

## THE CELTIC CHURCH—CHRONOLOGY<sup>1</sup>

- 320 B.C. Aristotle's De Mundo. Mentioned Britain (Albion).  
55 Julius Caesar in Britain.  
54 Caesar withdraws from Britain.  
27 Augustus Emperor.
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- 36 A.D. Christianity introduced to Britain by St. Joseph of Arimathaea (?).  
44 Claudius, Emperor of Rome came to Britain.  
56 Further evidence of Christianity in Britain.  
61 Suetonius in Britain.  
65 Roman soldiers hear of Caledonian Britons, of the Caledonian Forest, Ocean, and Promontory.  
76 St. Joseph of Arimathaea dies and is buried at Ynys Avalon (Glastonbury).  
78 Agricola sent to Britain as governor; reaches the Solway.  
79 Present day Scottish border crossed by Julius Agricola.  
80 Tribes of Caledonia defeated by Romans. Roman expansion in Britain greatest.  
81 Agricola devotes summer to strengthen his conquests and builds defenses.  
82 Agricola intends to invade Ireland.  
83-84 Tacitus writes of inhabitants of Britain.  
86 (84) Agricola meets Scottish chieftain, Galgacus, near Dunkeld; first recorded Scottish battle; Romans won.  
96 Suetonius Beatus died at Underseven; founder of Helvetian Church.  
110 Mansuetus martyred in Illyria.  
120 Ptolemy's map of Britain; Hadrian built his Wall from Solway to Tyne.  
138 Hadrian died.  
140 Antonine Wall is built.  
139 (144) Lollius Urbicus sent to Britain by Antoninus Pius to subdue tribes which broke Hadrian's Wall.  
162 Antoninus died.

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<sup>1</sup>Sources given at the end of Chronology.

- 180 Commodus had trouble with Britons.
- 182 Wall breached by Scots; Marcellus Ulpus arrived from Rome to restore order which he did by 184.
- 193 Lucius Septimius Severus tried to reduce Britain; entered Caledonia.
- 200 Tertullian wrote of Roman Britain.
- 201 Maeatae (Celtic, Magh), a nation, near the Highland line, appeared.
- 203 Fordun says “. . . Scots began to embrace the Catholic faith.”
- 208 Emperor Severus with sons Geta and Antoninus, come to Britain to head state; Tertullian makes mention of the Christian Church in Britain.
- 211 Severus died at York (Eboracum).
- 239 Origen mentioned Christian Church in Britain.
- 297 Picts first mentioned by Roman orator, Eumenius.
- 293 Christian persecution by Diocletian in Britain.
- 306 Constantius Chlorus, British leader, father of Constantine The Great.
- 310 St. Hilary of Poitiers born in Aquitaine.
- 314 Council of Arles; three British Bishops present.
- 316 St. Martin of Tours born in Steinamanger, Hungary; student of St. Hilary.
- 324 Christianity became official religion of Roman Empire.
- 325 Council of Nicaea. Athanasius, a fearless scholar, condemned views of Arius; a teacher of St. Hilary.
- 353 St. Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers (353-367); wrote, 358, while banished, “De Synodis.” He taught St. Martin of Tours (316-397).
- 360 St. Ninian (St. Ringan) born in Scotland; some give 350.
- 368 Atacotti tribe appeared in Britain.
- 367 Emperor Valentinian sent Theodosius to Britain.
- 368 St. Hilary died. Theodosius arrived in Britain; entered London in triumph, restored cities, fortresses, established stations and out-posts.
- 369 St. Rule (St. Regulus) arrived with relics of St. Andrew in Fife.
- 370 Theodosius restored northern wall which Severus united the Tyne and Solway.
- 380 Clemens Maximum victorious over Scots and Picts.
- 381 Pelagianism in the Church.
- 384 Picts and Scots troubled Roman settlements.
- 397 St. Martin of Tours died; St. Ninian built Candida Casa, Whithorn, Wigtownshire.
- 399 (372) St. Patrick born near Dumbarton on the Clyde; others give 376, 386, and 389.
- 400 Stilicho drove back new waves of Picts and Scots.
- 406 Stilicho had success against Picts and Scots.
- 407 Roman legions began withdrawals from Britain.

