

The Indicating of the Hour for the Work of God

by St. Benedict of Nursia

The sermon emphasizes the importance of proper timing and reverence in the Work of God, with the Abbot taking responsibility for indicating the hour and appointing suitable brothers to perform the duties.

Scripture: Psalm 119:130, Ecclesiastes 3:1, 1 Corinthians 14:40, Colossians 3:23, 1 Peter 4:10

Topics: "Liturgical Prayer", "Monastic Discipline"

Description

St. Benedict of Nursia emphasizes the importance of punctuality and order in the work of God, assigning the duty of signaling the hours for prayer to the Abbot or a carefully chosen brother. He instructs that the Psalms and antiphons should be intoned by appointed individuals in a specific order, following the Abbot's lead. St. Benedict stresses the need for those who sing or read during these times to do so in a manner that uplifts and edifies the listeners, with humility, seriousness, and reverence, as appointed by the Abbot.

Transcript

The indicating of the hour for the Work of God
by day and by night
shall devolve upon the Abbot
either to give the signal himself
or to assign this duty to such a careful brother
that everything will take place at the proper hours.
Let the Psalms and the antiphons be intoned
by those who are appointed for it,
in their order after the Abbot.
And no one shall presume to sing or read
unless he can fulfill that office
in such a way as to edify the hearers.

Let this function be performed
with humility, gravity and reverence,
and by him whom the Abbot has appointed.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/st-benedict-of-nursia/the-indicating-of-the-hour-for-the-work-of-god/>

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