

SAINT COLUMCILLE – FEAST DAY – JUNE 9

Saint Columcille was born on December 7, 521 in Donegal, Ireland. His baptismal name of Colum signifies the word “dove” and the suffix means “of the churches”. He is also known by his Latinized name of St. Columba.

Columcille was born of royal descent, and from his youth he studied with the best teachers of his time in preparation for the priesthood. After ordination, he spent 15 years wandering throughout Ireland working as a preacher and founding numerous churches and monasteries. At 44, he left Ireland for the island of Iona in Scotland, where he and twelve followers founded a monastery. Columcille and his monks spent the next several decades converting the Picts, who were greatly impressed by the miracles he performed.

Columcille had never spent an hour without study or prayer and he hand-wrote 300 books. In the spring of 597, he knew that his end was approaching. On Saturday, June 8th, he ascended the hill overlooking the monastery and blessed, for the last time, the home so dear to him. When he went to midnight services later that evening, he died before the altar surrounded by his disciples. He was 77 years of age. He is known as the patron saint of Ireland and Scotland, poets, bookbinders and against floods. His feast day is June 9th and is celebrated in both Ireland and Scotland.



HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!



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See more on Saint Columcille: www.newadvent.org/cathen/04136a.htm