |
| | when I vnto thee fly. | 20 |
| | For thou most willingly to <i>God</i> | |
| | petitions dost present, | |
| | And dost obtain much grace for vs | |
| | in this our banishment. | 2.5 |
| | The honour and the glorious praise | 25 |
| | by al be giuen to thee, | |
| | Which <i>Iesus thy</i> beloued Son | |
| | ordaind eternally | |
| | For thee, whom he exalts in heauen | • • |
| | aboue the Angels al, | 30 |
| | And whom we find a Patronesse, | |
| | when vnto thee we cal. | |
| | Amen. | |
| | O Mater Dei, | |

Memento me.⁴ Amen.

To our most Holy Father Saint Benedict (1658)

³ "And a great sign appeared in heaven: A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars" (Apocalypse 12:1, Douay-Rheims Bible). ⁴ "O Mother of God, remember me."

| I liue and hope to dye,God grant I may obserue thy Rule, for in that al doth lye.For no perfection can be named,5which vs it doth not teach.O happy she, who in her soul, the sense thereof doth reach!But many praise Obedience and thy humility,10And yet conceaue not as they should, what either of them be.10The simple humble louing souls only the sense find out15Of any discret obedient Rule, and these are void of doubt.15Yea vnder shadow of thy wings they vp to heauen fly,20Hid in performance of thy Rule that leadeth vnto heauen;20Hid in performance of thy Rule that leadeth vnto heauen;25Charity, Obedience, By seeking after God alone, and giuing none offence.30O do to me the sense vnfold, For letter makes vs blind! ⁶ 30O do to me the sense vnfold, For letter makes vs blind! ⁶ 30And thy sweet blessing giue to them, who truly performe it. For those are they which will conserue35 | [281] | Most glorious <i>Father</i> in whose School, ⁵ | |
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| who truly performe it. | | , | |
| | | | 35 |
| For those are they which wil conserue | | who truly performe it. | |
| - | | • | |
| this house in perfect <i>peace</i> , | | this house in perfect <i>peace</i> , | |
| Without which al we do, is lost, | | Without which al we do, is lost, | |
| and al thats good wil cease. 40 | | and al thats good wil cease. | 40 |
| And praised be our glorious God, | | | |
| who gaue to thee such grace, | | who gaue to thee such grace, | |

⁵ A reference to the Prologue of the Benedictine Rule, which refers to the Benedictine monastery as a "school of God's service."

⁶ "Who also hath made us fit ministers of the new testament, not in the letter, but in the spirit. For the letter killeth, but the spirit quickeneth" (2 Corinthians 3:6, Douay-Rheims Bible).

| | Not only <i>him</i> thy-self to seeke, | |
|-------|---|----|
| | but also out to trace | |
| | A way so easy and secure, | 45 |
| | if we wil but thee heare, | |
| | To haue relation to our God, | |
| | who is to vs so neere, | |
| | For at this thou dost chiefly aime, | |
| | that God our souls do teach. | 50 |
| | O if we did truly obey, | |
| | he would by al things preach | |
| | <i>H</i> is <i>wil</i> to vs by euery thing | |
| [283] | that did to vs befal; | |
| | And then as thou desirst it should | 55 |
| | <i>he</i> would be <i>al in al</i> — | |
| | O pray deare Father that he euer be, | |
| | our only <i>loue</i> and <i>al</i> eternally. <i>Amen</i> . | |
| | O Glorious Saint whose hart did burne (1658) | |
| [15] | O Glorious Saint ⁷ whose hart did burne, | |
| | And flame with Loue Diuine, | |
| | Remember me most sinneful wretch, | |
| | Who hunger staru'd doth pine. | |
| | For want of that which thou enjoyest, | 5 |
| | In such aboundant measure; | |
| | It is my God that I doe meane, | |
| | My ioy, and all my treasure. | |
| | Thy words O Saint are truly sweet, | |
| | Becaus thou dost addresse | 10 |
| | Them vnto him who's only meet | |
| | Our mis 'ries to redresse. | |

⁷ Saint Augustine.