

Colm Cille 1500 Leabharliosta

Colmcille 1500 Bibliography



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

**COLM
CILLE**
1500 521 - 2021



Cross pillar associated with Turas Colmcille,
Glencolmcille Courtesy of Abarta Heritage



Disert
Courtesy of Donegal County Council



Map of Columban sites in Donegal and Derry (Audit of Columban Cultural Heritage), Map of Columban sites in Donegal and Derry (Audit of Columban Cultural Heritage)

Colm Cille - Beathaisnéis

Tá Naomh Colm Cille (tugtar Naomh Columba air chomh maith) ar cheann de naomhphátrúin na hÉireann, teideal a luaitear le Naomh Pádraig agus le Naomh Bríd. Rugadh Colm Cille i nGartán, Co. Dhún na nGall ar an 7 Nollaig, in 520/521 A.D. agus fuair sé bás ar Í, oileán ar chósta na hAlban, ar an 9 Meitheamh, 597 A.D. Déantar a lá féile a cheiliúradh ar an dáta seo achan bhliain.

Deirtear gur mac garpháiste de Rí Niall Naoighiallach a bhí in athair Cholm Cille, agus gur iníon Rí Laighean a bhí ina mháthair.

Chuir Cruithneachán oideachas ar Cholm Cille i gCill Mhíic Réanáin, Co. Dhún na nGall agus ina dhiaidh sin chuir Naomh Fionán oideachas air ina scoil mhainistreach i Maigh Bhíle, Co. an Dúin. Chuaigh Colm Cille ón áit sin go dtí mainistir Chluain Iolaird i gContae na Mí.

Thart ar an mbliain 545 A.D., deirtear gur bhunaigh Colm Cille mainistir i nDoire, ar thalamh a bhronn Rí Aodh air. Chuaigh sé ar aghaidh le breis is 60 mainistir agus séipéal a bhunú in Éirinn.



*Painting of Colmcille
St. Eunan's Cathedral,
Letterkenny.*

Baineann imeacht Cholm Cille ó Éirinn in 563 A.D. le cuairt a thug sé ar Naomh Fionán, más fíor. De réir tuairisce, tháinig Colm Cille ar chóip de na Saim agus rinne sé iarracht an téacs a chóipeáil faoi rún. Agus í críochnaithe aige, mhaígh Fionán gur leis-sean an chóip. Bhí Colm Cille ar buile agus thug sé an cas a fhad le Diarmaid Mac Cearbhaill, Ardri na Teamhrach.

Bhí breith an Ardrí i bhfabhar Fhionáin, agus dúirt sé ina bhreithiúnas cáiliúil *“Le gach boin a boinín, le gach leabhar a leabhrán”, nó “le gach bó a lao, le gach leabhar a chóip”*.

Tháinig dream daoine le chéile i gcoinne an Ardrí, Diarmaid, agus fuarthas an ceann is fearr air i gCath Cúil Dreimhne, i gContae Shligigh. Tuairiscíodh gur maraíodh breis is 3,000 gaiscíoch sa chath seo. D’fhág Colm Cille a thír dhúchais mar ghníomh aithrí.

Agus é *“ag iarraidh a bheith mar oilithreach de chuid Chríost”,* d’ardaigh Colm Cille agus dháréag dá lucht leanúna a seolta agus thug siad a n-aghaidh ar an mBreatain in 563 A.D. Tháinig siad i dtír ar oileán Í. Is anseo a bhunaigh sé a mhainistir ba cháiliúla. Bhain paidreoireacht, staidéar agus obair fhisiciúil i dtaca e riachtanais bhaile na lonnaíochta leis an saol ar oileán Í. Ansin bunaíodh mainistreacha eile ar oileáin eile ar Inse Ghall. Deirtear gur thaistil Colm Cille ar fud mhórhí na hAlban. Chuaigh sé ar turas chuig dúiche na gCruithneach cúpla uair, le cuairt ar an rí págánach, Brude, i measc na dturas seo.

Tá cuimhne ar Cholm Cille fós de bharr a thairngreachtaí, a nathanna cainte agus a mhíorúiltí. Baineann Ollphéist Loch Nis, an ollphéist mhiotasach, le ceann de na míorúiltí. Tháinig Colm Cille agus a lucht leanúna ar ‘bheithíoch uisce’ agus iad ag trasnú Loch Nis. Nuair a rinne an beithíoch iarracht duine de lucht leanúna Cholm Cille a ionsaí, thug Colm Cille ordú dó cúlú agus theith an beithíoch le heagla. Bhí ionadh ar na Cruithnigh a chonaic é seo agus d’iompáigh siad ar an gCríostaíocht. Is é seo an chéad radharc den ainmhí finscéalach a taifeadadh.

D’fhill Colm Cille ar Éirinn roinnt uaireanta tar éis dó imeacht go hoileán Í. Bhí an chuairt a thug sé ar Chomhdháil Droim Ceat, gar do Léim an Mhadaidh c.590 A.D. ar an gcuairt ba shuntasá a thug sé ar Éirinn.

