

# The Medal of St. Benedict.

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## Part III

### DESCRIPTION OF THE MEDAL

There are two types of the Medal of St. Benedict. The ordinary Medal and that of Monte Cassino, which is known as the JUBILEE MEDAL. This Monte Cassino Jubilee Medal has been enriched with a great number of indulgences, especially with the famous TOTIES QUOTIES plenary indulgence on All Souls' Day. The Jubilee Medal is the subject of our present study.

In the year 1880, the Venerable Benedictine Order celebrated the 1400th Anniversary of the birth of its glorious Founder - St. Benedict. The beautiful Jubilee Medal was struck on this occasion and since that time the Monastery of Monte Cassino has the sole privilege of striking this Medal.

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"ALL THINGS ARE CREATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER" (St. Francis de Sales), so that they may glorify the Creator, recognising Him as their starting point and objective, and in deep humility and submission sing out His praises. If this applies to all creatures, even those without the power of reason - the animate and the inanimate -, how much more it must be true of man. For man has been put on this earth so that he may consciously know His Creator as the beginning and the end of his being. Therefore, prayer is a requirement that springs directly from the recognition of man's dependence, in all that he is, in all that he does, and in all that he has on his Creator.

But man-the world of man- is so far from God, does not pray. The world seeks relief in broken cisterns, in the stepping up of human achievement, in learning, in ever more daring enterprises, in the destruction of the past, in technical and scientific progress, in boundless efforts for wealth and well-being and fun, yes, and in turning away from God and Christ, in encouraging unbelief, in making gods of men, and false gods of work, and liberation, success, money, the nation, the State. The world needs no God, no light, no outside help; it is sufficient unto itself. That is why the world needs no prayer. In consequence of this, the Church's task - our task - is all the greater - - the task of prayer. In prayer we must make good all that is lacking; in praying, we must do penance and atone - for our own sins and the sins of all men. In praying we must ask for forgiveness and grace - for ourselves and for all men - especially in these days of material, spiritual (religious) and moral need.

What can save the world? CERTAINLY NOT LEARNING, not technical knowledge or scientific experiment, not politics, not human power - not a one world society! The only thing that possibly save us from the deep pit of our misery is the mercy of God and His grace. And this can be attained only through prayer. The healing of the world lies in prayer - - NOT IN MORE FELLOWSHIP - - ! The need of the world today cries out for praying souls - - all souls - - but especially those souls totally dedicated to the task - those souls committed to filling in the empty spaces made by man's failure to recognize his dependence on his Creator; souls committed to the filling in the empty spaces made by men of good will and understanding whose state of life prevents them from a life of full prayer.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS TO OUR MONASTERY AND CONVENT!!!!!!