## 141 The Old Monk whose Youth was Restored

To anyone who pays great respect to the name of our worthy Lady, she will give life in this world and the next.

In this world she will give him life and health, and thereafter Paradise, so help me God, where he will see Him and Her and her great power and her renown, which will never fail.

On this I will tell you a worthy miracle concerning a pious monk advanced in holy orders, who whenever the name of the Virgin was mentioned bent his knee and fell to the ground.

And he would kiss the earth as he did this, weeping and at once saying Ave Maria, and this was what he did without fail, and he never behaved in any other way.

As he lived in this way, he grew very old, and his flesh and his limbs became so weak that when he knelt he at once fell down and was unable to stand up again.

This state of affairs soon became known to his abbot, who was a good man and took pity on him, and said to two other monks, "From now on look after him so that he has no shameful falls."

One day it befell that he knelt down and none of the monks were there and he fell down and wept with grief and called out to the Virgin, who came at once

and lifted him up with her right hand and then indicated that he should immediately go and kiss her altar, and he would be cured and his age would be taken away.

And he gladly went to kiss the altar cloths and returned like a youth of twenty years and for this he gave rich gifts to the Virgin, for she never forgets those she loves.

But he was so changed that neither the abbot nor the community recognised him, but the Virgin in her wisdom made them recognise him, so that far and wide

men would hear of the mercy and great power that she showed and always continually shows, and so let us beseech her to aid us as the saints and the angels ever do her command.