

## In the Footsteps of the Celtic Saints: A Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne and Iona

Led by Frank Shirbroun and Teresa Di Biase

We invite you to journey with us to the sacred landscapes of Northern England and Scotland, following in the footsteps of our Celtic forebears who nourished the seed of Christianity in Britain. We will be pilgrims rather than tourists: our aim is not merely to see the sights but to open ourselves to the possibility of transformation. As pilgrims, we will take time for worship, prayer, and reflection; for food and fellowship and laughter; for exploration and for rest. If this invitation appeals to your sense of where you are in your own spiritual journey, join us on this pilgrimage,



**Teresa Di Biase** is an historian, university librarian, and spiritual director. She has published articles on a variety of little-known women in the arts and religious life and is a regular contributor to *Presence: the Journal of Spiritual Directors International*.

**Dr. Frank Shirbroun** was Professor of New Testament in Bloy House (Episcopal Theological Seminary at Claremont) for more than 17 years and continues to teach Adult Education classes in his retirement. With Celtic roots in Ireland and Wales, Frank and Teresa are experienced retreat and pilgrimage leaders, focusing especially on the Celtic saints and sacred sites of Britain, Ireland, and Brittany. They frequently share their understanding and appreciation of Celtic Christianity in adult education classes and retreats. Teresa and Frank are Benedictine Oblates and are interested in the intersection between Celtic Christianity and Benedictine spirituality.

### Preliminary Itinerary: September 11-23, 2016



Lindisfarne Priory

**Sunday, 11 Sep:** Pilgrims gather in the Arrivals Hall, Glasgow International Airport, at 10:00 am for coach transfer to Lindisfarne/Holy Island. Welcome and Introductions before dinner together. Overnight on Lindisfarne at Lindisfarne Hotel and Manor House Hotel.

**Monday, 12 Sep:** Morning prayer at St. Mary's. Visit Lindisfarne Heritage Centre to learn Holy Island's history followed by free time for exploration and lunch. Briefing on Celtic Christianity and the Northumbrian Saints—Aidan, Cuthbert, and Hilda—by the Rev. Canon Kate Tristram, local historian and authority on Celtic Christianity. Overnight on Lindisfarne at Lindisfarne Hotel and Manor House Hotel.



St. Mary's Lindisfarne

**Tuesday, 13 Sep:** Morning prayer at St. Mary's. Briefing introduction to Celtic Christianity. Free time to explore Holy Island/Lindisfarne. Overnight on Lindisfarne at Lindisfarne Hotel and Manor House Hotel.



Durham Cathedral

**Wednesday, 14 Sep:** Depart for Durham with Morning Prayer on the coach and with a stop at Hadrian's Wall. Guided tour by Senior Guide, Lillian Groves, of Durham Cathedral, including the shrine of St. Cuthbert, the tomb of the Venerable Bede, the Treasury and the Library. Overnight in Durham at Farnley Tower Hotel.



Whitby Abbey

**Thursday, 15 Sep:** Visit Whitby Abbey, the site of the double monastery of men and women founded and overseen by St. Hilda and the site of the Council of Whitby (664



Escomb Saxon Church

A.D.) where the decision was made to follow Roman Christianity rather than Celtic Christianity. Free time for lunch and exploration. Tour the 7<sup>th</sup> century Saxon Church, Escomb. Overnight Durham at Farnley Tower Hotel.

**Friday, 16 Sep:** Depart for Oban, Scotland, with Morning Prayer on the way. Visit the Kilmartin Museum and Temple Wood, Kilmartin Valley, which contains more than 300 prehistoric stone circles, standing stones, burial cairns, and rock carvings. Nearby is Dunadd hill fort, where it is believed the Scottish kings were crowned, perhaps even one by St. Columba of Iona. Overnight in Oban at Royal Hotel.



Kilmartin

**Saturday, 17 Sep:** Free time to explore Oban and lunch before our 1:00 pm ferry departure to Craignure and bus across the island of Mull to Fionnphort for the ferry to the Holy Island of Iona. Evening Prayer with the Iona Community in the Abbey Church. Overnight on Iona at the Argyll Hotel.

**Sunday, 18 Sep:** Morning Eucharist with the Iona Community in the Abbey Church and meet members of the Iona Community. Lunch and free time for exploration. Briefing on St. Columba and the founding of the Iona monastic community. Overnight on Iona at the Argyll Hotel.



Iona Abbey

**Monday, 19 Sep:** Morning Prayer with the Iona Community. Self-guided tour of Iona Abbey and grounds, including St. Michael's Chapel, Columba's Cell, Tor Abb [Hill of the Abbott, site of St. Columba's Hermitage], St. Oran's Chapel and Reilig Oran [Sacred Burial Place of Kings]. Lunch and free time for exploration. Briefing on Columba and the spirituality of the Iona monastic community. Evening Prayer at the Abbey Church. Overnight on Iona at the Argyll Hotel.



Iona Pilgrimage Walk

**Tuesday, 20 Sep:** Morning Prayer with the Iona Community. Pilgrimage walk to St. Columba's Bay, where tradition says St. Columba arrived in his coracle from Ireland. Evening Prayer at the Abbey Church. Overnight at the Argyll Hotel. Optional boat trip at your own expense today or tomorrow to nearby island of Staffa and Fingal's cave, which inspired Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture*.

**Wednesday, 21 Sep:** Morning Prayer with the Iona Community in the Abbey Church. Pilgrimage around Iona with Iona Community (optional). Lunch and free time for exploration. Farewell Eucharist in St. Michael's Chapel. Evening Prayer at the Abbey Church. Overnight on Iona at the Argyll Hotel.

**Thursday, 22 Sep:** Depart Iona for Fionnphort and on to Glasgow. Pilgrimage closure and Farewell dinner. Overnight Holiday Inn Glasgow Airport Hotel.



Labyrinth at Columba's Bay

**Friday, 23 Sep:** Glasgow Airport Departures.

Cost of the 12 day pilgrimage is \$3850.00 per person, which includes lodging, breakfast and dinner for each day, transportation and all entry fees. It does not include flights to and from the UK, lunches or gratuities. There will be a supplemental charge of \$420.00 to have your own room. We will visit all sites via coach with walking at each site as needed. The current itinerary is subject to change depending on local conditions. For more information, please contact [blothouse@cst.org](mailto:blothouse@cst.org) or call 909-621-2419.



Columba window, Iona Abbey