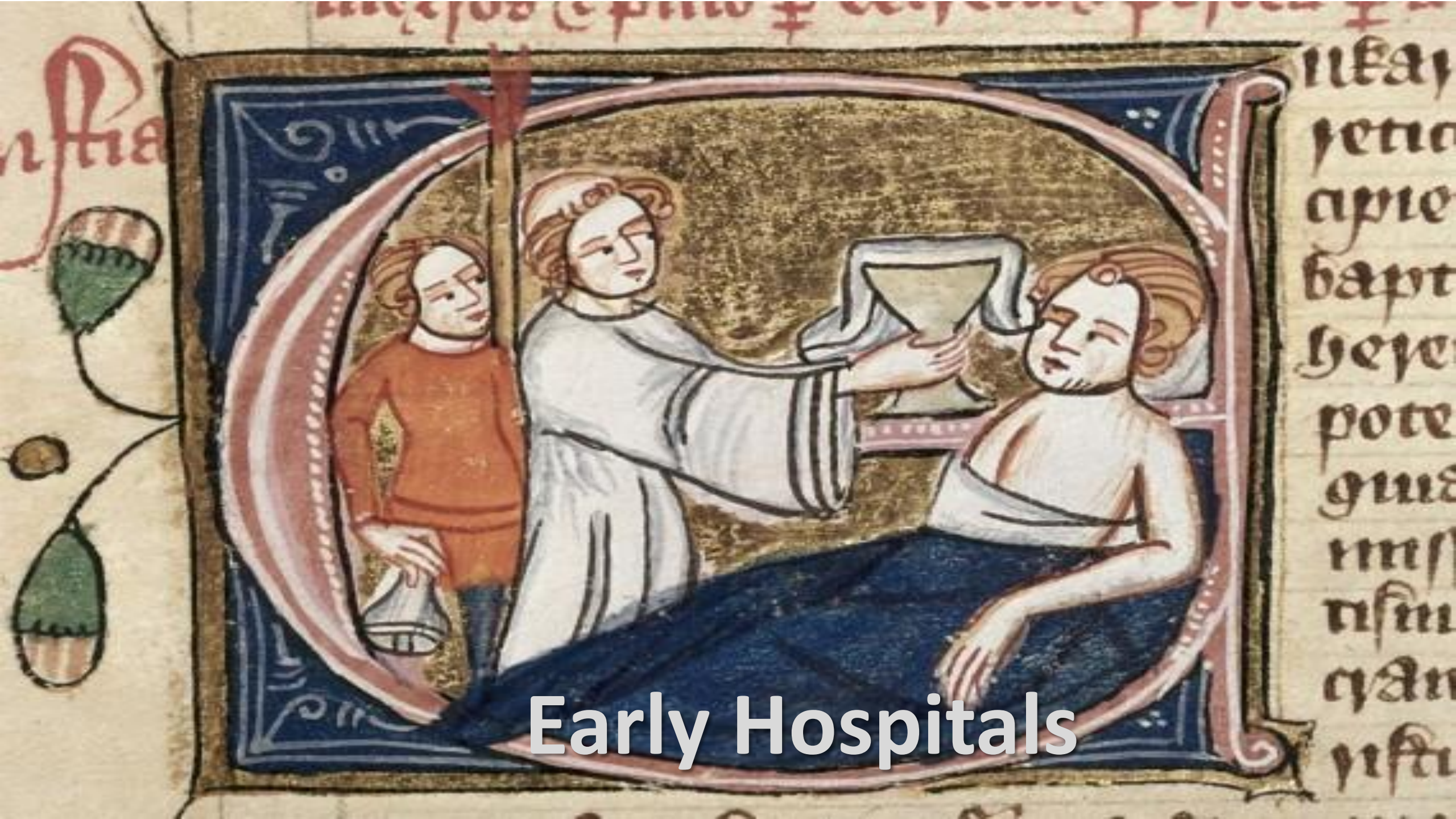




Early Hospitals

Aims

To start to think about the care of the mentally ill within Europe

To begin to reflect on the early hospitals and the conditions available for the insane.

Early Hospitals

Hospitals for the infirm were first developed by the Byzantine empire

Christian and Islamic Hospitals

They first appeared around the 8th century and within this provision was made for the insane.

