**BENEDICTINE READING LIST**

**The Rule Itself**

**The Rule of Saint Benedict in English (RB 80)** edited by Timothy Fry, OSB (Liturgical Press 1982)

This contains just the text of the Rule, with a short introduction. A copy is sent to each Benedictine Experience participant.


A rich reference source of things Benedictine, including a fresh translation of the Rule by Patrick Barry, OSB, former Abbot of Ampleforth Abbey; other contributors include Michael Casey, OCSO, Esther de Waal, Kathleen Norris, Columba Stewart, OSB, and Maria Boulding, OSB.

**Saint Benedict’s Rule** translated and with introduction by Patrick Berry, OSB (Hidden Spring/Paulist Press 2004)

**To Begin**


*St. Benedict’s Toolbox: The Nuts and Bolts of Everyday Benedictine Living* by Jane Tomaine (Morehouse 2005)

**Commentaries**


Benedict's Rule: a translation and commentary by Terrence Kardong (Liturgical Press)

Preferring Christ: A Devotional Commentary on the Rule of St. Benedict by Norvene Vest (Continuum/Morehouse reprint 2004)

Further Reading
The Undivided Heart by Michael Casey, OCSO (St. Bede's Publications 1994)
Sacred Reading: the Art of Lectio by Michael Casey (Ligori, MO/Triumph Books 1996)
Living with Contradiction: Reflections on the Rule of St. Benedict by Esther de Waal (Morehouse 1998)
Lost in Wonder: Rediscovering the Spiritual Art of Attentiveness by Esther de Waal (Liturgical Press 2003)
Seeking Life: Benedictine Wisdom for the Baptized by Esther de Waal (Liturgical Press 2009, available in April)
In Praise of Benedict, by Cardinal Basil Hume (St. Bede’s Publications 1995)
Always We Begin Again by John McQuiston II (Morehouse Publishing 1996)
Prayer and Community: the Benedictine Tradition by Columba Stewart (Orbis Books 1998)
Reading Saint Benedict: Reflections on the Rule by Adalbert de Vogue, OSB
(Kalamazoo, MI/Cistercian Studies 1994, possibly out of print)

**Prayer and Lectio Divina**

*Beginning to Pray* by Anthony Bloom (Paulist Press 1988)

*Praying the Scriptures* by Demetris Dumm, OSB (Liturgical Press 2004)


*The Practice of Prayer* by Margaret Guenther (Cowley Publications 2000)

*Behold the Beauty of the Lord: Praying with Icons* by Henri J.M. Nouwen (Ave Maria Press 1987)

*A Place Apart: Monastic Prayer and Practice for Everyone* by M. Basil Pennington, OCSO (Redemptorist Publications 1988) This is only one of many works by the author on praying in the monastic tradition.


*The Prayers and Meditations of St. Anselm* translated and with introduction by Sr. Benedicta Ward, SLG (Penguin Classics)

**Personal Journeys**

*The Monastic Journey* by Thomas Merton (Kalamazoo, MI/Cistercian Publications 1992)

*The Cloister Walk* by Kathleen Norris (Riverhead Books 1996)

*Beyond the Walls: Monastic Wisdom for Everyday Life* by Paul Wilkes (Doubleday 1999)

**Special Applications of the Rule**

Beginning Again: Benedictine Wisdom for Living with Illness by Mary Earle (Morehouse 2004)

Benedict’s Dharm, edited by Patrick Henry (Riverside Books 2001)

The Benedictine Gift to Music by Katherine LeMee (Paulist Press 2003)

The Family Cloister: Benedictine Wisdom for the Home by David Robinson (Crossroads 2000)
Benedictine, member of any of the confederated congregations of Roman Catholic monks, lay brothers, and nuns who follow the rule of life of St. Benedict of Nursia. The Benedictines, strictly speaking, do not constitute a single religious order, because each monastery is autonomous. The Benedictine Order comprises monks living under the Rule of St. Benedict, and commonly known as “black monks”. The order will be considered in this article under the following sections: I. History of the Order; II. Lay brothers, Oblates, Confraters, and Nuns; III. Influence and Work of the Order; IV. Present Condition of the Order; V. Benedictines of Special Distinction; VI. Other Foundations Originating from, or Based upon, the Order. History of the order.