

I

INCIPIT LIBER CATHOLICORUM
SERMONUM ANGLICE IN ANNO

PRIMO

PRIMUS SERMO DE INITIO

CREATURAE

5

AN angin is ealra þinga þ is god ælmihtig. he is ordfruma 7 ende; He is ordfruma for ði þe he wæs æfre; he is ende buton ælcere geendunge. for ðon þe he bið æfre ungeendod; He is ealra cyminga cyming. 7 ealra hlaforda hlaford. He hylt mid his mihte heofonas. 7 eorðan. 7 ealle gesceafta butan geswynce; 7 he bescesswað þa niwel-
to nessa þe under þissere eorðan syn; he awyhð ealle duna | mid anre handa: 7 ealle eorðan he belicð on his handa 7 ne mæg nan þinc his willan wiðstandan. Ne mæg nan gesceaft fulfremedlice smegan: ne understandan ymbe god; maran kyððe habbað englas to gode þonne

Manuscripts: A (scribe 1, imp., 79 *beon*-159 *smaðe* lost; text of this portion from K), B, D, E, F, G (ext. 1-70 *gelagode*, H (scribe of Hc up to 42 *minie*), I, K, R, X^f, f (ffags., 126 *m*-207 *sma*, 252 *discipuli*-283 *gelagian*, f¹ (ffags., 68 *sene*-102 *hefen*).

I.A. 10 niwelessnessa] -a < e 11 awyhð] -y- < e 12 handa²] -a < e

16 gesceop] BE sceop 18 F þrymnys 19 R [r-aycyned] 20 X^f [pas-gesceafta] 21 Sc] H se ðe 22 He] E and he | X^f [þe-
ac] 23 seraphim] X^f þ beoð. angeli. boden. | B
CREATURÆ] FHR [INCIPIT-SERMO] 2 ANNO-PRIMUS] K
AECCLIESIA PER ANNUM RECITANDI 3 J [PRIMO] 4 SERMO IB
SERMO AD POPULUM 5 CREATURÆ] H CREATURÆ ANTE
NATALE DOMINI. II. J CREATURE QUANDO UOLUERIS K CREATURÆ
AD POPULUM QUANDO UOLUERIS R CREATURÆ SERMO
6 AN[he is] X^f Vre hlaford alminn̄is god wile 7 us hot. þat we hine lufie. 7 of him
smage 7 spece. naht him to mede ac hus to freme 7 to fulkume. for. him seige alle his-
cette. Bonorum meorum non diges hlaford to mine gode ne beniedeð þe. Ac also
sanctus augustinus cweð. Gif non man ne þoht of Gode. non ne spece of him. Gif non
of him ne spece mon hine ne lufede. Gif non hine ne lufede. non to him ne come. ne
defende nere of his easiness. nor of his merhōe. Hit is wel swete of him to specene.
þencie 3ie ælc word of him swete. alswa un hunitar felle upe þære hierie. Heo is
befone liht. 7 eorðe brithness. lottes leom. 7 all hiscette 3inston. anglene blisse. 7
mancenne hiht 7 hope. richwisen strenþe. 7 niediffle frouter. Heo his alra þinga
angin. 7 7 ordfruma] DX^f ord 8 X^f [for-ungeendod] 10 X^f [7-13 wiðstandan] 11 GH þan 14 X^f [maran-16 ymbe god]
awihð JKR awecð 12 K [7 ealle-handa]

15 menn. 7 þeahhwædere hi ne magon fulfremedlice understandan
ymbe god; he gesceop gesceafta þa ða he wold: þurh his wisdom he
geworhte ealle þing. 7 þurh his willan he hi ealle geliftæste; þeos
þrynnis is an god: þ is se fæder 7 his wisdom of him sylfum æfre
acenned. 7 hyra beira willa þ is se halga gast. he nis na acyned ac he
ælmihtig god; Se geworhte heofonas 7 eorðan 7 ealle gesceafta.

