

Asceticism and Monasticism Day 3

Important names, terms, concepts

Pachomius

Sayings of the Desert Fathers

Prayer

The cell

Labor

Monk

virgin

gender

cenobitic

eremitic

Study Questions

What is life like in an early Christian monastery (Pachomian rules)?

How is cenobitic monasticism (represented by the Pachomian rules) different from eremitic/anchoritic monasticism (represented by Antony)?

What do you learn about male and female monks from the Sayings of the Desert Fathers? What are the important themes and issues in this text?

How is gender represented in the *Sayings of the Desert Fathers*? What do the male and female monks say about the nature of gender difference?