



ἡΔΟΙΒΗΕΙΝ
ΡΙ ἡΔΟΜΗ
CÁLUM CILLE

ἡΟΙΒΗÉΙΝΕ
ΔΟ ἡΔΟΜΗ
COLM CILLE

Δ NOVENA
TO SAINT
COLUMBA

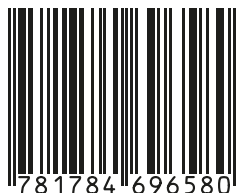


MUNGOBOOKS

Fifteen hundred years years on, the seeds of faith planted by St Columba continue to bear fruit. His spiritual and cultural legacy is maintained by the Celtic peoples of Ireland and Scotland whose Christian Faith finds its most authentic expression in the ancient tongue of the Gael. This Novena and Litany were composed to mark the 1500th anniversary of St Columba's birth and it can be used by the faithful all year round. It puts us in touch again with the roots of our faith, and the trilingual format reconnects the Irish, Scottish and English communities among which St Columba and his missionaries lived and worked.

As we celebrate this anniversary, we seek the intercession of this holy man of God for the needs of our own times.

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brought with him also the language and culture of the Gael. It is a labour-intensive activity to make anything grow in the harsh environment of these beautiful but remote lands, but St Columba and his monks were not work-shy when it came to bringing forth a harvest from the land or the spiritual harvest of souls. The mission of St Columba bore fruit well beyond the bounds of Celtic Dál Riata as Columban monks criss-crossed the country and brought the Faith to the Picts of northern Scotland and the Angles of north-eastern England. The monks of the 'Columban family' were to re-plant the Faith on Continental Europe too after the collapse of the Roman Empire. From Iceland to Italy, the Columban monks have left traces of their presence far from the turquoise waters and white sands of the Hebridean island to which their spiritual roots may be traced.

In that remote corner of Celtic Europe, the landscapes which would have been so familiar to St Columba would probably still be largely recognisable to him today. More importantly, although diminished by the ravages of time, the Faith he held and the language he spoke still cling tenaciously to their native soil among his own kin. Dál Riata of old has long since vanished and territorial boundaries have been drawn and re-drawn over the centuries. But despite the socio-economic and cultural challenges which they have faced over the centuries, the Faith and language of St Columba are with us still – a living heritage. Our Gaelic languages, moulded and shaped

under the influence of the Christian Faith, are now as inseparable from the Christian Faith as a body is from its soul. While the languages provide a rich and expressive vehicle for the Faith to make itself incarnate in our context, so does the Faith animate those languages: from daily greetings which invoke the Saints to the names for the days of the week which evoke the old Christian Fasts. For many people, Irish and Scots Gaelic are still very much the language of their hearts, and if prayer is a raising of the mind and heart to God, it is only natural that we should pray in that language which appeals to the heart; hence, the publication of this Novena and Litany.

ST COLUMBA

St Adomnán is our principal source for what we know about St Columba's life and the reader who wishes to learn about the Saint is directed to St Adomnán's *Vita Columbae*. Writing a century after his predecessor's death, St Adomnán depicts a man whose focus was fixed firmly on God. He was a monk and a missionary, combining life in the Monastery with missions well beyond its bounds. He was a true pastor, working for the spiritual and temporal good of his people, bringing the sinner to repentance and taking care of the bodily needs of those who had fallen on hard times. He was a scholar who studied, copied and illuminated the Sacred Texts and whose appreciation of the natural world led him back to contempla-





tion of the God who created it. He was a mystic as demonstrated by his unerring powers of knowing what was happening at a distance or what was to happen in the future. He was above all a holy man for whom communing with the angels was as natural as conversation with his brother monks. He predicted his own demise and he passed from this world to the next surrounded by his brethren before the altar in the Church which he had built. His last act was to raise his right hand in a wordless blessing over them.