He gesceop tyn engla werod; þ synt englas. 7 heahenglas. throni.

dominationes. principatus. potestates. uirtutes. cherubim seraphim; 4^v
her sindon nigan engla werod: hi nabbað nænne lichoman. ac hi

5 sindon ealle gastas swiðe strange. 7 mihtige 7 wlitige. on micele
fægermysses gesceapene to lofe 7 to wyrmynnte heora scyppe; þ
teoðe werod abreað 7 awende on yfel; god hi gesceop ealle gode. 7 let
hi habban agenne cyre. swa hi heora scyppend lufdon 7 filidon. swa
hi hine forleton; þa wæs þas teoðan weredes ealdor swiðe fæger 7
30 wlitig gesceopen. swa þ he wæs gehaten leohtberend. þa began he to
modigeanne for ðære fægermysse. þe he hæfde. 7 cwæð on his
heortan. þ he wolde 7 eaðe mihte beon his scyppende gelic. 7 sittan
on ðam norðdæle heofonan rices. 7 habban anweald 7 rice ongcean
gode ælmihtigum; þa gefæstnode he þisne ræd wið ðam werode þe
he bewiste. 7 hi ealle to ðam ræde gebugon; þa ða hi ealle hæfdon
þisne ræd betwux him gefæstmod. þa becom godles grama ofer him

35 he bewiste. 7 hi ealle to ðam ræde gebugon; þa ða hi ealle hæfdon
þisne ræd betwux him gefæstmod. þa becom godles grama ofer him
16 wisdom(e) 22 trhoni 26 ges'c' eapene 27 teoðe] -e < a
| yfel(e) 31 (for ðære) for ðære 34 god(e)

17 gesceop] BE sceop 18 F þrymnys 19 R [r-aycyned] 20 X^f [pas-gesceafta] 21 Sc] H se ðe 22 He] E and he | X^f [þe-
ac] 23 seraphim] X^f þ beoð. angeli. boden. | B
archangelii. habboden. Troni þrinnettes. Dominationes. hlafordscipe. Principatus
aldersciper. Potestates. anwealda gastes. Uirutes. mihi gastes. Cherubim. 3efildunesse
of ywitten. Seraphim birmunde oðer anhelend. for wan hi beoð þuss icweðe me scel sigge
an oðre stowe. H Archangeli. healice bodan. Virtutes. mihiha. Potestates. anwealda.
Principatus. ealdorscypas. Dominantes. hlafordscypas. Troni. synd þrymnisat:
Cherubin. 7. Seraphin. Cherubin is gecweden on englisc. gefyldenness gewittes
oððe (wis)domes. 7. Seraphin synd gereft byrnedre oððe onaledre
23 dominationes] D et dominationes | seraphim] FG 7 seraphin 24 H [hi]
25 BX^f [7 wlitige] 27 teoðe] H an | yfel X^f yfel. oðer alswa fele þe me
mihte þ tuode hape fulleten | X^f [hi] 28 E [hi]
29 þas teoðan weredes] H þas teoðan H þara engla | X^f [7 wlitig]
30 gehaten leohberend] G gehaten lucifer. þ is leohberend HKR leohberend
32 heortan] H mode 33 X^fG [þan] 34 F god ælmihtig
35 X^f god elminchi) 36 G unrad | EJKR ðæt werod (H def.) 35 X^f [he]
X^f god elminchi) 36 G unrad | him] B heom alle X^f ham alle | him eal-
lum] FGEHJKR hi ealle (B heom alle X^f ham alle)

