

# THE MIRACLES OF ST. BENEDICT

## (7) Walking on Water

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



Once while Benedict was in his room, one of his monks, the boy [Placid](#), went down to get some water. Placid let the bucket fill too rapidly, fell into the water and was carried away by the current. Even though Benedict was at rest in his cell, he immediately was aware of what had happened. He called out to [Maurus](#), "Hurry, Brother. Placid has fallen into the lake and the current is carrying him away!" Maurus asked for Benedict's blessing and ran out to save Placid. Miraculously, Maurus ran on top of the water as if it were dry land, took Placid by the hair, and returned to shore. Only after Maurus had reached safety did he realize that he had been running on the surface of the water. He was at once fearful and amazed and went straight away to see Benedict. The holy man maintained that the miracle was due to Maurus's obedience while Maurus thought the miracle was due to Benedict's blessing. Placid settled the question by saying, "When I was drawn out of the water, I saw the abbot's cloak over my head; he is the one I thought was bringing me to shore."

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