

MEDIEVAL PIETY
FROM RELICS TO THE EUCHARIST
A PROCESS OF MUTUAL INTERACTION

STUDIES IN THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

EDITED BY
HEIKO A. OBERMAN, Tucson, Arizona

IN COOPERATION WITH
HENRY CHADWICK, Cambridge
JAROSLAV PELIKAN, New Haven, Connecticut
BRIAN TIERNEY, Ithaca, New York
ARJO VANDERJAGT, Groningen

VOLUME LXIII

G.J.C. SNOEK

MEDIEVAL PIETY
FROM RELICS TO THE EUCHARIST



MEDIEVAL PIETY FROM RELICS TO THE EUCHARIST

A PROCESS OF MUTUAL INTERACTION

BY

G.J.C. SNOEK



E.J. BRILL
LEIDEN · NEW YORK · KÖLN
1995

The paper in this book meets the guidelines for permanence and durability of the Committee on Production Guidelines for Book Longevity of the Council on Library Resources.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Snoek, G. J. C. (Godefridus J. C.), 1934-
[Eucharistie- en reliekerering in de Middeleeuwen. English]
Medieval piety from relics to the Eucharist : a process of mutual
interaction / by G.J.C. Snoek
p. cm. — (Studies in the history of Christian Thought, ISSN
0081-8607 ; v. 63)
Includes bibliographical references and index.
ISBN 9004102639 (alk. paper)
1. Lord's Supper—History—Middle Ages, 600-1500. 2. Lord's
Supper—Miracles. 3. Christian saints—Europe—Cult. 4. Relics.
I. Title. II. Series.
BV823.S513 1995
265'.9—dc20 94-44924
CIP

Die Deutsche Bibliothek - CIP-Einheitsaufnahme

Snoek, Godefridus J. C.:

Medieval piety from relics to the eucharist : a process of mutual
interaction / by G. J. C. Snoek. – Leiden ; New York ; Köln :
Brill, 1995

(Studies in the history of Christian thought ; Vol. 63)

Einheitssacht.: Eucharistie <dt.>

ISBN 90-04-10263-9

NE: GT

ISSN 0081-8607
ISBN 90 04 10263 9

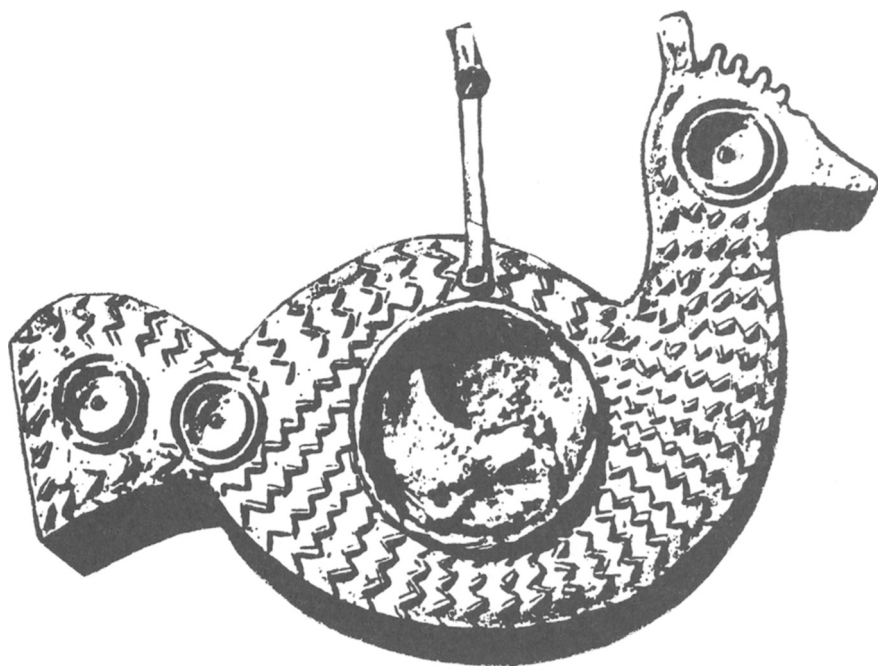
© Copyright 1995 by E.J. Brill, Leiden, The Netherlands

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, translated, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written permission from the publisher.

Authorization to photocopy items for internal or personal use is granted by E.J. Brill provided that the appropriate fees are paid directly to The Copyright Clearance Center, 222 Rosewood Drive, Suite 910 Danvers MA 01923, USA. Fees are subject to change.

PRINTED IN THE NETHERLANDS

To Jet



The illustration above is a stylised drawing based on a photograph that Fr. P. Michel Defrennes of St. Anne of Jerusalem was kind enough to send us. The object dates from the 4th-5th century in a grave at Oumm-Thouba, near Bethlehem. It is 23,5 cm long, 16 cm high and 1 cm thick. The opening in the centre, which is 5,5 in diameter, originally has a glass cover and was probably used to hold the reliquiae of the Eucharistic bread (see p. 125).

CONTENTS

Introduction	1
I From martyr's grave to cult of relics	9
II The process of independence of the eucharist	31
III Parallel applications in concrete use	65
1 Reservation in the home	69
1.1 Home relics	71
1.2 Home communion	75
2 Use on journeys	81
2.1 Relics as travelling companions	84
2.2 The eucharist as travelling companion	90
3 Death and burial	101
3.1 Relics by death and burial	106
3.2 The viaticum for the living and the dead	115
4 Oath-taking on the relics and on the eucharist	132
4.1 Oath-taking on the relics	135
4.2 The oath on the eucharist	141
5 Prayer of supplication	159
5.1 The 'humiliatio'	161
5.2 The 'clamor'	166
6 The 'burial' in the altar	175
6.1 The relics in the altar tomb	181
6.2 The eucharist in the altar grave	186
7 The placing on or near the altar	202
7.1 The 'relic altar'	209
7.2 Altar table relics and altar sacrament	214
IV The transposition of forms of reverence	227
1 Visits to the relics and to the eucharist	241
1.1 Visits to the relics	242
1.2 Visits to the blessed sacrament	245
2 The procession with the relics and the eucharist	250
2.1 The procession of the relics	251
2.2 The procession of the blessed sacrament	260
3 The exposition of the relics and of the eucharist	277
3.1 The exposition of the relics	278
3.2 The exposition of the eucharist	283
4 The blessing given with the relics and the eucharist	293
4.1 The blessing with the relics	295
4.2 The blessing with the eucharist	300

VIII MEDIEVAL PIETY FROM RELICS TO THE EUCHARIST

V	Similarity in miraculous power	309
1	Blood miracles	311
1.1	Bleeding relics	312
1.2	Bleeding hosts	315
2	Incorruptibility	319
2.1	Incorruptible relics	320
2.2	Incorruptible hosts	321
3	Miracles involving light	322
3.1	Miraculous light and relics	323
3.2	Miraculous light and hosts	326
4	Resistance to fire	328
4.1	Fireproof relics	329
4.2	Fireproof hosts	332
5	Fighting fire	334
5.1	Fighting fire with relics	334
5.2	Fighting fire with the host	336
6	Miracles of healing	338
6.1	The relics' powers of healing	339
6.2	The healing power of the host	341
7	The ablution water	344
7.1	Ablution water from the relics	345
7.2	Ablution water from the host	348
VI	The 'unique relic'	353
	Summary	381
	A brief explanation of some technical terms	387
	Abbreviations	395
	Bibliography	397
	Index	439