eallum. 7 hi ealle wurdon awende of ðam fægeran hiwe þe hi on
gescapene wæron. to laðlicum deoflum; And swiðe rihtice him swa
getimode. þa ða he wolde mid modinysse beon betera þonne he
gescapen wæs. 7 cwæð þ he mihte beon þam ælmihitum gode 40
5^r gelic. þa wearð he | 7 ealle his geferan. forcūþran 7 wyrsan þonne
Th. 12 ænig oðer gesceafft. 7 þa | hwide þe he smeade hu he mihte dælan rice
wið god. þa hwile gearcode se ælmihitiga scyppend him 7 his geferan
hellewite. 7 hi ealle adræfde of heofonan rices myrihōe. 7 let befallan
on ðæt ece fyr þe him gegearcod wæs for heora ofermettum; þa sona 45
þa nigon werod þe ðær to lafe wæron bugon to heora scyppende mid
ealre eaðmodinysse 7 betæhton heora ræd to his willan; Ða getrymde
se ælmihitiga god þa nigon engla werod 7 gestaðolfæste. swa þ hi
næfre ne mihton ne noldon syððan fram his willan gebugan. ne hi ne
magon nu ne hi nellað name synne gewyrcan; Ac hi æfre beoð ymbe þ 50
an hu hi magon gode gehyrsumian' 7 him gecweman; Swa mihton
eac þa oðre þe ðær feollon. dóñ gif hi woldon. for ði þe god hi
geworhte to whitegum engla gecynde. 7 let hi habban agene cyre. 7 hi
næfre ne gebigde ne ne nyddé mid nanum þingum to ðam yfelan
ræde. ne næfre se yfela ræd ne com of godes gehwance. ac com of ðæs 55
deofles. swa swa we ær cwædon; Nu þencð mænig man 7 smæð
hwanon deoful come; bonne wite he þ god gesccep to mæran engle
þone þe nu is deoful. ac god ne sceop hine na to deofle. ac þa ða he
5^v wæs mid ealle fordón 7 forsyldgod þurh ða miclan | upahefednysse 7
wiðerweardynsse þa wearð he to deofle awend. se ðe ær wæs mære 60
engel geworht.

Ða wolde god gefyllan 7 geinnian þone lyre þe forloren wæs of

37 ⟨ge⟩wurdon	39 bætra] -a < e	41 gelic] ge- < lic-	43 god(e)
45 ðæt	ece fyr < ðan ocean fyre	52 'þa'	56 swa
swa(·)	58 deofle] -l- < e	59 fordón] -d- < ð	
—			
37 G [awende]	39 þa ða he] X ^f þa ðe hi	40 wæs] X ^f were	41 cwæð] X ^f
cweð hare alder	mihte beon þam] R wæs	B almihiȝi	X ^f ælmihitici
ælmihitigan	G -en	J gearcode	FEK
DFEHJKR geferum	X ^f -en	his] G eallen his	
45 ofermetum] G ofermetum. Swa feola heora wæron þyrmih 7 þyr dagaz heo hrudon on heofonum into helle swa swa hregn deð on earfan	46 werod] B [werod]	71 EKR hi ealle	72 pe] B þ
E engla weorod	47 heora] B eal heore	73 for ðon þe] X ^f for ðon	hrepas] D 'h' repa X ^f hrepas
50 X ^f [nu]	R nellæð] ne magon	74 sette] F ^a begins	hrepas] F ^a begins
53 B englum	X ^f -en	75 geset] FGH[^a gesette	76 mannan] BXFGHGR mann
þingum]	55 næfre-61 geworht] X ^f yfel to þence ne to donne	76 mid- H def/	lame] E
ne com	B [þæs]	77 óu] FK þu 'ma'	78 forgang] H forgang þat
hafennysse	58 BDFGH gescop	78 forgang] H forgang þat	79 E scoldest
60 G wiðerweardynsse	62 G [7 ge-] gehatene]	80 BXF ^a hyrsynnyssse	81 E [ðu]
	J [þa]	82 E [ðu]	83 E deapes
	B [zenemnode]	83 E deapes	84 X ^f [hi]
	R nemde	85 X ^f [7- gehatene]	87 beo] E wunige
	E [hun]	86 BXF ^a hyrsynnyssse	88 B [þone]
	B DDXFEHJR wycan (F ^a def)	87 beo] E wunige	

