

From Thee - strength and zeal...

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**Ah! Hasten, Lord, make no delay!
Come, wed my heart this very day,
That thus united here below,
I may not fear eternal woe. - From *A Hymn to Jesus***



**"From the Eucharist
comes strength
to *live* the Christian life
and zeal
to *share* that life
with others."**

Pope St John Paul II



Remembering today...

St Scholastica

Italy ~ 480-547 Benedictine Abbess

Twin sister of St Benedict

Feast Day – February 10



**"She was able to do more
because she loved more."**

- St Gregory the Great

[Click here: St. Scholastica - YouTube \(2 mins\)](#)

[Click here: Letter to a Novice Oblate \(VI\) | Vultus Christi](#)

St Scholastica, pray for us!

Saint Scholastica, twin sister of Saint Benedict of Nursia who founded of the Benedictine order, was consecrated to God at a very early age but probably continued to live in her parents' home. It is said that she was as devoted to Jesus as she was to her brother. So, when Benedict established his monastery at Monte Cassino, Scholastica founded a convent in nearby Plombariola, about five miles south of Monte Cassino. The convent is said to have been under the direction of her brother, thus she is regarded as the first Benedictine nun.

The siblings were quite close. The respective rules of their houses proscribed either entering the other's monastery. According to Saint Gregory, they met once a year at a house near Monte Cassino monastery to confer on spiritual matters, and were eventually buried together, probably in the same grave. Saint Gregory says, "so death did not separate the bodies of these two, whose minds had ever been united in the Lord."

Saint Gregory tells the charming story of the last meeting of the two saints on earth. Scholastica and Benedict had spent the day in the "mutual comfort of heavenly talk" and with nightfall approaching, Benedict prepared to leave. Scholastica, having a presentiment that it would be their last opportunity to see each other alive, asked him to spend the evening in conversation. Benedict sternly refused because he did not wish to break his own rule by spending a night away from Monte Cassino. Thereupon, Scholastica cried openly, laid her head upon the table, and prayed that God would intercede for her. As she did so, a sudden storm arose. The violent rain and hail came in such a torrential downpour that Benedict and his companions were unable to depart.

"May Almighty God forgive you, sister" said Benedict, "for what you have done." "I asked a favor of you," Scholastica replied simply, "and you refused it. I asked it of God, and He has granted it!" Just after his return to Monte Cassino, Benedict saw a vision of Scholastica's soul departing her body, ascending to heaven in the form of a dove. She died three days after their last meeting. He placed her body in the tomb he had prepared for himself, and arranged for his own to be placed there after his death. *From the Dialogues of Saint Gregory the Great*

Prayer in Honor of Saint Scholastica

O God, to show us where innocence leads,
you made the soul of your virgin Saint
Scholastica soar to heaven like a dove in
flight. Grant through her merits and her
prayers that we may so live in innocence as
to attain to joys everlasting. This we ask
through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
Who lives and reigns with You and the
Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.
Amen.