Chaith Colm Cille formhór dheireadh a shaoil ar oileán Í. Tugann *Life of Columba* le hAdhamhnán cur síos mionsonraithe ar an tréimhse go dtí bás Cholm Cille agus lá a bháis san áireamh. Ar an lá sula bhfuair sé bás, deirtear gur bheannaigh Colm Cille

oileán Í agus gur chuir sé tús le cóip den tSaltair a scríobh, agus gur stop sé roimh an 33ú Salm. Cúpla nóiméad tar éis meán oíche ar an 9 Meitheamh, 597 A.D. fuair Colm Cille bás ag an séipéal ar oileán Í, agus manaigh eile an oileáin thart air. Cuirtear in iúl go minic gur ar oileán Í a cuireadh Colm Cille. Tugann roinnt téacsanna meánaoiseacha le fios, áfach, gur cuireadh le Naomh Pádraig agus Naomh Bríd é i nDún Phádraig.

Ba phearsa é ar bhain tábhacht leis san eaglais, sa pholaitíocht, sa litríocht agus sa chultúr in Éirinn agus sa Bhreatain araon. I measc na lámhscríbhinní a raibh baint ag Colm Cille leo tá Leabhar Cheanannais, Leabhar Dharú agus An Cathach. De réir tuairisce, tá an Cathach, leabhar salm, ar an lámhscríbhinn is sine de bhunús na hÉireann a mhaireann fós, agus maítear gur scríobh agus gur mhaisigh Colm Cille é. Creidtear gur thug sliocht Cholm Cille, clann Uí Dhónaill, an lámhscríbhinn leo agus iad ag dul chun catha, agus tugtar Leabhar Catha Uí Dhónaill air dá bharr sin.

Baineann ardchrosa agus ábhair mhiotalacha le cultúr ábhartha Cholm Cille. I measc na n-ábhar mhiotalach tá Taiseagán Monymusk agus Scrín an Chathaigh. Leanann roinnt de na hoilithreachtaí a bhaineann leis an naomh ar aghaidh fós, i mBaile an Teampaill, gar do Ghartán agus i nGleann Cholm Cille. Déantar an ceann seo ar an 9 Meitheamh, lá féile an Naoimh. Tá oileán Í ina shuíomh oilithreachta go dtí an lá inniu.

Chuir Colm Cille agus a chomharbaí le forbairt na gluaiseachta manachúla in Éirinn agus sa Bhreatain araon. I measc na suíomhanna tá Oileán Thóraí, Sord, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath agus Scone in Albain. Luaitear ainm Cholm Cille le roinnt séipéal, suíomhanna agus áiteanna i nDún na nGall, i nDoire agus níos faide i gcéin.

Le déanaí coinníodh oidhrecht chultúrtha agus teanga Cholm Cille beo trí fhoilseacháin a bhfuil fáil orthu i roinnt áiteanna, agus trí thograí. Tá foilseachán thairngreachtaí Cholm Cille agus Bailiúchan na Scol de chuid Choimisiún Béaloidéasa

Éireann ar na foilseacháin is spéisiúla. Bhain 267 píosa béaloidis a bailíodh i mBailiúchán na Scol le Colm Cille, agus dá réir sin, tá an Naomh ina phearsa chomhroinnte a bhfuil eolas ag an bpobal ar fad air .

Tá roinnt tionscadal agus imeachtaí beartaithe ag Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall agus Comhairle Chathair Dhoire agus Cheantar an tSratha Báin le ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar an gcomóradh 1500 bliain ó shaolú Naomh Cholm Cille, idir an 7 Nollaig 2020 agus an 7 Nollaig 2021. Tá an leabharliosta áirithe seo de theidil a bhaineann le Colm Cille ar cheann de na tograí, atá sa chnuasach Staidéar ar Dhún na Gall atá sa Lárleabharlann i Leitir Ceanainn. Tá scéal agus oidhreacht Cholm Cille, a bhí ar cheann de na fir ba cháiliúla de chuid Dhún na nGall, ar fáil sa chnuasach bríomhar ilghnéitheach seo, atá ag fás fós le foilseachán teidil nua



Colmcille Bibliography

Saint Colmcille, also known as Saint Columba, is one of Ireland's patron saints, a distinction shared with Saint Patrick and Saint Bridget. Colmcille was born in Gartan, Co. Donegal on December 7th, 521 A.D. or 520 A.D. and died on Iona, an island off the Scottish coast, on June 9th, 597 A.D. His feast day is celebrated on this date each year.

It is said that Colmcille's father was a great grandson of King Niall of the Nine Hostages and his mother a daughter of the King of Leinster.

Colmcille was educated in Kilmacrennan, Co. Donegal by Cruitnechan and later by St. Finnian in his monastic school in Movilla, Co. Down. From here he went to Clonard monastery in Co, Meath.

