



St. Scholastica and St. Benedict

st. Scholastica is the twin sister of St. Benedict. The most commonly told story about her is that Scholastica would, once a year, go and visit her brother at a place near his abbey, and they would spend the day worshiping together and discussing sacred texts and issues.

One day they had supper and continued their conversation. When Benedict indicated it was time for him to leave, Scholastica, perhaps sensing that the time of her death was drawing near, asked him to stay with her for the evening so they could continue their discussions. Not wishing to break his own Rule, Benedict refused, insisting that he needed to return to his cell. At that point, Scholastica closed her hands

in prayer, and after a moment, a wild storm started outside the guest house in which they were staying. Benedict asked, 'What have you done?' To which she replied, 'I asked you and you would not listen; so I asked my God and he did listen. So now go off, if you can; leave me and return to your monastery.' Benedict was unable to return to his monastery, and they spent the night in discussion and prayers.

(Three days later, from his cell, he saw his sister's soul leaving the earth and ascending to heaven in the form of a shining white dove. Benedict had her body brought to his monastery, where he had it laid in the tomb which he had prepared for himself.)

