

## Thomas More's Tower Works:

### Final Instructions and Prayers

#### Manuscripts

##### *Autograph*

B677. Patriarca (Royal College of Corpus Christi), Valencia, MS in the Chapel of Relics, folios 156<sup>v</sup>–161<sup>v</sup>. [More's autograph MS, See *CW 13*: cxliii, cxlv–cxlvi; *CW 14/2*: 743–745. Includes complete text of More's Latin *Godly Instruction*.]

B678. "*Thomas More's Prayer Book*," Yale University, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, sigs. c<sub>1</sub>–d<sub>1</sub>. [*CW 13*: cxliii–cxliv. Autograph of More's *Godly Meditation*, written in upper and lower margins of two incomplete printed books bound together. See facsimile edition of *Thomas More's Prayer Book* below under **Editions**.]

##### *Non-Autograph*

B679. Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS Lat. th. d. 15, folios 116<sup>v</sup>–119<sup>v</sup>. [*CW 13*: cxli–cxlii. MS written by Robert Parkyn. More items dated before 1551.]

B680. Vatican Library, MS Barbarinus Latinus 2567, folio 52–52<sup>v</sup>. [*CW 13*: cxliv. Contains More's Latin *Godly Instruction*.]

B681. Folger Shakespeare Library MS X.d.532. [A mid-16th century prayer roll containing a copy of More's "A Devout Prayer," see Derrick G. Pitard, "An Undescribed Manuscript" below in **Studies**.]

#### Early Editions

B682. More, Thomas. "*Here folowe certain deuout and vertuose instruccions, meditations and prayers made and collected by syr Thomas More knight while he was prisoner in the towre of London.*" *The Workes of Sir Thomas More knyghte* . . . [Edited by William Rastell.] London: J. Cawod, J. Waly, and R. Tottell, 1557. Sigs. [VV<sub>3</sub>]–XX<sub>2</sub>. [[1421 for 1405]–1418]. **Available online** in PDF Format at [http://www.thomasmorestudies.org/1557Workes/Deuout\\_and\\_vertuous\\_instruccions.pdf](http://www.thomasmorestudies.org/1557Workes/Deuout_and_vertuous_instruccions.pdf). [See STC 18076; Gibson 73 + Smith 1981:35 + 1988:139. Sig. [VV<sub>3</sub>] mislabelled XX<sub>3</sub>; Page [1405] misnumbered 1421; [1412] misnumbered 1428.]

B683. More, Thomas. "*Quod pro fide mors fugienda non est, Autore Thoma Moro, Dum in arce Londinensi detineretur, Anno Domini M. D. XXXIII.*" and "*Precatio ex psalmis collecta, per Thomam Morum, in arce Londinensi agentem, Anno Domini: M. D. XXXIII. Cui ipse hunc titulum posuit: Imploratio diuini auxiliij, contra tentationem, cum insultatione contra daemones, ex spe & fiducia in Deum.*" *Thomae Mori Angli, . . . Omnia, quae bucusque ad manus nostras peruenerunt, Latina Opera* . .

. Louanii: Apud Ioannem Bogardum, 1565, 1566; Rpt. Louvain: Zangrius, 1565, 1566. Z<sub>1</sub>v–Z<sub>4</sub> [fols. 133<sup>v</sup>–136] [*CW* 13: cxli; See Gibson 75<sup>a</sup>–76<sup>b</sup>. Latin Texts of *CW* 13: 209–11, 214–225; first published in *EW* 1557. But see *CW* 13: cxlv–cxlix.]

B684. Fisher, John. "Imploratio diuini auxilii contra tentationem ex psalmis Davidis." *Psalmi, seu preces . . . Accessit Imploratio diuini auxilii contra tentationem ex psalmis Davidis, per Thomam Morum*. False Imprint: Lugduni: apud Sebastianum Gryphum, 1572. [= London: Thomas Vautrollier, 1572.] Sigs. F<sub>7</sub>v–H<sub>2</sub> (pp. 94–115). Rpt. Lugduni: apud Sebastianum Gryphum, 1598. [= London: Thomas Creede for Gabriel Cawood, 1598.] [3 editions: STC 2995a.2 (2 editions), 2995a.3; Gibson 95 + Smith 1981:41; ARCR I: 426–427; Shaaber F91 (and M219), F94. Contains More's *Imploratio* for the first time. See Franklin B. Williams, "Surreptitious London editions of Fisher and More," See **Fisher: General Studies**, and **Fisher: Psalmi et Preces**.]