- 409 Maximus died in Gaul.
- 410 Picts and Scots began to trample Romans; Alaric the Goth sacked Rome.
- 423 Romans began further withdrawal from Britain.
- 431 St. Palladius sent by Celestinus, Bishop of Rome, to evangelise Ireland (Scots living there then). St. Ternan died June 12, Bishop of Picts, born in Ireland of noble birth.
- 432 St. Ninian died September 16; St. Patrick began his evangelisation in Ireland.
- 448 Germanus died.
- 449 Coming of Saxons to Britain; some say as early as 374.
- 450 Britons asked aid of Saxons to throw out Romans. St. Bridget (Bride) born at Fochart near Dundalk; she founded nunnery of Kildare.
- 451 Drust, son of Erp, early Pictish leader. Goths and Romans defeat Attila the Hun at Chalons-sur-Saone.
- 455 Vandals sack Rome. Council of Chalcedon.
- 457-481 Nectan Morbet's rule; built Church at Abernethy.
- 461 (493) St. Patrick died March 17.
- 463 Bishop Hilarius of Rome introduced date of Easter, unacceptable to Celtic Church.
- 470 Cairnech (Caronoc), disciple of St. Ninian, died May 16 at Dunlane; born in Cardigan, Wales, and succeeded to principalship at the Missionary College at Candida Casa.
- 496 Mochaoi died June 23; poet, physician, and scholar, founder of Church and school at Nendrum.
- 501 Death of Fergus.
- 502 Irish-Scot invasion of Dalria.
- 514 (518) St. Kentigern (St. Mungo) born; a pupil of St. Serf of Culross.
- 516 St. Gildas of Wales born.
- 517 St. Cainneach (Kenneth) born; contemporary of St. Columba.
- 521 (518) St. Columba born at Gartan, Barony of Kilmacrenan, County Donegal; others give 522.
- 525 St. Bridget died; some give December 7, 519.
- 543 St. Columbanus born in Leinster.
- 555 Colum of Ela born; contemporary of St. Columba.
- 560 Dalriadic territories occupied by Scots peacefully.
- 563 St. Columba with twelve disciples arrives in Iona (Hy).
- 565 St. Columba visited King of Picts, Brude, and converts him.
- 570 Death of St. Gildas.
- 574 Death of King Conall.

- 575 Council of Drumceat, Ulster; attended by Aedh MacAinmore, King of Ireland, Aidan, and St. Columba. Aidan became first King of independent Dalriada.
- 577 St. Brendan died; founded Clonfert monastery on River Shannon.
- 578 St. Finnian (Finbarr) of Molville died; known as St. Wynnin and St. Frigidian.
- 580 Aidan invaded Orkney.
- 583 Aidan defeated Saxons of Bernicia at Manand.
- 584 King Brude died. Deiniol Wyn died; founder of Bangor Deiniol monastery (Bangor Fawr), Carnarnonshire, Wales.
- 588 St. Columbanus and St. Gallus (St. Gall) visited St. Columba at Iona.
- 590 Aidan at Battle of Leithreid, Sutherlandshire. St. Columbanus and twelve disciples arrived in France. St. Asaph died May 1; founded monastery in Wales when driven from Scotland.
- 592 St. Moluag died June 25 at Rosemarkie.
- 597 St. Columba died June 9 on Iona. St. Augustine came from Rome to Canterbury sent by Pope Gregory.
- 598 St. Comgall came to Scotland; founded monastery on Tiree.
- 599 St. Kenneth died October 11; disciple of the Welsh St. Cadoc.
- 600 Baithean, Abbot of Iona died June 9.
- 601 St. David of Wales died March 1; some give death at 82 in 554.
- 602 St. Comgall died; founder and ruler of Bangor monastery.
- 603 (612) St. Kentigern died November 13. Aidan headed army of Scots, Irish, Picts, Britons (?), entered Bernicia and was defeated at Dawstone.
- 605 Laisrean, Abbot of Iona, died.
- 606 King Aidan of Dalriada died, aged 77; buried at Campbellton (Lilkerran), later moved to royal sepulchre at Iona; succeeded by son, Eachadh Buidhe.
- 612 Dyfrig (Dubricius) died; he founded colleges at Henllan, Mochros, and Caerleonl, and was first Bishop of Llandaff, Wales. St. Kentigern (Welsh, "Cyndeyrn") died.
- 615 St. Columbanus died November 21 at Bobbio, Italy.
- 620 Scottish clergy expelled from Pictish dominions.
- 621 Civil war in Dalriada.
- 624 St. Adamnan born.
- 625 St. Marnock died; missionary in Moray.
- 627 Conadh established as King of Kintyre.
- 629 Conadh slain. Domnall Breac, son of Eachadh Buidhe, succeeded to Kingdom of Dalriada.
- 635 Oswald became king of Bernicia. St. Aidan went to Lindisfarne.
- 638 Domnall Breac defeated by Angles.

