



Benedictine Bits

Stability



Benedictine monastic members commit to living three vows when entering their chosen Benedictine community. They are stability, conversatio, and obedience.

Stability for a Benedictine monastic means committing their life to a specific community, in a specific place where they will live out the rest of their life. This does not mean that they cannot leave the walls of the monastery. In fact, numerous monastic members *must* live outside of the monastery in order to complete their education, fulfill pastoral duties, and other work for the community. Although some members must be away from their monastic home for a time, they are still tethered to the community. Benedictines are connected to their vowed monastery by common practices, beliefs, and tradition, not just physical proximity. Ultimately, this form of stability is a testament to the spiritual work of God that guides the brothers and sisters through adversity and toward God's eternal embrace.