B685. Fowler, John, ed. *A Brief Fourme of Confession*. Antwerp: John Fowler, 1576. sigs. g<sub>1</sub>–i<sub>2</sub> [fols. 67–92<sup>v</sup>] [Gibson 96; *CW* 13: cxxiii–cxxiv, cxli. See **A Treatise to Receive the Blessed Body** for further details.]

B686. [Flinton, George, ed.] "Godlye and Devoute Prayers made and collected by Syr Thomas Moore whyle he was Prisoner in the Tower of London." *A Manual of Prayers, newly gathered out of many diuers authors . . .* [Rouen, Fr. Parson's Press], Cvm Privilegio 1583. Sigs. E<sup>4</sup>v–\*\*\* [STC 17263; ESTC S105168; Gibson 97 + Smith 1981:41; ARCR II: 200 (and 201–226). According to *Sullivan's Checklist*, More's prayers were included in "most editions of the *Old English Manual of Prayers* issued between 1583–1847." ESTC identifies compiler as George Flinton, and lists 30 editions between 1580 and 1671, though it gives 1583 as the first edition.]

B687. More, Thomas. "*Quod pro fide mors fugienda non est. Autore Thoma Moro, Dum in arce Londinensi detineretur, Anno Domini M D XXXIV*." [p.180] "*Quod mors pro fide non sit fugienda*", and "*Precatio, ex psalmis collecta, per Thomam Morum, in arce Londinensi agentem, Anno M D XXXIV. Cui ipse hunc Titulum posuit: Imploratio diuini auxilij contra tentationem, cum insultatione contra daemones, ex spe et fiducia in Deum*." *Thomae Mori Angliae quondam Cancellarii, Opera Omnia*. Frankfurt and Leipzig: Christian Gensch, 1689. Z<sub>2</sub>–Aa<sub>1</sub>v [179–180, 181–86]. **Available online** in PDF Format as <http://www.thomasmorestudies.org/library.html>. [See Gibson 77. Reprints 1565 edition,]

*An account of More's Trial and his prayers are included in some of the later editions of Burnet's translation of Utopia, including 1737 and 1751, see Utopia: Early English Translations and in Thomas Salmon's State Trials (1738), see More's Trial: Later Accounts.*

## Modern Editions

B688. Walter, William Joseph. "Devotional Meditations and Prayers." [1841] See **Prison Writings: Collections**.

B689. More, Thomas. *The Godly Instructions and Prayers of Blessed Sir Thomas More*. Stanbrook Abbey, Worcester: 1922. 38p.

B690. Humphries, B., ed. *Thomas More. A Godly Meditation and Two prayers, Written in the Tower of London*. Ditchling Common, Sussex: St. Dominic's P, 1929.

B691. Hallett, Philip E., ed. *English Prayers and Treatise on the Holy Eucharist by St. Thomas More*. London: Burns Oates & Washbourne, 1938. Rpt. as *The English Prayers of Sir Thomas More*. Springfield, IL: Templegate, 1995. 17–54. [Wentworth 785; Sullivan 2:77–78.]

B692. Roger, E. F., ed. *Prayers Made by Sir Thomas More While He Was Made a Prisoner in the Tower of London*. With a note by Elizabeth Frances Rogers. Madison, NJ: The Golden Hind Press, 1952.

B693. Martz, Louis L., and Richard S. Sylvester, eds. *Thomas More's Prayer Book: A Facsimile Reproduction of the Annotated Pages*. The Elizabethan Club Series 4. New Haven: Yale UP (for the Elizabethan Club), 1969. [Geritz B016; Wentworth 787.]

**Review(s):**

B693.1. H. W. Donner, *Studia Neophilologica* 42 (1970): 225–26.

B693.2. John B. Gest, *Catholic Lawyer* 16 (1970): 274 [Geritz T012].

B693.3. Germain Marc'hadour, *Moreana* 6, no. 23 (August 1969): 95–102 + *Moreana*, 7, no. 25 (February 1970): 52.

B693.4. Hubertus Schulte Herbrüggen, *TLS* 15 Jan. 1970: 64.

B694. Foord, Dame Bede, ed. "Meditations and Prayers written in Prison." *Conscience Decides: Letters and Prayers from Prison Written by Sir Thomas More*. Intro. Germain Marc'hadour. London: Geoffrey Chapman, 1971. 107–120.

