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*The Light on the Masthead*

*The Lady who frees us from grief and from storms deserves our heartfelt love.*

The Virgin gave us to this end a miracle so great that no other saint could perform it, in the British sea, when she rescued a ship in which a large company of men was travelling to make their fortune, which is what you all strive to do.

And as they voyaged through the sea, it was their ill fortune that a great storm arose, and the night turned very dark, so that nether wit nor good sense could help them, and they all thought they would die, believe you me.

When they saw the great danger they were in, with tears and moans they began to cry for help to all the saints, calling each one by their name, and beseeching them to come to their aid through their mercy.

A holy abbot was on the ship and when he heard this he said to them “You are being very foolish, to my mind, when you call upon other saints and do not even think of Holy Mary, who can free us from our plight.”

When they heard that holy abbot say those words, with one heart and one mind they all called out to the Blessed Virgin, mother of mercy, to help them and not to pay heed to their wickedness.

And they said, “Lady, come to our aid, for the ship is sinking.” And as they said this, they looked up to the mast, as men do, and saw on top of it a great light shining brighter than any other.

And as soon as it appeared to them, the storm abated and the sky became clear, and the sea was calm and they arrived at their port even sooner than they had hoped, and they were most glad, be not in any doubt.

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