

## June Calendar and Feast Days 2024

June 1: St Justin

June 2: Corpus Christi (The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ)

This feast recalls the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

June 3: St Kevin

June 7: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

June 8: The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

June 9: Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 10: St. Columba

June 13: St Anthony

June 16: The Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 24: The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

June 25: 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 29: Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

## St Kevin



St. Kevin founded the monastery of Glendalough in the 6<sup>th</sup> century. Kevin was born in 498 into a noble family living in what is now West Wicklow.

He studied for the priesthood in Cill na Manach (Kilnamanagh) and after being ordained set out to find his calling.

St. Kevin came to Glendalough to follow his dream, which was to find God in solitude and prayer. He chose to live by the shore of the upper lake, taking for his hermitage an artificial cave on the south side of the lake about 30 feet above the water, which was originally a Bronze Age tomb. This was St. Kevin's Bed, which can be seen today from the north shore of the lake.

Kevin lived the life of a hermit in his cave for seven years. The legends and stories handed down to us highlight his significant personal qualities. Primary among these was his love of nature and deep respect for all created things. It seems he had an extraordinary closeness to nature and found his companions in the animals and birds around him. Legend also tells us he led a very simple life, wearing only animal skins, sleeping on stones and eating very sparingly.

Kevin soon became known as a holy man and others came to Glendalough to seek his advice, to be healed and to follow his way of life. Gradually, small monastic communities were established, including a walled settlement near the lakeshore now called Reefert Church.

Kevin's fame as a teacher and holy man spread everywhere. Over time, the monastic settlement at Glendalough grew to become one of the great spiritual centres of Christianity in Ireland, flourishing for a thousand years after St. Kevin's death.

Kevin's story is often referred to as a journey from solitude to community.

The Feast Day of St. Kevin, who brought Christianity to Glendalough, is celebrated on 3rd June. He is one of the Patron Saints of the Archdiocese of Dublin.



*St Kevin, man of prayer*

Help us to imitate you by making stillness and silence a priority in our lives

*St Kevin, man of service*

Help us to imitate you by never holding back on helping others

*St Kevin, upholding creation*

Help us to imitate you by showing reverence to even the smallest of creatures

*St Kevin, man of inspiration*

Help us to imitate you by listening to the promptings of the Spirit deep inside us

*St Kevin, patron of Dublin*

Help every person in our Archdiocese to hear a call to service and to stretch out their arms in kindness and compassion

## The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Devotion to Jesus' Sacred Heart is a celebration of the reign of Christ's infinite love. Sharing the love of Christ this month might include doing acts of kindness for friends or family members, spending extra time in prayer, or helping someone in need.

Let us pray:

***O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.***

## St Columba

Why is St Columba important?



Saint Columba (7 December 521 – 9 June 597) was an Irish abbot and missionary credited with spreading Christianity in present-day Scotland. He founded an important abbey on Iona, which became a dominant religious and political institution in the region for centuries. He is the Patron Saint of Derry.

## *Prayer for the End of the School Year*

*At the end of this school year, we give thanks to you, O God:  
For all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our school,  
For the talents and gifts that have been shared and  
The challenges that have been faced;  
For the burdens that have been lifted and the hurts that have been healed;  
For the respect and care that has been given.  
We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun  
And for those that have grown.  
For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles,  
For the hope that has lifted our hearts on the dark days  
And for the love that has kept us going.  
We give thanks for the community that we are and as we come to the end of this school year,  
We ask you Lord to bless our pupils and all the members of our school community.  
May your Spirit lead us and guide us  
And may we know that you are always with us.  
Bless our families as we take our holidays and may we all remain safe.  
Pour out your love on us that we may return renewed and refreshed  
To continue our journey together.  
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen*