

THE MEDAL PRAYER

*No particular prayers are prescribed, for the very wearing and use of the Medal is considered a silent prayer to God to grant us, through the merits of St. Benedict, the favors we request. However, for obtaining extraordinary favors, it is highly recommended to perform special devotions in honor of the holy Father St. Benedict. For example, on Tuesdays, the day the Church commemorates his death, the Way of The Cross is highly recommended.

A suggested **prayer** that may be said using the Medal for any pious purpose is: “*May* the intercession of the Blessed Patriarch and Abbot Benedict render Thee merciful unto us, O Lord, that what our own unworthiness cannot obtain, we may receive through his powerful patronage. Through Christ Our Lord.” Amen. *(excerpted from www.penitents.org)

A PRAYER TO ST. BENEDICT FOR A HAPPY DEATH

“O** Holy Father, St. Benedict, blessed by God both in grace and in name, who, while standing in prayer, with hands raised to heaven, didst most happily yield thy angelic spirit unto the hands of thy Creator, and hast promised zealously to defend against all the snares of the enemy in the last struggle of death, those who shall daily remind thee of thy glorious departure and heavenly joys; protect me, I beseech thee, O glorious Father, this day and every day, by thy holy blessings, that I may never be separated from our dear Lord, from the society of thyself, and of all the blessed!. Through the same Christ our Lord.” Amen .

St. Benedict himself revealed to St. Gertrude-a Benedictine nun-that “whoever reminds me of the extraordinary privilege with which God deigned to glorify my last moments, shall experience my particular assistance in his final combat. I will be a faithful protector against the assaults of the enemy. Fortified by my presence, he will escape the snares of the evil one and safely attain eternal happiness.” ***(excerpted from www.St-Benedict-medal.com)

EVENTS SURROUNDING THE MEDAL

*****St.** Benedict of Nursia, Italy (AD 480-543), the twin brother of St. Scholastica, is considered to be the Father of Western Monasticism. “The Rule of St. Benedict” came to be the basis of organization for many religious orders (his own Order has its cradle at Monte Cassino, Italy, about 80 miles south of Rome).

In order to understand the symbology of the Medal and why it is so powerful you must know this event in St. Benedict’s life: he’d been living as a hermit in a cave for three years, famous for his holiness, when a religious community came to him after the death of their abbot and asked Benedict to take over. Some of the “monks” didn’t like this plan and attempted to kill him with poisoned bread and wine. When St. Benedict made the Sign of the Cross over these items, he came to know they were poisoned, so he toppled the cup and commanded a raven to carry off the bread. ***(excerpted from www.fisheaters.com)

The Sign of the Cross which St. Benedict performed on the bread and wine is the basis for the medal being struck.

WHY WEAR THE JUBILEE MEDAL

***The** medal should be blessed by a Benedictine priest because there are many indulgences attached to the medal as well as being a very powerful sacramental with exorcizing properties written right on it. It appears strange that a medal should be made and blessed; and possess so much power against the wicked spirits. Holy Scripture gives us abundant instructions upon the ever-busy power of the devils, and the dangers we, as humans, are exposed both in soul and body, by the snares they set for us. St. Paul teaches us that the air is filled with legions of wicked spirits. (Eph. ii2,vi12)

It is only by the power of the Holy Cross that these spirits are overcome. The brazen serpent raised up in the desert by Moses is a figure of the Cross (St. John iii, 14) while the blood of the Paschal Lamb marked the house-doors of the Israelites and preserved them from the destroying angel. (Exod xii 23) St. Athanasius, a church doctor writes “The sign of the Cross has the power of dispelling all the secret charms of magic, and of rendering harmless all the deadly draughts it employs...the snares of Satan are laid for us on every side...and now applying these considerations to the medal...we come to the conclusion, that...**with faith** the medal of St. Benedict on occasions...its protection will infallibly prove efficacious in every kind of temptation...we may also employ it in favor of others as a means of preserving or delivering them from dangers.

*(from the book The Medal or Cross of St. Benedict, by Rev Dom. Prosper Gueranger, OSB-pg 22-26)

***The** following is a *partial* list of the many pious purposes of the **Medal of St. Benedict:**

1. It wards off from both the soul and the body all dangers arising from the devil
2. The Medal is powerful in obtaining for sinners the grace of conversion
3. It obtains protection and aid for persons tormented by the evil spirit, and in temptations against holy purity
4. It procures assistance in the hour of death
5. It has often proved an efficacious remedy for bodily sufferings, and a means of protection against contagious diseases
6. Expectant mothers have obtained special assistance for a safe delivery
7. In time of storms, tempests and other dangers on land and sea it has been found to be a protection
8. Even domestic animals have been visibly aided by it when infected with disease *(excerpted from www.st-benedict-medal.com)