

The Pilgrimage

Befriending a Saint

Learn their story.

Why were they canonized? What virtues were attributed to them? The best way to do this is to seek out a “Life of [insert saint’s name].” Most saints actually won’t have life-stories (hagiographies) written about them. However, we are fortunate that several of the saints connected with Lindisfarne and Iona *do* have hagiographies. Here are some bibliographic items:

Life of Saint Margaret Queen of Scotland by Bishop of St. Andrews, Turgot. (Hardpress: Miami, 2000?). [ISBN 9781407751504] This is one of those scanned and re-printed books which generally irritate me. It has the effect of reading a photo-copied book. But it’s cheap.

The Life and Wisdom of Margaret of Scotland written and compiled by Lavinia Byrne. I like this better than the one above.

Aidan, Bede, Cuthbert: Three Inspirational Saints, by David Adam

In Search of Columba by Leslie Whiteside

Columba by Ian Finlay

Columba Pilgrim & Penitent by Ian Bradley

Flame in my Heart: St. Aidan for Today by David Adam.

A Desert in the Ocean: The Spiritual Journey of St. Brendan the Navigator by David Adam.

Two Lives of St. Cuthbert by Bertram Colgrave. Again a re-print without typesetting.

Life of Saint Columba by Adomnan of Iona published by Penguin Classics. Good trans.!

Bede’s Life of Saint Cuthbert trans. by Simon Webb. Good translation of the original.

Ecclesiastical History of the English People by Bede. Penguin Classics. This has a lot of info about saints but you have to be willing to use the index to find the relevant passages.

Fire in the North: The life of Saint Cuthbert by David Adam.

ALL the David Adam books are good. Easy to read, accurate to the source materials, and effective at helping you get to know your saint-friend.

