

# St Finnian of Movilla in the Ards

*Down diocese, 579  
10th September*

## The Gathering of God's People

### THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### SENTENCE

My soul's desire is to see the face of God, and to rest in his house.

*St Columba*

### INTRODUCTION

Finnian was educated at the abbey of Nendrum on Mahee island on Strangford Lough. After spending twenty years in Scotland as student and missionary he came to Movilla (5 miles from Bangor) to found his monastery. There is a tradition that the psalter called the *Cathach* ('the battle book'), now in the Royal Irish Academy, was one of Finnian's books. Some scholars say that Finnian introduced to Ireland its first copy of Jerome's Vulgate version of the scriptures. Several Finnians are associated with the famous story of Columba's secret copying of the manuscript without permission; the king's judgement against Columba was supposed to have led to his exile in Iona.

### OPENING PRAYER

Kindle in our hearts, O God,  
the flame of love that never ceases,  
that it may burn in us, giving light to others.  
May we shine for ever in your temple,  
set on fire with your eternal light,  
even your Son Jesus Christ,  
our saviour and redeemer. **Amen.**

*St Columba*

Lord Jesus,  
you call by name those who are yours:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you lead us in the right paths for your name's sake:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy**

Lord Jesus,  
you are the door of the sheepfold;  
those who enter by you will be saved:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God,  
you have knit together your elect  
in one communion and fellowship  
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:  
Grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints  
in all virtuous and godly living  
that we may come to those inexpressible joys  
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Proclaiming and Receiving the Word

### THE FIRST READING

*Isaiah 52: 7-10*

How beautiful upon the mountains of the feet of him who brings good tidings, who publishes peace, who brings good tidings of good, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Hark, your watchmen lift up their voice, together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sing to the Lord and bless his name;  
tell out his salvation from day to day.**

Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
Sing to the Lord and bless his name;  
tell out his salvation from day to day.  
Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples. *℟*

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.  
For all the gods of the nations are but idols;  
it is the Lord who made the heavens.  
Honour and majesty are before him;  
power and splendour are in his sanctuary. *℟*

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;  
ascribe to the Lord honour and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.  
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him. *℟*

THE SECOND READING  
*Romans 15: 17-21*

In Christ Jesus, then, I have reason to be proud of my work for God. For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has wrought through me to win obedience from the Gentiles, by word and deed, by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so that from Jerusalem and as far round as Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ, thus making it my ambition to preach the gospel, want where Christ has already been named, lest I build on another man's foundation, but as it is written "They shall see who have never been told of him, and they shall understand who have never heard of him."

This the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Go, make Disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
We will tell of his wonderful deeds  
and be glad and exult in him.  
Sing praise to the name of the Lord most high.  
We will tell of his wonderful deeds  
and be glad and exult in him.  
Sing praise to the Lord, who dwells in Zion.  
We will declare his deeds among the peoples.  
We will sing and be glad and rejoice in his holy name.

THE GOSPEL READING

*Luke 5: 1-11*

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ,  
according to St Luke chapter 5, beginning at verse 1.  
**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

While the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennersaret. And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he has ceased speaking he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when he had done this, they enclosed a great shoal to fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## The Prayers of the People

We give thanks and pray for the missionary societies (C.M.S., U.S., the Dublin University Missions in India and China and the Far East). We pray also for religious education in all schools and colleges, especially all education that develops mutual understanding between the different Christian traditions in this island.

Heavenly Father,  
your Son Jesus Christ prayed and taught the people  
in the hills above the Sea of Galilee;  
and you led Finnian to establish  
on the hill above Strangford Lough  
a place of prayer and learning:  
Help us to draw closer to you in prayer  
and by study of your word,  
and thereby equip us for the service of the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### INTRODUCTION TO THE PEACE

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God,  
through Christ our Lord,  
who came and preached peace to those who were far off  
and those who were near.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## Celebrating at the Lord's Table

### THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

God of our salvation,  
your love for the world is without end.  
May our participation in this our sacrifice of praise  
renew us in our dedication to your mission.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

*The priest takes the bread and cup*

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us  
**therefore let us celebrate the feast.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING  
*Eucharistic Prayer 2 With Extended Preface*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For this work your servant Finnian was set apart by the Spirit;  
in faith and obedience he went to peoples who knew you not  
and to serve you in work and prayer in his own land.  
You called him to be all things to everyone  
as a minister of your word,  
so that in your sight the others might also become  
a holy sacrifice, acceptable to you.

And so we join with all your saints  
to sing of your great story  
in this their joyful hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful Father, we thank you  
for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and this wine,  
and we pray that we who eat and drink them  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
in obedience to our Saviour Jesus Christ  
in remembrance of his death and passion  
may be partakers of his body and his blood,

who on the night he was betrayed took bread  
and when he had given you thanks  
he broke it, and gave it to his Disciples, saying,  
Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you;  
Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup,  
and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his Disciples, saying,  
Drink from this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Father, with this bread and this cup,  
we do as our Saviour has commanded:  
we celebrate the redemption he has won for us;  
we proclaim his perfect sacrifice,  
made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
and we look for his coming  
to fulfil all things according to your will.

**Christ has died;**

**Christ is risen;**

**Christ will come again.**

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom and in whom,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

*or*

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

Our Father, who art in heaven  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory  
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

They recognized the Lord, Alleluia;  
in the breaking of the loaf, Alleluia;

For the loaf that we break is the body  
of our Lord Jesus Christ, Alleluia;  
**The cup which we bless is the blood  
of our Lord Jesus Christ, Alleluia  
for the remission of our sins. Alleluia;**

O Lord, let your mercy come upon us, Alleluia;  
**in you O Lord have I put my trust. Alleluia.**

They recognized the Lord, Alleluia;  
**in the breaking of the loaf, Alleluia.**

*Lk 24:35 1 Cor 10:16-17; Mt 26:28 Ps 31:1 Stowe (9th c)*

### AGNUS DEI

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

*or*

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God,  
who has taken away the sins of the world.  
Happy are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

### THE COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**  
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

### THE GREAT SILENCE

## Going out as God's People

### PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, King of Saints,  
in the solemn roll call of your sons we name Finnian.  
Mould us,  
who have tasted your goodness at this table,  
to your perfection,  
so we may come as guests  
to the Royal banquet of your kingdom in heaven;  
where with the Father and the Son, you reign, for ever. **Amen.**

**Almighty God,**  
**we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food**  
**of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**  
**Through him we offer you our souls and bodies**  
**to be a living sacrifice.**  
**Send us out in the power of your Spirit**  
**to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

### DISMISSAL *The Blessing*

May the Three Who are over you,  
The Three Who are below you,  
The Three Who are above you here, The Three Who are above you yonder, The Three  
Who are in the earth,  
The Three Who are in the air,  
The Three Who are in heaven,  
The Three Who are in the great pouring sea  
-bless you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
Three in One and One in Three. **Amen.**      *Gaelic, amended*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**