

SAINT THEODORUS OF ALEXANDRIA

A greek-speaking [disciple](#) of Saint PACHOMIUS. He must be distinguished from THEODORUS OF TABENNESE (the Egyptian), an assistant of [Pachomius](#) who eventually succeeded him. The vocation of [Theodorus of Alexandria](#) is narrated in the Coptic and Greek [Lives](#) of Pachomius, and he is mentioned several times in the LETTER OF AMMON.

Born of pagan parents in Alexandria, Theodorus was converted to Christianity, probably at the age of seventeen, and became a lector in the [church of Alexandria](#) under Patriarch [ATHANASIUS](#) I (326-373). Having received Athanasius' permission to become a monk, he approached Pachomius, who first assigned him to the "house" of the Greek brothers. Acknowledging Theodorus' [charisma](#) as a spiritual leader, [Pachomius](#) entrusted him with the [care](#) of souls and appointed him father of the house of the Greek and other foreign brothers.

But the most important occupation of Theodorus was in the office of interpreter, which he fulfilled under Pachomius, HORSIESIOS, and Theodorus of Tabennese, translating their instructions into Greek for all the brothers who could not understand Coptic. In this capacity Theodorus was not merely an interpreter but also a [comforter](#) of his brothers, concerned about the purity of their heart at prayer. The [Lives](#) mention him as one of the pillars of the [Pachomian](#) community until the first tenure of Horsiesios as superior of the *koinonia*.

ARMAND VEILLEUX

Tags: [Eminent](#)