**MONASTIC PROFESSION**

**Rule of Benedict**

* RB 58 The Procedure for Receiving Members

**Resources**

Böckmann, Aquinata. “Chapter on RB 58” in *Perspectives on the Rule of Benedict: Expanding*

*our Hearts in Christ.* Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2005.

* This is a detailed exegesis of chapter 58.
* It can be paired with the notes from Aquinata’s class on this chapter.

Boggiert-Fabriano, Battista. “Monastic Profession According to RB 58,” in *Benedictines*

XLVII:I (Winter 1993-94): 66-73.

Collins, Mary. “Rule and Gospel: The Meaning of Benedictine Vowing,” in *Benedictines*

(1980): 27-45.

Fry, Timothy. ed.“Monastic Formation and Profession” in *RB1980: The Rule of Saint Benedict in*

*Latin and English*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1981, pp. 437-466.

Hammerling, Anselm. “Progress in Monastic Life and Faith,” in *Benedictines* XLVII:1 (Winter

1993-94): 5-15. [“Monastic Profession Inculturated” 1993 Symposium of Benedictine Women, Sant’Anselmo, Rome, September 14-23, 1993.]

Interfederation/Congregation Committee on Monastic Profession, “Monastic Profession:

Commitment to a Way of Life: A Study Guide.” January, 2000.

* This document contains six chapters and a conclusion. At the end of each chapter are Questions for Reflection/Discussion and recommended readings. One chapter a week could be read and discussed with women in formation.

Kodell, Jerome. “Caught Between Accepting and Choosing” *Abbey Newsletter*.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. “Living Our Profession,” in *Benedictines* XLVII:II (Summer 1994): 56-63.

Raab, Augusta. “’The Suscipe’: A Benedictine Koan,” *Benedictines* (Vol: ?)

Ward, Dan. “Monastic Profession/Taking Vows,” in *American Monastic Newsletter* 21:2 (June,

1991).

**Activity**

Review your personal growth plan from the novitiate with the formation director. Develop a personal growth plan for the first year of profession.

**STEPS IN PREPARATION FOR FIRST PROFESSION**

1. **Study topics to be completed**
   1. Conversatio
   2. Obedience
   3. Stability
   4. Monastic Stewardship/Holding all goods in common
   5. Healthy Celibate Living
   6. Monastic Profession
2. **Discernment with the community**
3. **Write a letter** to the prioress describing your readiness and desire to make first monastic profession.
4. Upon approval of the monastic chapter, make a **retreat** in preparation for first profession
5. With the formation director and director of worship and music, prepare for the **Rite of First Profession**.