Within both Christianity and Islam, there was an expectation that the rich would provide for and support the poor.

Rivalry existed between the Christians and Muslims – who can provide the most care and attention?

By the 12th century the larger Islamic towns had a hospital within its walls.

Islamic Hospitals

Treatment of patients

Hospital design

The diet

Separate spaces were made available for female patients who showed signs of madness.

Most men and women would be taken care of within the home.

Demonic Possession and Spiritual Healing

Ordinary folk and to some degree the most powerful individuals believed that madness was caused by unseen demons

Attempts to heal mad patients through religious interventions were common place.

Christian Europe (Middle Ages)





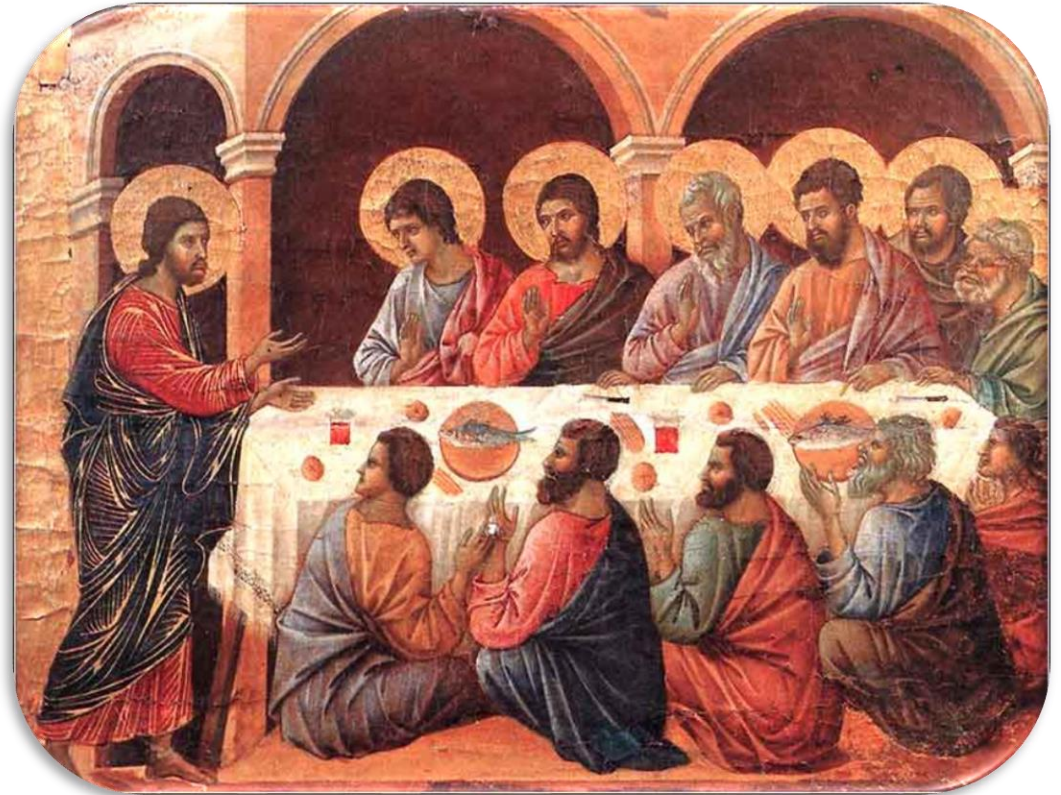
Magic and Miracles



Jesus and his disciples

Jesus demonstrated his ability to cast out demons. He passed his powers on to his disciples which in turn was passed on to bishops and saints

At every mass a sacrament was enacted.



