

If a Pilgrim Monastic Coming From a Distant Region

by St. Benedict of Nursia

A guest monastic should be received with contentment and humility, and her request for stability should be considered prudently.

Scripture: Philippians 2:3

Topics: "Christian Hospitality", "Monastic Life"

Description

St. Benedict of Nursia emphasizes the importance of hospitality and discernment in welcoming guests to the monastery. He advises that guests should be received for as long as they desire, as long as they respect the customs of the place and do not make unnecessary demands. If a guest offers constructive criticism with humility, it should be considered as a potential message from the Lord. St. Benedict also suggests that if a guest desires to commit to the monastery permanently, their request should be seriously considered, especially after observing their character during their stay.

Transcript

If a pilgrim monastic coming from a distant region
wants to live as a guest of the monastery,
let her be received for as long a time as she desires,
provided she is content
with the customs of the place as she finds them
and does not disturb the monastery by superfluous demands,
but is simply content with what she finds.
If, however, she censures or points out anything reasonably
and with the humility of charity,
let the Abbess consider prudently

whether perhaps it was for that very purpose
that the Lord sent her.
If afterwards she should want to bind herself to stability,
her wish should not be denied her,
especially since there has been opportunity
during her stay as a guest
to discover her character.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/st-benedict-of-nursia/if-a-pilgrim-monastic-coming-from-a-distant-region/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net