B695. Haupt, Garry E., ed. "Instruction and Prayers." *Treatise upon the Passion, Treatise on the Blessed Body, Instructions and Prayers*. Vol. 13 of *The Yale Edition of the Complete Works of St. Thomas More*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1976. cxi–clxvii, 205–31, 300–15. [Wentworth 786. See **A Treatise on the Passion** for reviews.]

B696. "A Godly Meditation," and "A Devout Prayer." *Prayers of St. Thomas More with A Treatise on the Holy Eucharist*. London: Catholic Truth Society, 1979. 7–17. [Geritz C016.]

B697. Haupt, Garry E., ed. "Instruction and Prayers." *The Tower Works: Devotional Writings*. Selected Works of St. Thomas More. New Haven: Yale UP, 1980. 299–309. [Modernized spelling version.]

B698. Wegemer, G., Intro. *The Sadness of Christ: And Final Prayers and Instructions by Saint Thomas More*. Trans. Clarence H. Miller. Princeton, NJ: Scepter Publishers, 1993. 128–55. [Some Printings include Index, pp.156–162.]

B699. Marc'hadour, Germain, and Jocelyne Malhomme, eds. *Praying with Saint Thomas More*. Angers: Éditions Moreana, 1998. [See also *Prions avec Saint Thomas More* below in **Translations**.]

B700. Thornton, John F., and Susan B. Varenne, eds. "Instructions and Prayers." *Saint Thomas More: Selected Writings*. Intro. Joseph W. Koterski, S.J. New York: Vintage Books, 2003. 117–127.

B701. *Instructions and Prayers*. (CTMS 2014). [Pages and line numbers correspond to *CW 13* with standardized spelling.]

## Reference Works

B702. *Concordance to Instructions and Prayers, CW 13*.  
<http://www.thomasmorestudies.org/InstructionsAndPrayersConcordance/framconc.htm>

## Translations

B703. Leyris, Pierre, trans. "Prières et méditations." *Thomas More: Écrits de Prison. Précédés de la vie de Thomas More par William Roper*. Paris: Éditions du Seuil, 1953, 1981. 149–178, 188–89.

B704. Bertagnoni, Marialisa, trans. *Tommaso Moro: Preghiere della Torre con una lettera di Erasmo da Rotterdam*. [Prayers from the Tower with a Letter of Erasmus of Rotterdam] Brescia: Morcelliana, 1968. [Sum.: *G.M. Moreana* 5, no. 17 (February 1968): 79.]

B705. Schulte Herbrüggen, Hubertus, trans. *Thomas Morus: Gebete und Meditationen*. Thomas Morus Werke 1. Munich: Kösel, 1983.

### Review(s):

B705.1. Renée Sander, *Moreana* 20, no. 79/80 (November 1983): 187–89.

B706. Marc'hadour, Germain, and Jocelyne Malhomme, trans. *Prions avec Saint Thomas More*. Angers: Éditions Moreana, 1997. [Includes Introduction, English Texts, French translations and Notes.]

See also **Prison Letters: Translations**.

## Selections

B707. "Prière de Thomas More en Créole de Haïti," et "Thomas More: Prières traduites en Créole Guyanais." *Moreana* 7, no. 27/28 (December 1970): 13 + *Moreana* 8, no. 30 (May 1971): 49–50.

B708. Sawada, Akio, trans. "More's Prayer in Prison: 'Give me Thy Grace.'" *Tomasu Moa Kenkyū* [Thomas More Studies: Japan] 1 (1970): 57. Rpt. as "Gokuchū Inori." in *Nagoya Katorikku Kyōku Hō* [Nagoya Catholic Diocesan Bulletin] no.36 (6, 3, 1976): 11. [Sawada, *Thomas More in Japan* p.87.]

B709. Kobayashi, Kunihiko, trans. "Marginalia in the Psalter." *Tomasu Moa Kenkyū* [Thomas More Studies: Japan] 2 (1971): 30–39. [Sawada p.87.]

