



**Folio Number**, written in pencil by a modern librarian. Folio is Latin for leaf. This is the front or “recto” side of the 93rd leaf in this book. The back side of a folio is called the verso side.

**Ruling**, straight guide lines for the scribe, drawn on the parchment leaf. **Parchment** is not paper, but specially processed animal skin (calf or sheep).

**Rubrication**, lettering in red ink used in manuscripts; the rubric is the text written in red. Often it is a title or heading describing the text to follow. This rubric says “Ad ymaginem beate marie virginis” (To the image of the blessed Virgin Mary).

A Latin prayer in the **text block**, the area of the page where the scribe writes. This prayer is written in a style of writing (or **script**) called a bookhand — the scribe has to lift the pen between each letter. When writing in a cursive script, the scribe does not lift the pen so much, allowing for quick work.

**Initial**, a super-sized illustrated first letter of the text. When the illustration depicts a person or scene, they are called “historiated.” This initial is a historiated initial, featuring the letter I and St. John the Evangelist.

**Illumination**, gold (or silver) used in decoration. The precious metals glimmer in the light, so, this manuscript is ‘illuminated.’

**Border**, decorations and illustrations surrounding the text block. This is called a floriated border because it depicts lush plant life like flowers, leaves, and strawberries.