

Pregnant Women in Medieval General Intercessions. *Documentation*

J. Frank Henderson

Frank Henderson's Page on Liturgy and Medieval Women
www.jfrankhenderson.com

© 2003

Introduction

Pregnant women are named in a number of medieval general intercession. Excerpts from the general intercessions that name such women are listed here.

Sources. These excerpts are taken from a body of medieval general intercessions collected by the present writer. These are listed, together with their sources, in a separate document also posted on this website: *Medieval General Intercessions: Bibliography of Texts and Sources*.

An introduction to the medieval general intercessions is provided in another document: *Women and the Medieval General Intercessions: Introduction*.

Each text is given a unique designator, e.g., "FR-1. Lotharingia 10th c." Designators give the country of origin or equivalent (using modern political-geographic terminology). Thus: RO = Religious Orders; EN = England; FR = France; SP = Spain; GR = Austria, Germany and Switzerland; PO = Poland. They are then numbered, in rough chronological order. The name of a place or person with whom each text is associated is given next, followed by the approximate date of composition.

Spelling is as in the sources and editions. Words of interest are in bold face type.

Table 1 Prayers for Pregnant Women (and their children)

EN-13. London 15th c

For **women** that be with children, that God grant to them a good deliverance and purification, to their children baptism and confirmation.

EN-15 Salisbury 1400

For all **women** that be in our lady's bands that God for his mercy so them unband as it be best to life and to soul.

EN-17. York 1400

For all **wymmen** that arren bounden wit childe that God deliuere hem with lole

EN-22. Butley 1401

For all **women** that be with child of this parish or of any other that God of his benign mercy...send the mother great deliverence and good privasy even the child right hspae and cystendom.

EN-23. York 1405

For all **women** that are with child in this parish or in any other that God deliver them with joy and give the child cristendom and them purification.

EN-27. York 1440

For all **women** that are with child in this parish or in any other that God comfort them and deliver them with joy and send their children baptism and the mothers purifying of holy church, and release of pain in their travailing.

EN-32. Hearne 1457

For alle **women**, yt bene bonden wth chyld of ys pariche, yt God for hys mercy send ye women to be delyuert, ye chylder ryzt shape & Christendome, ye women purification.

EN-36. Wynchen de Worde 1483

For all the **women** which be in our lady's bands and with child in this parish or in any other, that god send to them fair deliverance, to their children right shape, name, and baptism and to the mothers, purification.

EN-37. Caxton 1483

For al the **wymmen** that ben in Our Lady boundis and with childe in this parisshe or in ony other that God sende to them fayr delyueraunce, to theyr chyldren right shap, name and christendom, and to the moders purificacion

EN-39. Shrewsbury 1484

[pray] specially for all **women** yt gose bound with chylde yt God in his mercy delyver thayme with gud and releuse theym of ye paynes in tyme of traveling, and send the chylde crystyndom and ... purification

EN-42. York 1509

We shall pray also for all **women** that be with child in this parish or any other, that God comfort them and send the child baptism and the mother purification of holy church, and releasing of pain in their travailling.

FR-17. Provins Saint Quirrance 1300

Pour toutes **fame** ensintes; que Diex leur doint grace qui li fruit de leurs ventres soit présenté au saint fons be batesme

FR-22. Paris St Andrè des Arcs 15th c

Pour toutes **femnez** grossez d'enfant; que nostre seigneur les vueille délivrer à joie et restituer à bonne samté et fruit de leurs ventrez amener a fons de baptesme, et que dieu en puisse estre servi, loe et honoré

FR-25. Paris Saint Jean en Greve 1405

Pour toutes **femmes** enchaintes de'enfant, que diex les vueille à joie délivrer. Et doints que le fruit qu'elles portent puisse venir aux fons en sainte église, pour recevoir le saint sacrement de baptesme

FR-28. Meaux cathedral 1475

Pour toutes **femmes** qui sont ensaintes d'enfant, que Dieu les vueille délivrer à joye et à santé en telle maniere que le fruict de leur corps puisse venir au saint sacrement de baptesme et que les saints sièges de paradis en soient remplis à la fin

FR-30. Argenton 1493

Pour toutes **femmes** grosses et mesmement de ceste paroisse

FR-37. Noyon 1546

for **women** labouring with child

GR-18. Bohemia 1378

Vor alle swanger **frawen** das sy der herre troeste durch euwer gute werke wille

GR-19. Lambach 15th c

Vmb all swanger christen **frawn** daz yn der almachtig god und dy iunkcrawn maria genadichte helfen von yr siurr, und yn ein frolichen anplik geb an yrem bucher

GR-20. Schaffhaus 1470

Alle swangger **frouwen** daz sy got welle erfrowen mit aim frolichen anblick

GR-21. Alderbach 15th c

Vmb all swangeren cristen **frawen** das in got der almechit geb ein frelichen anplik an ir puert

GR-22. Benediktbeuer 15th c

Vmb all schwanger **frawen**, das in god her herr verleich ain frolichen anplik irere gepurdt

GR-23. St Florian 1477

Vmb all swanger **frawen** das un got verleych ain frolichen anplick zyun ir swer und purd

GR-24. Regensburg 1485

Vmb all schwanger christen **frawen**, dass in der allmechtig god woll verheihen ainen frohlichen anpluck yert geburt

GR-25. Paussau 1496

pitten vmb al schwanger kristn **fraun**, dz sew unser lieber her genadigklifh empind von ir schwar und verleich yn ein frolichn Anplick an yerer gepurd

GR-26. Surgant A 1503

Für all schwanger christen **frowen** das sy under herr geenediglich enthind und inen verlyhe ein froelichen amblick irer beburt, und der frucht das heilig sacrament des touffs

PO-3. Beszowa A 1400

Pro **pregnantibus**

PO-4. Czestachowa 1400

Pro **mulieribus** pregnantibus

PO-5. Krakow 1415

Pro pregnantibus **mulieribus**

PO-17. Warsaw 1480

Rogemus eciam deum omnipotentem pro **mulieribus** encientes, ut sine offensa afin que sans dommage deus omnipotens daret eis deducere prolem in laudem suam

PO-18. Tyneic 14th c

Pro omnibus **mulieribus** gravidis

PO-19. Gniezno St Jacques 15th c

Pour les **femmes** encientes d'enfant dans l'etat de mariage; que le Seigneur Dieu daigne leur donner d'enfanter sans péché et sans danger

PO-20. Poznan A 1510

Pro omnibus **dominabus et feminis** pregnantibus; ut eis o.d. daret una cum prole bonam sanitatem et post hoc, regnum celorum.

PO-21. Poznan B 1510

Pour les **épouses et dames** enceintes, afin que le Dius o. daigne leur donner d'enfanter sans dommage