- B710. Marc'hadour, Germain. *Thomas More, ou la sage folie*. Collection Philosophes de tous les temps 76. Paris: Éditions Seghers, 1971. 164–171. [French Translations of two prayers and More's Last Letter.]
- B711. Gabrieli, Vittorio, ed. *Thomas More: Fancies Sports and Merry Tales*. Biblioteca Italiana di testi inglesi 22. Bari: Adriatica Editrice, 1974. 259–61. [A Godly Meditation.]
- B712. "La prière de Thomas More: *Give me thy grace* . . . trad. en français." *Moreana* 16, no. 63 part 1 (December 1979): 76–78.
- B713. Marc'hadour, Germain. "Prière de S. Thomas More: texte authentique." *Moreana* 20, no. 79/80 (November 1983): 191–96. [Esperanto, Hungarian, Italian and Portuguese translations of *A Godly Meditation*.]
- B714. Appleton, G., ed. *The Oxford Book of Prayer*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1985; rpt. 1988. 96, 111, 123, 143, 162. [Several short extracts from More's prayers.]
- B715. Castle, T., ed. *The Hodder Book of Christian Prayers*. London: Hodder and Stoughton: 1986. Also publ. as *The New Book of Christian Prayer*. New York: Crossroad, 1986. 121, 162, 263.
- B716. Marc'hadour, Germain, ed. "From the Martyr's Last Prayer." *Saint Thomas More and the Body of Christ*. Angers: Moreanum, 2001. 57–58. [A brief excerpt and commentary.]
- B717. Wegemer, Gerard B., and Stephen W. Smith, eds. "More's Psalm on Detachment." *A Thomas More Source Book*. Washington, DC: Catholic U of America P, 2004. 171–74. [Modernized text of *A Godly Meditation* plus facsimile reproductions of two pages from More's Prayer Book.]
- B718. Taillé, Michel, ed. "Dernière Prière d'un martyr." *Thomas More: Histoire, Église et spiritualité. Textes et correspondance*. Paris: Bayard, 2005. 186–189. [From *Prions avec Saint Thomas More*.]

## Studies

- B719. Bridgett, T.E. "Sir Thomas More's Book of Hours." *Notes & Queries* 8th ser., 2 (1892): 121–22. [Sullivan 1:127. On a manuscript Book of Hours owned by John More Jnr, containing several family entries.]
- B720. Fisher, Bernard. "English Spiritual Writers: St. Thomas More." [1960] See **Spirituality**.
- B721. Gibson R. W. "St. Thomas More's Book of Hours." *The Book Collector* 9 (1960): 202. [Geritz T013.]
- B722. Birchenough, E., and Germain Marc'hadour. "The Book of Hours." *Moreana* 2, no. 6 (May 1965): 65–68. [Geritz T003; Wentworth 788.]
- B723. Marc'hadour, Germain. "A Godly Meditation." *Moreana* 2, no. 5 (February 1965): 52–72. [Geritz T029; Wentworth 791.]

- B724. Marc'hadour, Germain et al. "A Triple Note about Thomas More's Book of Hours." *Moreana* 3, no. 11 (September 1966): 44–46.
- B725. Marc'hadour, Germain. "For the Winning of Christ." *Westminster Cathedral Chronicle* 59 (1965): 84–86. [Geritz T027.]
- B726. Marc'hadour, Germain. "More's Book of Hours." *Moreana* 2, no. 7 (August 1965): 75–78 + *Moreana* 3, no. 9 (February 1966): 101–06. [Geritz T030; Wentworth 792.]
- B727. Gruffydd, R. Geraint. "A Prayer of St. Thomas More's in Welsh, 1587." *Moreana* 4, no. 13 (February 1967): 45–52. [Geritz T016. On the Welsh translation of *A Godly Meditation*.]
- B728. Marc'hadour, Germain. "Books of Hours and Donkeys' Saddles." *Moreana* 3, no. 12 (November 1966): 82–83 + *Moreana* 4, no. 14 (May 1967): 11–13. [On an illustration in More's primer.]
- B729. Martz, Louis L., and Richard S. Sylvester. "Introduction." *Thomas More's Prayer Book: A Facsimile Reproduction of the Annotated Pages*. Ed. Louis L. Martz and Richard S. Sylvester. The Elizabethan Club Series 4. New Haven: Yale UP (for the Elizabethan Club), 1969. xiii–xlv. Also publ. as "Thomas More's Prayer Book." *Yale University Library Gazette* 43 (1968): 53–80. [Geritz T037.]
- B730. Schulte Herbrüggen, Hubertus. "A Prayer-Book of Sir Thomas More." *TLS* 15 Jan. 1970: 64. [Sum.: G.M. *Moreana* 29 (1970): 29; Geritz T059. On a 15th century Latin manuscript book of hours now in the Bamberg Diocesan Museum in Bavaria, that may have been owned by Thomas More, which includes a list of John More's ten children and their godparents; see note by T.E. Bridgett. Herbrüggen corrects some of these comments in a Letter to *TLS*, see **More's Family**.]
- B731. Foord, Dame Bede. "Thomas More and the Rule of Saint Benedict." *Moreana* 16, no. 63 part 2 (December 1979): 45–47. [Geritz T011. On More's marginal annotations in his prayerbook.]
- B732. Williams, Franklin B. "Surreptitious London editions of Fisher and More." [1980] See **Fisher: General Studies**.
- B733. Hussey, Juan L. "A Retreat with St. Thomas More." *Moreana* 20, no. 79/80 (November 1983): 83–88. [On *A Godly Meditation*.]
- B734. Edwards, A. S. G. "Robert Parkyn's Transcript of More's 'Prayer of Picus Mirandula vnto God.'" [1990] See **The Life of Pico**.
- B735. Marc'hadour, Germain. "Thomas More and Prayer." *Thomas Morus Jahrbuch* 1993: 29–38. [Sum.: M. Veithen, *Moreana* 32, no. 121 (March 1995): 109–10.]
- B736. Pitard, Derrick G. "An Undescribed Manuscript of St. Thomas More's: 'A Devoute Prayer' And Its Relation to Mid Sixteenth-Century Devotional Practice." *Neglected English Literature: Recusant Writings of the 16th–17th Centuries*. Ed. Dorothy L. Latz. Salzburg, Austria:

