# **Trinity Sunday**

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us, your servants, grace, by the confession of a true faith to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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### Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton, Bishop, Apostle of Germany, Martyr 754

God our redeemer, who called your servant Boniface to preach the gospel among the German people and to build up your Church in holiness: grant that we may preserve in our hearts that faith which he taught with his words and sealed with his blood, and profess it in lives dedicated to your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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#### 5 June

#### **Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton Bishop, Apostle of Germany, Martyr**

Born in Crediton in Devon in about the year 675, Wynfrith took the name Boniface when he entered the monastery in Exeter as a young man. He became a Latin scholar and poet and was ordained when he was thirty years old. He rejected a safe ecclesiastical career in England and, in the year 716, became a missionary to Frisia, following in the steps of Willibrord. He eventually was commissioned by the Pope to work in Hesse and Bavaria where he went after consecration as Bishop in the year 722. He courageously felled a sacred oak at Geismar and, since the pagan gods did not come to the rescue, widespread conversion followed. He was the founder of a string of monasteries across southern Germany and made sure that they were places of learning, so that evangelisation could continue. He was made Archbishop of Mainz in the year 732, where he consecrated many missionary Bishops. He worked assiduously for the reform of the Church in France and managed to ensure that the more stable Rule of St Benedict was adhered to in her monasteries. He crowned Pepin as the Frankish King in 751 but was already very old. While waiting for some new Christians to arrive for confirmation, he was murdered by a band of pagans on this day in the year 754. He has been judged as having a deeper influence on European history than any other Englishman.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'

## **Corpus Christi**

#### Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament, you have given us the memorial of your passion: grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood, that we may know within ourselves and show forth in our lives, the fruits of your redemption; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

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# Columba Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597

Almighty God, who filled the heart of Columba with the joy of the Holy Spirit and with deep love for those in his care: may your pilgrim people follow him, strong in faith, sustained by hope, and one in the love that binds us to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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#### 9 June

#### **Columba (Columcille) Abbot of Iona, Missionary**

Born a son of the royal house of Ulster at Kilcrennan in Donegal in about the year 521, Colum, whose name means 'dove', had such a devotion to the things of God as a child that he was nicknamed 'Columcille' – dove of the Church. Columba was trained as a monk by Finnian and then founded several monasteries himself, including probably that of Kells, before leaving Ireland to settle on Iona, off the coast of Scotland. He was accompanied by twelve companions and the number grew as the monastic life became more established and well-known. Columba seems to have been an austere and, at times, a harsh man who reputedly mellowed with age. He was concerned with building up both the monastery and its life and of enabling them to be instruments of mission in a heathen land. He converted Kings and built churches, Iona becoming a starting point for the expansion of Christianity throughout Scotland. In the last four years of his life, when his health had failed, he spent the time transcribing books of the gospels for them to be taken out and used. He died on this day in the year 597.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'