

HIDDEN FIGURES

SHARE

Can you think of someone who has done great things for Christ? What did they do? Why is this such a great thing?

SEEK

Saint Columba of Iona

Saint Columba of Iona (521-597AD) is credited as the missionary that converted Scotland to Christianity. This would seem unlikely if you knew Columba before his conversion; he was a nobleman and soldier known for his anger. But after feeling so much remorse for creating a battle that costed many lives, he made a vow to convert as many pagans as possible, at least as many deaths as he had caused. He eventually became known as the “Dove” for his love and gentleness.

He set off with twelve disciples who formed a curriculum of teaching and practice. Their goal: to create strong and patient missionaries. This group was known to be strong and patient themselves. They saw the Trinity not simply as a doctrine of the past, but as a foundation for the present. They saw God in and through all things, and subjected all things to Him. They sang, drank, danced, and loved the arts. They welcomed everyone into their homes.

Most famously known was the “sending off” of other missionaries from Columba’s community. When someone believed they were ready to reach the lost, after years of learning and habit forming, they would be placed in a circular wicker basket and placed in the sea without oars. A prayer was said that God would send them wherever He wanted them to spread the Gospel, and these missionaries trusted God.

SEE

SAINT COLUMBA OF IONA

TAKE A LOOK AT MARK 5.1-20. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF COLUMBA'S CONVERSION FROM A MAN OF ANGER TO A MAN KNOWN AS THE "DOVE"? WHAT SIMILARITIES DO YOU SEE IN THE DEMON POSSESSED MAN IN MARK 5? WHAT KINDS OF TRANSFORMATION HAVE YOU NOTICED IN YOUR OWN LIFE OR THE LIVES OF OTHERS?

WHAT IS THE TRINITY? DO YOU HEAR MUCH ABOUT THE TRINITY? IS THIS DOCTRINE IMPORTANT? WHY OR WHY NOT?

TAKE A LOOK AT LUKE 9.1-6. WHAT SIMILARITIES DO YOU SEE BETWEEN JESUS' SENDING OFF OF HIS FOLLOWERS AND SAINT COLUMBA'S SENDING OFF OF HIS FOLLOWERS?

DO YOU PRAY THAT GOD SENDS YOU WHERE HE WANTS? DO YOU PRAY THAT GOD LEADS YOU TO PEOPLE, OR LEADS PEOPLE TO YOU, IN ORDER THAT YOU MIGHT SHARE THE GOOD NEWS WITH THEM? WHY OR WHY NOT? IS THIS AN INTIMIDATING PRAYER? HOW MIGHT WE GET TO THE BOLDNESS OF SAINT COLUMBA?

Please take a few moments to pray with and for one another