



Holy Cross Monastery

Reading and Resources

Monastic Life

Introduction

The principal resource for all Christian monks, indeed, for all Christians, is holy scripture. Holy Cross monks read, study, and pray scripture daily, engaging with it on multiple levels, including contemporary studies.

In both the Anglican and the monastic traditions, the daily recitation of scripture-based prayer, called The Divine or Daily Office, is fundamental. A person who wants to become a monk will want to make this his daily practice.

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) provides the necessary framework for Anglicans. The Monastery's own office book is a newly revised edition of *A Monastic Breviary* (West Park, NY: Holy Cross Publishing & Morehouse, 1976).

Daily Office online (as well as a tablet and smartphone app) from The Mission of St. Clare: <http://www.missionstclare.com>.

You can access the Daily Office, including readings and hymns, for free from Mission St. Clare. They also have a wonderful app for your phone or tablet. Here are some additional recommendations.

The Rule of St. Benedict

- Timothy Fry, OSB, *The Rule of Saint Benedict in English* (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1981).
- Terrence Kardong, OSB, *Benedict's Rule: A Translation and Commentary* (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1996).
- Esther De Waal, c/OHC, *A Life Giving Way: A Commentary on the Rule of St. Benedict* (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1995).

The Rule of St. Benedict online: <http://www.osb.org/rb/>.

Benedictine Spirituality and History

- Jean Leclercq, OSB, *The Love of Learning and the Desire for God: A Study of Monastic Culture*, 3rd Ed. (New York: Fordham University Press, 1982).
- Peter King, *Western Monasticism: A History of the Monastic Movement in the Latin Church* (Kalamazoo: Cistercian Publ., 1999). Includes a chapter on Anglican monasticism.
- Columba Marmion, OSB, *Christ the Ideal of the Monk* (Paraclete Press, 2014).
- Columba Stewart, OSB, *Prayer and Community: The Benedictine Tradition* (Orbis Books, 1998).

- Michael Casey, OCSO, *A Guide to Living in the Truth: Saint Benedict's Teaching on Humility* (Ligouri, 2001).
- Esther De Waal, c/OHC, *Living with Contradiction: Reflections on the Rule of St. Benedict* (San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1989).

Lectio Divina

- Michael Casey, OCSO, *Sacred Reading: The Ancient Art of Lectio Divina* (Triumph Books, 1996).
- Innocenzo Gargano, OSB, *Holy Reading: An Introduction to Lectio Divina* (Hymns Ancient & Modern Ltd, 2007).
- Mariano Magrassi, OSB, *Praying the Bible: An Introduction to Lectio Divina*. (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1998)

About the Order of the Holy Cross

- Vida Dutton Scudder, *Father Huntington: The Founder of the Order of the Holy Cross* (Dutton, 1940). [Out of Print]
- Adam Dunbar McCoy, OHC, *Holy Cross: A Century of Anglican Monasticism* (Morehouse, 1987).
- Richard Paul Vaggione, OHC, *The Rule of James Otis Sargent Huntington and His Successors* (The Order of the Holy Cross, 1991).