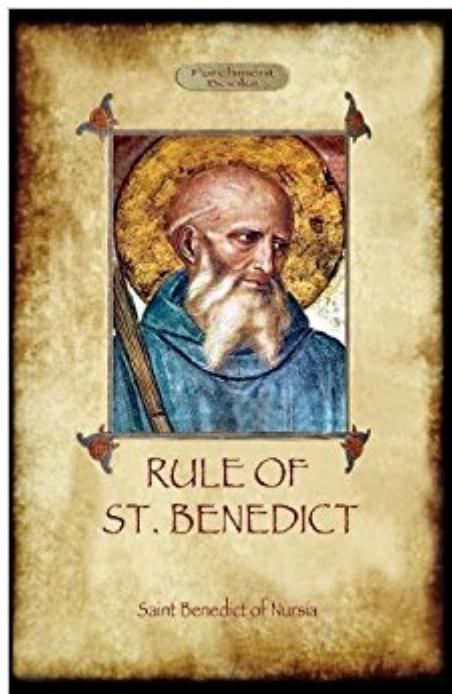


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The Rule Of St. Benedict



Synopsis

Sickened by the post-Roman turmoil of 5th Century Italy, Benedict renounced the world and retired to a life of Christian contemplation in a cave just west of Rome. Revered for his sanctity, local monks asked him to become their abbot. But Benedict's discipline proved too strict - the monks tried to poison him, and he left to establish many small monasteries, eventually founding the famous monastery on Monte Cassino and gaining the title 'Father of Western Monasticism'. This book is the saint's directions for establishing an orderly and pious monastic community, covering, among other matters, the community, authority and obedience, good works, control of speech and thoughts, humility, contemplation, work, vows and hospitality. Full of guidance and inspiration, 'The Rule of St Benedict' is for anyone seeking peace and fulfillment in their life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I loved this little book. I am not really especially religious but it was a refreshing look at the mechanism of the monks and an insight into the roles of the members of an extremely successful community. To be honest I got the book because I was bored and it was cheap but I read it pretty quickly and then re-read it to look at how I could use the principles within my organisation. As a result the book has become the basis of a review of how each member of my organisation should view their job description and I am currently in the process of implementing those ideas. It went from being a moment of curious folly to be about the best management book I have read this decade.

This simple version of The Rule is very well done. The links through the text by day are great for the Kindle and makes it so easy to find the section I am looking for. I have 3 different print versions of The Rule and 2 more on my Kindle. This is the one I use. I would have paid A LOT more for this.

Of the various version of the Rule available for e-readers, this one seems to be the most useable. The Rule is broken not only into chapters but shows the 3 dates during each year that that particular section of the Rule is to be read. The Rule itself is a wonderful expression of balance and moderation that has challenged, changed and comforted its followers ever since the 6th Century.

Excellent. Table of contents has links to the daily readings. It is very easy to find the current day to read. The text of the Rule is or very nearly is the classic 1949 Edition of the Rule Translated by Rev. Boniface Verheyen, OSB of Saint Benedict's Abbey, Atchison, Kansas. It is one of few beautiful modern translations of the Rule. Melk Abbey offers this translation (or virtually the same) the on its website, but Melk Abbey's version does not have the chapters marked for daily reading, and the Melk Abbey version has Roman numerals (LXVIII) for the chapter numbers in the actual text of the Rule. This Kindle version has Hindu-Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.) throughout. This Kindle version also has the encyclopedia article about our Holy Father Benedict at the back of the book. It is a good way to learn about Saint Benedict -- nice additional feature of this book. This Kindle version does not have the Bible verse references which the Melk online version has. In this Kindle version Bible quotes are set out in quotes, but if you want to know what Saint Benedict is quoting you will need to use another version. The absence of the Bible citations does make for a cleaner text which easier to read. This Kindle version is a great value with good thought in its design, very handy.

This is a nice Book of the Rule to have on Kindle. It includes a calendar for when the parts of the Rule should be read each nice, which is nice if you are on the road and need this reference. It does not have any foot notes or chapter notes explaining wording or translation or meaning, but that is something you use at with RB1980. This is just fine for on-the-go.

I have read The Rule of Benedict many times and got the most out of it with an accompanying discussion of each rule. At one time I got a book containing the Rule which was recommended by author Kathleen Norris (The Cloister Walk and Dakota) - it was wonderful, but unfortunately I can't remember the author. I gave the book away. Was hoping to find one which discussed The Rule

again. This book is simply "The Rule" with no frills or discussion. For some readers, this may be just what they want.

This book has good for thought for anyone but especially those liking to excel in virtue. I particularly found the sections on the different degrees of humility enlightening. If memory serves me, chapter for has an excellent summary of the virtues necessary for spiritual maturation; this section lists the virtues as pithy axioms which are stated very concisely. Consequently, this section is easy to read through in a couple of minutes while simultaneously providing a comprehensive list which can work as an excellent point of reference.

Can hardly explain how meaningful The Rule of Benedict is to me. In the first years I would read some from the Rule each day but this last year I have neglected that practice and concentrated in other areas. This version divides The Rule into bite-sized pieces or reminders on a daily schedule which helps to keep each portion fresh in my mind. Thank you!

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