

The Order of Saint Benedict

LECTIO DIVINA

You will not see anyone who is really striving after his advancement who is not given to spiritual reading. And as to him who neglects it, the fact will soon be observed by his progress. --from an Easter Letter by Saint Athanasius.



Here are links to thoughts on *lectio divina* and information on this practice of sacred reading as a way of prayer provided by the Order of St. Benedict.

- American-Cassinese Congregation, [Renew and Create](#) (1969).
- [The Cloud of Unknowing, chapter 35](#) (anonymous 14th-century English author).
- Vincent Dwyer, [Lectio Divina](#) from "Many Paths to Prayer."
- Luke Dysinger, OSB, [Accepting the Embrace of God: The Ancient Art of Lectio Divina](#) (1990).
- Mary Margaret Funk OSB, [Lectio Meditations](#) (*Humility Matters* website).
- Guigo II (d. 1193), *Scala claustralium*. **The** classic text on *lectio divina*.
 - [L'échelle du paradis](#) (Ladder of Paradise). 1922 translation. At the official web site of the Carthusians.
 - [The Ladder of Four Rungs](#). 54K text, 140K graphics.
 - [Scala paradisi](#). In Latin.
- Kristine A. Haig, [Praying the Bible](#) (2003).
- Claudette Jacques, [Chemins de contemplation](#) (1997).
- [Lectio Divina - Theory](#), from New Melleray Abbey's *Monastic Primer*.
- Sam Anthony Morello, OCD, [Lectio Divina and the Practice of Teresian Prayer](#) (1991).
- Armand Nigro, SJ, and John Veltri, SJ, [Praying with Scripture](#).
- [From The Nine Ways of Prayer of St. Dominic](#) (1260-1288).
- Abbot General Bernardo Olivera, OCSO, [Letter on Lectio Divina](#) (1993).
- [Excerpts from the Rule of Saint Benedict](#) concerning lectio divina.
- Abbot Armand Veilleux, OCSO, [Lectio Divina as School of Prayer among the Fathers of the Desert](#) (1995). Also [en français](#) or [en esp ana](#).
- John Veltri, SJ, "[Lectio Divina](#)" in [Orientations for Spiritual Growth](#).
- From [William of St. Thierry](#) (d. 1148) on Lectio Divina.