ðam heofonicum weorde. 7 cwæð þ he wolde wyrcan mannan of
eorðan. þ se eorðlica man sceolde geþeon 7 gearnian mid eaðmod-
nysse þa wununga on heofonan rice. þe se deoful forwyhte mid
modignysse; 7 god þa geworhte ænne mannan of láme. 7 him ón
ableow gast. 7 hine geliffæste. 7 he wearð þa man gesceafen on saule
7 on lichaman. 7 god him sette naman adam. 7 he wæs þa sume hwile
anstandende. god þa hine gebrohte on neorxnawange. 7 hine þær
70 gelogode. 7 him to cwæð; Eala þæra þinga þe on neorxnawange
syndon þu most brucan. 7 ealle hi beoð þe betæhte button anum
treowe þe stent onmiddan neorxnawange ne hrepa þu þæs treowes Th. 14
75 oðre þing betæhte; gyse. hu mihte adam tocawan hwæt he wære.
button he wære gehyrsum on sumum þincge his hlaforde; swilce god
cwæde to him; Nast ðu þ ic eom þin hlaford 7 þu eart min þeowa
buton ðu do þ ic ðe hate. 7 forgang þ ic ðe forbeode; Hwæt mæg hit
þonne | [beon. þ þu forgán secole; Ic ðe secge. forgang ðu anes MS K. 4^r
80 treowes wæstm. 7 mid þære eaðelican gehyrsumyssse. þu gearnast
heofenan rices myrihōe. 7 þone stede þe se deofol of afœll þurh
ungehyrsumnesse; Gif ðu þonne ðis lytle bebód tobreest. þu scealt
deaðe sweltan; 7 ða wæs adam swa wis. þ god gelædde to him.
nytenu. 7 deorcynn. 7 fugelcynn ða ða hé hi gesceafen hæfde. 7
85 adam him eallum naman gesccep. 7 swa swa hé hi þa genamode. swa
hi standon gyt gehatene; þa cwæð god; Nis na gedafenlic þ þes man
ana beo. 7 næbbe nænne fultum. ac utor gewyrcan him gemacan him
to fultume 7 to frofie; 7 god þa geswfode þone adam 7 þa þa he slep
ða genam he an rib of his sidan. 7 geworhte of ðam ribbe ænne

wimman. ⁊ axode adam hu heo hatan sceolide; þa cƿæð adam. heo is
bán of minum banum. ⁊ flæsc of minum flæsse. beo hire nama uirago.
þi is fæmne for ðan ƿe heo is of hire were genumen; Da sette adam eft
hire oðerne naman. aeuia. þi is lif for ðan ƿe heo is ealra lybbendra

Læle gesceafta leojonas / engias. Sunnanl / munanl. Steorlai / 95
eorðan. ealle nytenu 7 fugelas. Sæ 7 ealle fixas. 7 ealle gesceafta god
gesceop 7 geworhte on six dagum. 7 on ðam seofoðan dæge hé
geendode his weorc. 7 geswac ða 7 gehalgodē þone seofoðan dæg for

ðan ðe he on ðam daege his weorc geendode; 7 he behoild þa ealle
his weorc ðe he geworhte. 7 hi wæron ealle swiðe gode; Ealle öng he 100
geworhte button ælcum antimbre; He cwæð; Geweorðe leoft. 7
Th. 16 ðærrihte wæs leoft gefworden; He cwæð eft. geweorðe heofen. 7
þærrihte wæs heofen geworht. swa swa he mid his wisdome. 7 mid his
MSK v willan hit ƿælde. He cwæð eft | 7 her ða eorðan þe heo sceolde

forsyðædan cuce nyttenu. 7 hé ða gesceop of ðære eorðan eall nyten-
cynn. 7 deorcynn. ealle ða ðe on feower fotum gað; Ealswa eft of
wætere he gesceop fixas 7 fugelas. 7 sealde ðam fixum sund. 7 ðam
fugelum flift. ac he ne sealde nanum nyttene ne nanum fisce name
sawle. ac heora blood is heora lif; 7 swa hraðe swa hi beoð deade. swa
beoð hi mid calle geendode; þa ða he worhte ðone mann adam. he ne
cwæð ná. geweorðe man geworht. ac hé cwæð ute gewyrcan mannan
to ure anlicnysse. 7 hé worhte ða þone man mid his handum. 7 him
on ableow sawle; For öi is se man betera gif hé gode geöfhð. þonne
ealle ða nyttenu sindon. for ðan ðe hi calle gewurðað to nahte. 7 se
man is ece on anum dæle þ is on ðære sawle; Heo ne geendað næfse;
Se lichama is deadlic þurh adames gylt. ac ðeahhwædere god arærð
eft ðone lichaman to ecum öngum on domes dæg; Nu cwædon

