

Fraternity of Saint Benedict

A Dispersed Community of Secular Benedictines

The Rule (Film)

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The Rule is a new documentary film by filmmakers Marylou and Jerome Bongiorno. It shows how the Benedictine monks of Newark Abbey, in Newark New Jersey, are able to achieve amazing success with the most vulnerable population: inner city African American and Latino teenage males. While Newark, with a high poverty rate of 32%, has an abysmal high school graduation rate, the 150-year-old St. Benedict's Prep has a near 100% college acceptance rate.

The film details how their “recipe for success” follows the Rule of our saintly father Benedict and how it can serve as a model for whole cities nationwide. It is an excellent example of the practical application of the Rule that is part of our own charism and an inherent part of Benedictine DNA.