



St. Scholastica

SAINT OF THE MONTH
FEBRUARY 2010

Feast Day - February 10
Considered the first Benedictine nun
Patron Saint of nuns
Often invoked against storms and rain
Symbolized by nun with crozier and crucifix
and/or with dove

St. Scholastica, twin sister to St. Benedict, was born in 480 into a wealthy Italian family. She consecrated her life to God from the time of her youth. After Benedict went to Monte Cassino and established his monastery, she founded and governed a monastery of nuns about five miles from her brother.

The twins visited each other and discussed spiritual matters once a year, in a nearby farmhouse because Scholastica was not allowed inside Benedict's monastery. At the time of one of these visits, in about the year 543, Scholastica begged Benedict to stay for another day. He refused, for his own Rule stated that he should not spend a night outside the monastery. Scholastica asked God to let her brother remain. A strong thunderstorm broke out, forcing Benedict and the monks to stay in the farmhouse for the night. Scholastica pointed out to Benedict, "I asked a favor of you and you refused. I asked God and he granted it." Benedict and Scholastica spent the night in spiritual discussions.

Three days later, Benedict was praying in his monastery and saw the soul of his sister rising to heaven, in the form of a dove. He had her body brought to his monastery and laid it in the tomb he had prepared for himself.

CHRISTIAN PRACTICES:

Praying
Dying Well

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

Find time during Lent for some prayer time as a family - perhaps a weekly family Rosary, or Stations of the Cross as a family.

Pray for those who have died, especially those who have no one to pray for them..