Text from K

90 axode-93 naman] X ^g adam hi nemede	91 banum] BD-e	beo] F si
X ^g [hefonas-96 gescafta]	hefonas] R hefonas 7 eorpan	95 E Ealra
[eorðan] B [feale ¹]	X ^g [seofðan]	96 R
gode]	X ^g [for-100	
100 wæron] D wæron þa	X ^g [he ²]	101 buton-110 geendode]
X ^g god þurch his worda. ac	R [leohit-gewoerðe]	103 þærhite] R þa
[heoten] þa enda heaffen)	geworht] R þærhite geworht	104] dyhte 106 E
feowerum]	B [name]	110 Geendode] R gewierte
108 B fixum	X ^g [done]	he
worhte]	D he `ge' worhte	X ^g [adam]
111 geworht] X ^g also of oðere sceaffe.	BF wyrcan	mannan] BX ^g FR mann
112 F [þone]	X ^g oðre gesceafta buton englen	B for-
wurðæp	115 Heo] B for heo	116 B gylte
117 BDFHj dæge	X ^g [Nu-124 gearnungum]	

geuwouuen þ ucelor gescoopt sunic gescafta. ac in neogas, in neo
hé name gesceafta gescyppan. for ðan ðe he nis na scyppend. ac is
120 atelic sceocca. ac mid leasinge he wile beswican. 7 fordón þone
unwaran. ac he ne mæg nænne man to namum leahtre geneadian.

buton se mon his agenes willes to his late gebuge; Swa hwæt swa is
on græsseſtum widerweardlic gebuht 7 mannum derige. Þis call for

urum synum. 7 yfelum gearnungum;
þa ongeat se deofol þ adam 7 eua wæron to ðy gescapene. þ hi
sceoldon mid eadmodnysse 7 mid gehyrsumnysse gecarnian

wununge on heofenan rice ðe he of afeoil. for his upaneunteynsse; þa nam he micelne graman 7 ándan to þam mannum. 7 smæde hū hé hin fordon mihte, He com ða on næddan hiwe to þam twam mannum.
130 ærest to ðam wife. 7 hire to cwæð, Hwí forbead god eow þas treowess wæstm ðe stent onmiddan neornawange? þa cwæð þi wif; God us forbead þas treowes wæstm 7 cwæð. þi we | sceoldon deaðe sweltan;

git we his onbyrgdon; Da cwæð se deotol; Niſ hit na swa ou segst. ac god wát genoh geare gif ge of ðam treowe geetað. bonne beoð eowereere
135 eagan geopenode. 7 ge magon geseon 7 tocnáwan ægðer ge góð. gees-
yfel. 7 ge beoð englum gelice; Nærn hí blinde gesceapene. ac god hí

gesceop swa biuwite. þ m ne cuoon nam ong yietet. naþo ne
gesihðe. ne on spræce. ne on weorce; Wearð þeah | wif ðaa

140 torspanen. þurn oæs deontes rare. / genau ou oæs utowcs wæsun /
geæt. 7 seade hire were. 7 he geæt; Ða wæron hí butu deadlice. 7
cuðon ægðer ge góð ge yfel. 7 hí wæron ða nacode. 7 him ðæss
sceamode; þa com god 7 axode hwi he his bebed tobræce. 7 adraeftidet
hí butu of neorxnawange. 7 cwæð for ðan ðe ðu wære gehyrsum
ðines wifes wordum. 7 min bebed forsawe. þu scealt midd

145 earfoonyssum þe metes tilian. 7 seo eorðe þe is awyriged on þimum
weorce. sylo þe örnas 7 bremblas; þu eart of eorðan genumen. 7 þu
awenst to eorðan; þu eart dust. 7 ðu awenst to dusse; God him
worhte ða reaf of fellum. 7 hí wæron mid þam fellum gescrydde;

Text from K

118 gewolnen] D sume gedwölmē	120 ac] BF 7 E leasungum
122 late] E leahtrē 123 F wō̄erwardlicē	127 on] begins F upahaffē
enysse 128 E [7 andan]	smeade hu he hil] H smel(a)de. syvō̄e georne. hu
hē hi 133 DXFR abyrgdon f [na] (H dēf) swa] FEH] swa swa	
Xf [þu segst] 134 f [genoh geare]	135 Xf [geseon 7]
[ge] hi] F hi 'na' E hi na	136 BXH
F ⟨peah⟩ ba Xf [ða] J 'þa'	137 f scoop 138 peah] Xf þe
142 hwi he] Xf þe	141 wårton] Xf þer ðæs] B þe
mine 145 Xf [þe ²] is H is nu	144 Xf [wifes] 7-forsawē] Xf mor ðan
	146 Xf weorcum syld] B 7 sylð