

# THE MIRACLES OF ST. BENEDICT

## (18) Hidden Wine Goes Bad

[adapted by Deacon Roy Goetz, from [The Dialogues, Book II](#) by [St. Gregory the Great](#)]



Exhilaratus, a Roman who later became a monk, was sent by his master to visit Benedict. He carried with him two wooden flasks of wine. He decided along the way that he would hide one of the flasks for himself and deliver only one to Benedict. Upon his arrival, Benedict thanked him for the wine; however, the holy man could also see through his deception and said to him, “Son, be sure not to drink from the wine you have hidden away. Tilt it carefully, and you will see what is inside.” Exhilaratus left in shame and confusion and went back to the spot where he had hidden the wine. As he tilted the flask, a serpent crawled out, and he was filled with horror and remorse for his misdeed.