Institut für Anglistik und Americanistik, Universität Salzburg, 1997. 107–130. [Geritz V041. A Study of a mid-16th century prayer roll (Folger MS X.d.532), which contains a copy of More's *A Devout Prayer*. Appendix A (120–122) gives a complete transcription of the manuscript copy of the prayer and n.16 (p.126) lists the notable differences between the MS text and that in *CW* 13: 228–231.]

B737. Sherbo, Arthur "A Small Addition to the Works of Sir Thomas More." *Notes and Queries* 50 (2003): 386. [Probably a reference to Pico's *Fourth Rule*? See STC 17266 (and 17263), cited by Ross Fuller, *The Brotherhood of the Common Life and its Influence* (Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 1995), 322. See *University Microfilms* Roll 713:06.]

B738. Duffy, Eamon. "The Prayers of Thomas More." *Marking the Hours: English People and their Prayers, 1240–1570*. New Haven: Yale UP, 2006. 107–118, 121, 137, 145, *Plates* 62–66, 89.

#### **Review(s):**

B738.1. Alvaro Silva, *Moreana* 45, no. 174 (October 2008): 243–244.

*See also Fisher's Prayer Helpe Me Dear Father (Sometimes Attributed to More).*

## **Apocrypha**

B739. Freeman, Sean, ed. "Two Prayers of St. Thomas More." *The Thomas More Bible Prayer Book*. Chicago, IL: The Thomas More Press, 1976. 11.

B740. Marc'hadour, Germain, and Jocelyne Malhomme, trans. "Prière apocryphe." *Prions avec Saint Thomas More*. Angers: Éditions Moreana, 1997. 149–52.

B741. Marc'hadour, Germain. "Prière de S. Thomas More: l'apocryphe." *Moreana* 20, no. 79/80 (November 1983): 197–199. [On *Give me a good digestion, Lord*.]

B742. Marc'hadour, Germain. "A Spurious Attribution: Give me a Good Digestion, Lord." *Praying with Saint Thomas More*. Marc'hadour, Germain, and Jocelyne Malhomme, eds. Angers: Éditions Moreana, 1998. 79–80.

B743. Marc'hadour, Germain. "A Wrong Ascription." *Moreana* 1, no. 4 (November 1964): 44–45 + *Moreana* 7, no. 27/28 (December 1970): 160 + *Moreana* 8, no. 30 (May 1971): 116 + *Moreana* 12, no. 47/48 (November 1975): 122 + *Moreana* 13, no. 49 (February 1976): 51–52. [English, French, Italian, German, Esperanto and Portuguese texts and translations of *Give me a good digestion, Lord*.]

B744. "Most Famous of More's Spurious Prayers: Give me a Good Digestion, Lord." *Moreana* 9, no. 36 (December 1972): 93–96. [Identifies T. H. B. Webb (1898–1917) as real author of *Give me a good digestion, Lord*.]

*See also Thomas More: Spirituality.*