157 The Pilgrims to Rocamadour whose Meal was Stolen

Through his mother God punishes those who do wrong, often in a most public way, and then promptly restores them to health them through her.

On this she performed a great miracle for some pilgrims who were on their way to Rocamadour, and were devoted to her, and lodged in a town, as I heard, my friends, but their landlady behaved utterly badly to them.

For though they willingly paid for everything she sold them, she became very covetous of the pancakes that they had made with flour that they had brought with them, and one of them added some good ripe cheese, as it was summertime.

She was so hungry for them that she stole some of the flour, and after they had departed she set to making pancakes, as they had done, but the devil confused her and made her try one, and he achieved his aim

for as she took a knife to the pankcake, to see what it tasted like, the devil thrust it into her mouth as far as it could go, and she could not pull it out because it stuck out of her cheek by a full handsbreath.

Many doctors were summoned, but had neither the skill nor the wisdom to remove the knife. When she realised this, she went off to to pray to Holy Mary at Rocamadour, where every good Christian man

and Christian woman finds great mercy when they sincerely pray to her. And so that woman went there, weeping bitterly, and when she made her confession a priest pulled out the knife, where no surgeon could.

Very soon the miracle was known throughout the land around, and everyone gave praise and thanks to the Glorious Virgin, mother of our Lord. And you should know that this miracle is not from time long past.