SEEKING THE INTERCESSION OF THE SAINTS

St Columba's blessing made his foundations fruitful for many years to come. It is right that in this anniversary year we should seek his blessing anew – and that is the purpose of this Novena and Litany. The Celtic fringe is a beautiful, but harsh, environment. The Machair lands of the west coast are vulnerable and fragile, as are the flowers which bloom upon them every spring. They speak to us of the fragility of our own existence, as recalled in the Psalms, 'as for man his days are like grass; he flowers like the flower of the field. The wind blows and he is gone and his place never sees him again' (Ps. 103: 15). Those who live on the Atlantic coast are well aware of the devastation that the wind can cause – it can uproot more than the flowers of the machair. But there is another wind which blows which brings life rather

than destruction. As Ezekiel contemplates the valley of dry bones, he would hardly have thought that they could come to life again. But God commands Ezekiel to prophesy to the breath, that coming from the four winds, life may be breathed back into the dead. Similarly, the wind of Pentecost brought life and vigour to the infant Church, driving her into the streets of Jerusalem and the world beyond. St Columba and his monks were well aware of the power of the wind; but they were equally aware of the greater power of God who could calm the seas and direct the wind as He pleased. Many of the stories from St Adomnán's *Vita Columbae* speak of the Saint interceding for calm seas and a favourable wind. The challenges for the Church in our time are surely no greater than they were in the time of St Columba. His life teaches us that when the winds are not favourable, then we have to ask God to intervene to make them favourable. The wind which brings destruction can be turned around to become the wind which brings new life, if God so wills.

PILGRIMAGE – A RETURN TO OUR SPIRITUAL ROOTS

Where we see barriers and obstacles, the eyes of Faith see opportunities. The sea was no barrier for the Celtic monks – they made it their highway. Their boats criss-crossed between Scotland and Ireland reinforcing the religious and linguistic links between the two territories. For cen-



AN DÀRNA LÀTHA

AN DÀRA LÁ

THE SECOND DAY

*Comharra na Croise, Beannaichte
agus Luinneag (p. 10)*

ΑΤΗΧΗΙΝΓΕ
Sith

B' ann às dèidh cogadh na dhùth-
aich fhèin a dh'fhàg Naomh Cal-
lum Cille Èirinn, na thaistalach
air sgàth Chrìosda agus a Shoisgeil
Naomh. Tro shearmonachadh an
t-Soisgeil, thug Naomh Calum Cille
teachdaireachd na sìthe do mhuinntir
na h-Alba.

Dèanamaid ùrnaigh

A Dhia uile-chumhachdaich,
ghabh Thu truas rinne nuair a
chuir Thu thugainn Ìosa, Do Mhac
Diadhaidh; Esan a rèitich daoine a
bha air an sgàradh tro pheacadh agus
aimhreit. Nad mhathas, thoir dhuinn
misneachd an Soisgeul a shearmo-
nachadh, los gum bi sìth Chrìosda
a' sgaoileadh nar saoghal far a bheil
aimhreit agus cogadh a sgaradh
dhaoine bho chèile. Tro Chrìosda ar
Tighearna. Amen.

Ùrnaigh ri Naomh Calum Cille (p. 10)

A Naoimh Chaluim Chille,
guidh air ar son!

*Comhartha na Croise, Moladh
agus Loinneog (p. 11)*

ΑΧΑΙΝΙ
Síocháin

Ba i ndiaidh cogaidh ina thír féin
a d'fhág Colm Cille Éire, oilith-
reach ar son Chrìost agus a Shoisceil
Naofa. Trí chraobhscaoileadh an
t-Soiscéil, thug Naomh Colm Cille
teachtaireacht na síochána do
mhuinntir na h-Alban.

Guimis

A Dhia uilechumhachtaigh ghlac
Tú trua linn nuair a chuir
tú chugainn Íosa do Mhac Diaga;
Eisean a rinne athmhuintearas idir
daoine a bhí scartha ó chèile ag an
pheaca agus ag an achrann. As Do
mhaitheas tabhair dúinn misneach
an Soiscéal a chraobhscaoileadh le
go mbeidh síocháin Chrìost á fógairt
sna háiteanna sin ina bhfuil daoine
á scaradh ó chèile ag coimhlint agus
cogadh. Trí Chrìost ár dTiarna. Amen

Paidir do Naomh Colm Cille (p. 11)

A Naomh Colm Cille,
guigh orainn!

