



Celtic Cross of Iona

## Christian Education Bulletin Insert

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June 9, St Columba of Iona (c. 521-597)

Columba was an Irish nobleman who became a monk. He founded several monasteries, but around 563, he and twelve friends left Ireland to found another one on an island off SW Scotland. Columba is said to have been able to work miracles. For example, he could tell when the monks had made spelling mistakes in their writing without even reading it, he could make bitter fruit taste good and he is said to have increased the size of a small herd of cattle from 5 to 105. Columba taught many people about Jesus and Iona became a place where people could travel for advice and help. The monks lived in individual conical shaped huts made from mud and reeds. They spent a lot of time praying. Children might make their own summer prayer hide-a-ways from chairs and blankets. Have a flashlight and Children's Bible in the 'hut.' This prayer is said to have come from the community of Iona. Copy it out and decorate your page.

Deep peace of the running wave to you.  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.  
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.  
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you. Amen.

## Art Ideas and More on a Web Site

Try this site for masses of art ideas, interactive children's games, printable activity pages and travel ideas - also printable. [www.crayola.com](http://www.crayola.com) It is not a specifically Christian site, but family oriented with parents' pages as well as the kids' stuff. It is well worth accessing for the travel ideas alone.

## June 11, St. Barnabas

In the Acts of the Apostles, St Luke calls Barnabas an apostle, but he was not one of the 12 Jesus first called. He was born on the island of Cyprus. Try to find this Mediterranean island on a map.

When Barnabas became a Christian he sold all he owned and gave it to the apostles to use in their work. He convinced the apostle Peter that Paul's conversion was genuine, and asked Paul to work with him to tell the people of Antioch about Jesus. Later, he and Paul set out on a long missionary journey, Paul's first. Using the scale on the map, try to find out how far they travelled. (Acts 13 and 14) See if you can obtain a book which describes travel in Jesus' time. (The New Manners and Customs of Bible Times (student ed) by Ralph Gower, Moody, ISBN 0802463347 has good information) How long would it take to travel the distance in Barnabas and Paul's time? How long would it take today? What do you take with you when you go on a trip? What would Paul and Barnabas have needed to take?

## July and August

Find out about these saints. Maybe you could make a book about them with a page for each one.

July 3 St Thomas  
July 11 St Benedict  
July 15 St Swithin (Did it rain today? What is the legend about St Swithin's Day?)  
July 22 St Mary Magdalene  
July 25 St James the Great  
August 24 St Bartholomew

## For Fun

Jason: Dad, can you write in the dark?  
Father: I think so. What do you want me to write?  
Jason: Your name on this report card.