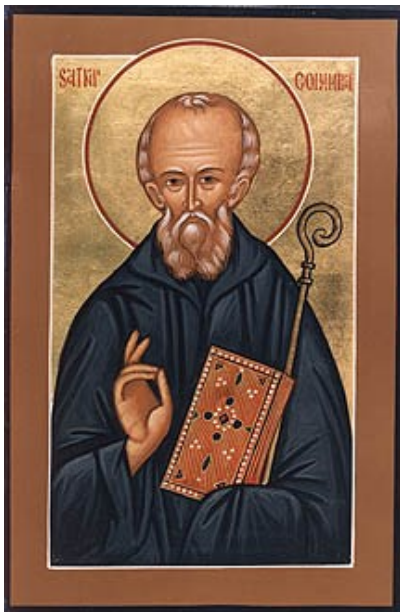


St. Columba of Iona, Enlightener of Scotland

June 9



Our venerable and God-bearing Father Columba of Iona, Enlightener of Scotland, was an Irish missionary who helped re-introduce Christianity to Scotland and the north of England.

He was born to Fedhlimidh and Eithne of the Ui Neill clan. He became a monk, and soon rose in the church hierarchy to the rank of priest. Columba became involved in a copyright issue with St. Finnian of Moville over a psalter. The dispute eventually led to the Battle of Cul Dremhe, during which many men were killed. As penance for these deaths, Columba was ordered to make the same number of new converts as had been killed. He was ordered to leave Ireland and move, so that he could not see his native country.

He travelled to Scotland and founded a monastery on the island of Iona, which became the center of his evangelizing mission to Scotland. There are many stories of miracles which he performed during his mission to convert the Picts. Columba is also the source of the first reference to the Loch Ness Monster. According to one story, he came across a group of Picts who were burying a man killed by the monster and brought him back to life. In another version, he is said to have saved the man while driving away the monster with the sign of the cross.

Apolytikion: A fearless accuser of sin and avenger of the injured, thou in repentance didst accept exile in a distant land, keeping the strait and afflicted path of obedience in the monastic rule. Thou didst cast the cloak of love over the failings of the feeble. A lover of chant, thou didst rejoice in the creation, whilst hymning the Creator, and didst command thy followers to be at peace and have love among themselves, O gracious Columba.



**For further inquiries contact a member of the
Iconography Committee or the church Office.
To sponsor these or another icon, contact Father John.**

Iconography Committee Members:

Peter Stamatis, kpstamatis@hotmail.com
Maria Karkazis, mk.70@hotmail.com

Eva Economy, econoe2@aol.com
Anthoula Tsiampas, atsiampa@hotmail.com

or any of the dedicated iconography committee members