*Sign of the Cross, Invocation &
Antiphon (p. 11)*

PEITION
Peace

It was after a battle in his own coun-
try that St Columba left Ireland, a
pilgrim for the sake of Christ and His
Holy Gospel. Through the preaching
of the Gospel, St Columba brought
the message of peace to the people of
Scotland.

Let us pray

Almighty God, You took pity on
us when you sent us Jesus, Your
Divine Son; He who reconciled peo-
ple separated through sin and strife.
In Your goodness, grant us confi-
dence to preach the Gospel so that
the peace of Christ may spread in
our world where conflict and war
separate people from one another.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer to St Columba (p. 11)

St Columba,
pray for us!



LEADAN NAOIMH
CHALUIM CHILLE

LIODÁN NAOMH
COLM CILLE

A LITANY
OF ST COLUMBA

A Thighearna, dèan tròcair
oirnn
A Thighearna, dèan tròcair oirnn
A Chriosda, dèan tròcair oirnn
A Chriosda, dèan tròcair oirnn
A Thighearna, dèan tròcair oirnn
A Thighearna, dèan tròcair oirnn

A Chriosda, èist rinn
A Chriosda, gu gràsmhor èist rinn

A Dhia, 'Athair nam Flathas,
dèan tròcair oirnn
A Dhia, 'Mhic, Fhir-saoraidh
an t-saoghail
dèan tròcair oirnn
A Dhia, '
Spioraid Naoimh,
dèan tròcair oirnn
A Thrianaid Naomh, Aon Dia,
dèan tròcair oirnn

A Naoimh Chalum Cille
guidh air ar son
A Naoimh Chalum Cille,
'Abstoil nan Èireannach
guidh air ar son
A Naoimh Chalum Cille,
'Abstoil nan Albannach
guidh air ar son

A Naoimh Chalum Cille,
a Chalmain an Tighearna
guidh air ar son
A Naoimh Chalum Cille,
a Chalmain na h-Eaglaise
guidh air ar son
A Naoimh Chalum Cille,
a Chalmain Rìoghail
guidh air ar son
A Naoimh Chalum Cille,
a Chalmain Eilein Ìdhe
guidh air ar son

A Thiarna, dèan trócaire orainn
A Thiarna, dèan trócaire orainn
A Chrìost, dèan trócaire orainn
A Chrìost, dèan trócaire orainn
A Thiarna, dèan trócaire orainn
A Thiarna, dèan trócaire orainn

A Chrìost, èist linn
A Chrìost, èist go ceansa linn

A Dhia, a Athair na bhFlaitheas
dèan trócaire orainn
A Dhia, a Mhic, a Shlànaitheoir
an domahin
dèan trócaire orainn
A Dhia, a Spioraid Naoimh
dèan trócaire orainn
A Thrìonóid Naofa,
a Aon Dia amháin
dèan trócaire orainn

A Naomh Colm Cille
guigh ar ár son
A Naomh Colm Cille,
a Aspal na nÈireannach
guigh ar ár son
A Naomh Colm Cille,
a Aspal na nAlbanach
guigh ar ár son

A Naomh Colm Cille,
a Cholm an Tiarna
guigh ar ár son
A Naomh Colm Cille,
a Cholm na hEaglaise
guigh ar ár son
A Naomh Colm Cille, a Cholm Ríoga
guigh ar ár son
A Naomh Colm Cille,
a Cholm Oileán Í
guigh ar ár son

Lord have mercy on us
Lord have mercy on us
Christ, have mercy on us
Christ, have mercy on us
Lord, have mercy on us
Lord, have mercy on us

Christ, hear us
Christ graciously hear us

God the Father of Heaven,
have mercy on us
God the Son,
Redeemer of the World
have mercy on us
God the Holy Spirit
have mercy on us.
Holy Trinity, One God
have mercy on us.

St Columba
pray for us
St Columba, Apostle of the Irish
pray for us
St Columba, Apostle of the Scots
pray for us

St Columba, Dove of the Lord
pray for us
St Columba, Dove of the Church
pray for us
St Columba, Royal Dove
pray for us
St Columba, Dove of Iona
pray for us