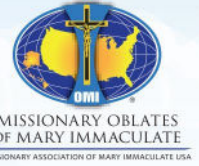




OBLATE ACADEMY

HELPING CHILDREN KEEP GOD IN THEIR LIVES



Saint of the Month for February 2024: Saint Scholastica

Teaching Tips for Grades K-2

Saint Scholastica was born in Norcia, Italy in 480, the twin sister of St. Benedict. When she saw her brother's life of prayer and close relationship to God, she gave up everything and followed his example.

Saint Scholastica adopted the Benedictine Rule of Life—*Ora et Labora*, Pray and Work—with great joy. She formed a very close relationship with God through prayer and chant, eventually founding a Benedictine monastery for women near Monte Cassino.

Together with her brother, St. Scholastica established several Benedictine monasteries and established rules to follow, such as the rule of hospitality: “Let all guests who arrive be received like Christ—the key is to welcome every guest like Christ.”

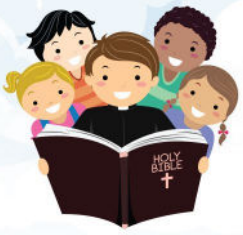
According to the Dialogues of St. Gregory the Great, the brother and sister spent their last day together in prayer and conversation. Scholastica sensed her death was close at hand and she begged Benedict to stay with her until the next day. He refused her request because he did not want to spend a night outside the monastery.

Scholastica then asked God to let her brother remain. A severe thunderstorm broke out, preventing Benedict and his monks from returning to the abbey. Benedict asked her what she had done. She replied, “I asked a favor of you, and you refused it. I asked it of God, and He has granted it!”

Three days later, Benedict was praying in his monastery and saw the soul of his sister ascend heavenward in the form of a white dove. Benedict and the monks buried her in the tomb Benedict had prepared for himself. He died soon after and was buried in the same grave as his sister.

Saint Scholastica shows us that God does respond to our prayer. She models the virtue of purity in her life and entered heaven in the form of a dove to show us the way of innocence.

Saint Scholastica is the patron saint of cloistered nuns. Her feast day is February 10.



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MISSIONARY OBLATES
OF MARY IMMACULATE
MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MARY IMMACULATE USA

Prayer to St. Scholastica:

Saint Scholastica,
you and your brother shared not only the same family,
but you were also deeply united
in a spiritual friendship centered on God.

Please pray for me, that I may discover friends
who assist me on my journey through this world
and that I may be such a friend to others.

Saint Scholastica and Saint Benedict, pray for me.

Jesus, I trust in You.