

THE SAINT BENEDICT MEDAL

EJVS IN OBITV NRO PRA SENTIA MVNIAMUR:

Latin for: "May his presence protect us in the hour of death."

CHALICE WITH SERPENT:

This image represents the event when a group of monks plotted to murder St. Benedict because they believed his doctrines to be too strict. They poisoned the mass wine, but when St. Benedict made the sign of the cross over the chalice, it fell to the ground and shattered.

EX S M CASINO MDCCCLXXX:

Latin for: "From the Holy Mount of Cassino, 1880."

RAVEN WITH BREAD IN BEAK:

This image represents a second attempt to murder St. Benedict by poisoning his bread, but God sent a raven who carried it off before he could consume it.

HISTORY OF SAINT BENEDICT MEDAL:

The exact time and date of the making of the St. Benedict Medal is not known, but it was formally approved by Pope Benedict XIV in the year 1741. The most common medal today is the Jubilee medal that was struck in the year 1880 in remembrance of the 1400th anniversary of St. Benedict's birth. The letters on the back of the medal had been a mystery until an ancient manuscript was discovered at Metten Abbey in Bavaria in the year 1647, in which an exorcism formula was found that matched the medal's inscriptions. The St. Benedict Medal is one of the oldest and most honored medals used to ward off evil spirits.

FRONT OF MEDAL:

St. Benedict holding a cross in one hand and the book of his Rule in the other.

CRUXS PATRIS BENEDICTI:

Latin for: "The Cross of the Holy Father Benedict."

PAX:

Latin for: "Peace."

BACK OF MEDAL:

In the center on the back of the medal, there is a cross which St. Benedict greatly loved and used to drive away demons. On the vertical beam are the following letters: C.S.S.M.L. (Crux sacra sit mihi lux), which is Latin for, "May the holy cross be for me a light." On the horizontal beam, there are five letters N.D.S.M.D. (Non draco sit mihi dux), which is Latin for, "Let not the dragon be my guide."

RIGHT SIDE OF MEDAL:

Encircling the right side of the back of the medal are the letters V.R.S.N.S.M.V. (Vade retro Satana; nunquam suade mihi vana), which is Latin for, "Be gone, Satan! Suggest not to me thy vain things."

LEFT SIDE OF MEDAL:

Encircling the left side of the back of the medal are the letters S.M.Q.L.I.V.B. (Sunt mala quae libas; ipse venena bibas), which is Latin for, "The drink you offer is evil; drink that poison yourself."

FOUR LARGE LETTERS AROUND CROSS:

C.S.P.B. (Crux sancti Patris Benedicti), which is Latin for, "The cross of the Holy Father Benedict."