Saints and Miracles

Relic Collections

Benedictine Monastery in Abingdon,
Oxfordshire

Remains of Thomas a Becket were placed in a
gold and bejewelled shrine in Canterbury
Cathedral



Legend of Dymphna

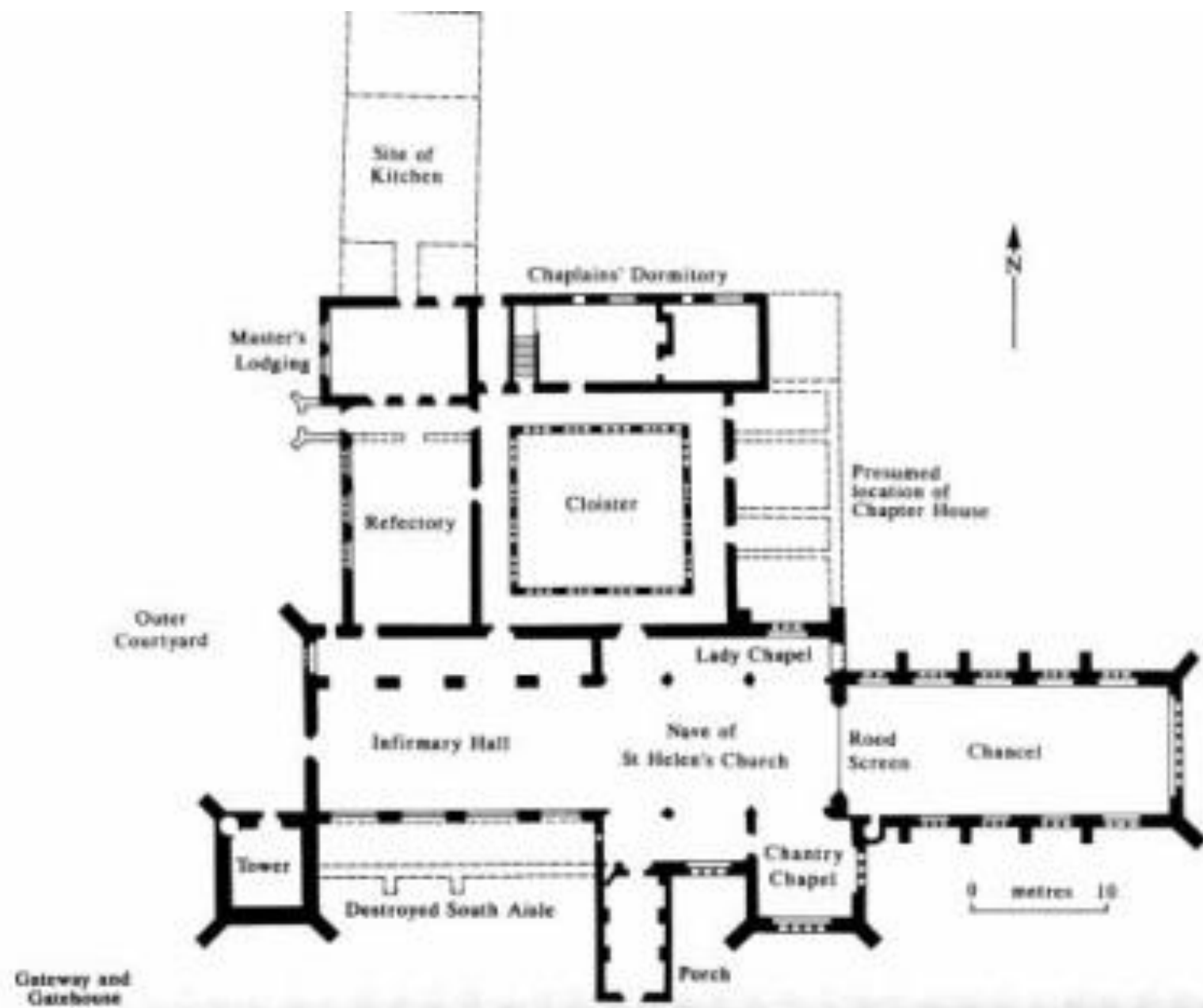


Medieval Hospitals

“Hospes” – Host and Guest

Four different places for the infirm and the sick

- Leper Houses,
 - Hostels for Pilgrims
 - Institutions for the sick poor
 - Almshouses
-
- Infirmary Hall



Medieval Hospitals

As sickness of the body may sometimes be the result of sin ... so we by this present decree order and strictly command physicians of the body [i.e. doctors], when they are called to the sick, to warn and persuade them first of all to call in physicians of the soul [i.e. priests] so that after their spiritual health had been seen to they may respond better to medicine for their bodies: for when the cause ceases so does the effect.

Almshouses



Ewelme (Oxon). Founded in 1437