Around 545 A.D., Colmcille is said to have founded a monastery at Doire, or Derry, on land granted to him by King Aed. He went on to found over 60 monasteries and churches in Ireland.

Colmcille's departure from Ireland in 563 A.D. supposedly has its origins in a visit to St. Finnian. Colmcille reportedly discovered a copy of the Psalms and set about secretly copying the text. Upon its completion Finnian declared ownership over the copy. An enraged Colmcille referred the matter to Diarmait mac Cerbaill, the high-king at Tara, who decreed in favour of Finnian with the famous judgment: "*Le gach boin a boinín, le gach leabhar a leabhrán*" - To every cow its calf, to every book its copy!



Painting of Colmcille
St. Eunan's Cathedral,
Letterkenny.

Succeeding events culminated in an alliance being formed against Diarmait which resulted in his defeat at the Battle of Cúl Dreimhne in Co. Sligo. Over 3,000 warriors were reported to have been killed in this battle. As a penance Colmcille left the land of his birth.

'Wishing to become a pilgrim of Christ', Colmcille along with twelve followers set sail for Britain in 563 A.D. and landed on the island of Iona. It was here that he formed his most famous monastery. Life on Iona would have consisted of prayer, study and physical work connected with the domestic needs of the settlement. From there monasteries were established on other islands in the Hebrides, and Colmcille reportedly travelled widely on the Scottish mainland. He also made a number of excursions into the territory of the Picts, including a visit to the pagan King Brude.

Colmcille is still remembered for his predictions, sayings, and miracles. One of the miracles features the fabled Loch Ness Monster. Colmcille and his followers encountered a 'water beast' when crossing the river Ness. When the monster attempted to attack one of his followers, Colmcille ordered it to retreat and the monster fled in fear. All the Picts who witnessed this act were amazed and converted to Christianity. It is also the first recorded sighting of the legendary creature.

Colmcille returned to Ireland on several occasions after his exile to Iona. The most noteworthy was for the Convention of Drum Ceat, c.590 A.D., near Limavady.

Colmcille's final years were primarily spent on Iona. Adomnán's *Life of Columba* provides a detailed account of the period up to, and including his death. On the day before his death it is said that Colmcille blessed Iona and commenced writing a copy of the Psalter, before stopping at the thirty-third Psalm. A

few moments after midnight on 9th June, 597 A.D. Colmcille, surrounded by his brother monks, passed away at the church on Iona. The traditional burial place of Colmcille has long been pointed out on Iona. However, some medieval texts suggest that his final resting place was amongst Saint Patrick and Saint Bridget at Downpatrick.

Colmcille has become a figure of ecclesiastical, political, literary and culture significance in Ireland and Britain. Manuscripts such as the *Book of Durrow*, the *Book of Kells* and the *Cathach* all have Columban associations. The *Cathach*, a book of psalms, is said to be the oldest surviving manuscript of Irish origin and is reputed to have been written and decorated by the saint. Traditionally the book is said to have been carried by Colmcille's descendents, the O'Donnell clan, into battle and has been referred to as the Battle Book of the O'Donnells.

Columban material culture includes high crosses and metallic objects, such as the Monymusk Reliquary and the Shrine of the Cathach. Many of the established pilgrimages, or *turas*, connected with the saint continue today, including Churchtown near Gartan, and Glencolmcille, which is principally undertaken on the saint's feast day, June 9th. Iona continues to be a site of pilgrimage to this day.

Both Colmcille and his successors contributed to the development of the monastic movement in Ireland and Britain. Sites include; Tory Island, Swords and Scone in Scotland. Today numerous churches, sites and places across Donegal, Derry/Londonderry and further afield continue to bare Colmcille's name.

In recent times, much of Colmcille's cultural and linguistic legacy has been kept alive with more widely available publications and initiatives. Of particular noteworthiness was the publication of Colmcille's prophecies and the Irish Folklore Commission's Schools' Folklore Collection which saw 267 pieces of folklore relating to Colmcille collected and

documented. As a result, Colmcille has become a figure of shared ownership and embedded in public consciousness.

Donegal County Council, along with Derry City and Strabane District Council, have a series of projects and events planned to commemorate the 1500th anniversary of the birth of St. Colmcille between December 7th, 2020 and December 7th, 2021. One of the initiatives is this select bibliography of titles relating to Colmcille held by Donegal County Library in the Donegal Studies Collection in Central Library Letterkenny. This collection reflects the history and heritage of County Donegal and preserves it for future generations. The story and legacy of one of Donegal's most famous sons is accessible to all through this dynamic and diverse collection which continues to grow with the publication of new titles.



*Disert
Courtesy of Donegal County Council*



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Courtesy of Donegal County Council*

Colm Cille 1500 - Leabharliosta

Colmcille 1500 - Bibliography

Tá liosta leabhar a bhaineann le Naomh Colm Cille/Columba ar fáil ag an Lárleabharlann i Leitir Ceanainn.
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