



Saint Scholastica

St. Scholastica is not as well known as her twin brother, St. Benedict.

Scholastica and her brother Benedict lived during the sixth century in Italy. Both she and her brother dedicated their lives to God. Benedict started a religious order that is still in existence today — the Benedictines. There is little information about Scholastica, but it is thought that she may have started a convent near her brother's monastery and was probably the abbess of that convent.

Each year Scholastica and Benedict would meet at a place not far from either of their convents to pray together and for Scholastica to receive spiritual counsel from her brother.

The last time the two met it was a beautiful clear day, and brother and sister spent the hours as in years past in discussion and prayer. After their meal together, Scholastica begged her brother to stay the night so they could spend a little more time together. Benedict refused saying he must get back to his monastery.

Scholastica then bowed her head and prayed fervently to God. Thunder crackled and the sky lit up with lightening. A fierce storm began to rage outside. The wind and rain made it impossible for Benedict to return to the monastery.

Benedict and Scholastica continued their conversation and prayer until morning. Three days later, Scholastica died. The brother and sister had enjoyed their final conversation. Benedict had her buried in the tomb he had built for himself.