



PACHOMIUS

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d. 346

9 May RC

Monastic

- ✠ Founder of cenobitic monasticism
- ✠ Founded monastery at Tabennisi
- ✠ Eventually abbot over nine houses for men, two for women
- ✠ Pachomian Rule provided model for virtually all subsequent monastic rules

Whoever comes to the monastery must first learn what he should observe. Then, after this first instruction, when he has consented to it all, he shall be given twenty psalms to learn, or two of the Apostle's epistles, or part of another book of Scripture.

Everyone in the monastery shall learn letters and memorize something of the Scriptures, at least the New Testament and the Psalter.

To celebrate the six evening prayers during the great synaxis which brings all the brethren together, that is supreme joy; they are celebrated so easily that the brothers do not find them a burden or wearisome.

Extracts from the *Pachomian Rule*