- 642 Domnall Breac slain at Strathcarron. Malrue (Maelrubha) of Applecross born, January 3; descendant of King Niall of the Nine Hostages (Ireland); trained at Bangor and came to Scotland in 671. St. Oswald, king and martyr, died August 9.
- 651 St. Aidan died, August 31; settled at Lindisfarne with companions from Iona.
- 652 Seigine, Abbot of Iona, died.
- 657 Suibhne, son of Cuirtre, Abbot of Iona, died. Cummin The Fair became Abbot of Iona.
- 664 Synod of Whitby; Roman date of Easter and Roman tonsure accepted in England, but not in Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. The Great Plague (a typhus or small-pox) carried off nearly two-thirds of people.
- 669 Cummin The Fair died (Cumine Ailbhe).
- 672 Southern Picts were slaughtered by Ecgfrid, king of Northumbria. Bridei, son of Bile, crowned by northern Picts.
- 673 Malrue founded Church of Applecross in North Pictland. The Venerable Bede, Benedictine monk of Jarrow, born.
- 676 St. Colman of Lindisfarne died.
- 679 St. Adamnan became Abbot of Iona.
- 680 St. Adamnan wrote "Life of St. Columba."
- 685 Ecgfrid slain at Dunnichen by Picts.
- 687 St. Cuthbert died March 20.
- 689 (704) St. Adamnan died January 31.
- 704 Conambail succeeded as Iona's Abbot.
- 714 St. Giles (Egidius) died; never in Scotland but greatly honoured there.
- 716 Dunchadh became Abbot of Iona.
- 720 St. Andrews founded.
- 722 St. Maelrubha died April 21; evangelised Ross-shire; born in Londonderry and was related to St. Columba.
- 727 Pechthelm of Northumbria, first Bishop of Galloway.
- 731 (735) Bede, historian, died.
- 733 Murdoch became king.
- 736 Murdoch (Muireadhach) slain at Knoch Cairpie.
- 737 St. Roman died; evangelised Islay; built monastery in Bute at Kingarth; also worked on Lewis. Failbhe MacGuairie died; he was a missionary and perished with 22 others at sea.
- 740 Edilwald died; studied under St. Cuthbert; Abbot of Melrose, thence to Lindisfarne, where he was Bishop until his death.
- 750 St. Fergus died November 18; he worked in Glamis and Muthill.
- 753 MacCoigeth died; ruled Isle of Lismore as Abbot of the Pictish "muinntic" founded by St. Moluag. (Muinntics were religious communities of the Celtic Britons which lived south of Antonine's Wall.)

- 768 Wales accepted Roman Easter.
- 772 Breasal became Abbot of Iona. Iona succumbed to Church of Rome's authority.
- 780 Dumbarton burned.
- 793 Norse slaughter inhabitants on Lindisfarne.
- 794 Iona monastery plundered by Norse.
- 795 Rathlin laid waste by Vikings.
- 798 Vikings wasted many islands off Scotland and Ireland.
- 800 Constantine, King of Picts, began to rule.
- 801 Bresal, son of Seighine, Abbot of Iona died.
- 802 Conachtach succeeded Bresal. Ceallach succeeded Conachtach as Abbot of Iona. Columban monastery of Iona burnt by Vikings.
- 803 Candida Casa, Whithorn, attacked by Vikings.
- 814 Columban order moved from Iona to Kells in Meath.
- 815 Ceallach died succeeded by Diarmaid of Kells at Iona.
- 817 Landevennec in Brittany (France) gave up Celtic tonsure.
- 818 Diarmaid returned to Iona from Kells; Iona rebuilt.
- 820 Dunkeld founded by Constantine MacFergus, Pictish king.
- 821 Constantine MacFergus died.
- 823 Galloway devastated by Norse.
- 825 Blathmac and monks massacred by Danes.
- 829 Diarmaid, Abbot of Iona, came to Scotland with relics of St. Columba (Columcille).
- 833 Angus succeeded by Drest.
- 843 Kenneth MacAlpine, first King of Scotland (Strathclyde not included).
- 850 Kenneth MacAlpine founded abbey of Dunkeld.
- 854 Ceallach succeeded Innrechtach at Iona as Abbot.
- 859 Kenneth MacAlpine died, succeeded by Donald.
- 863 Constantine, King of Scots, killed at Werdo (Perth); buried at Iona.
- 866 Ceallach, Abbot of Iona and Kildare, died; succeeded by Feradhach.
- 870 Monastery of Coldingham ravaged by Danish chieftains Inguar and Hubba.
- 875 St. Adrian died at Fifeshire; founded monastery on Isle of May, Firth of Forth.
- 878 Migration of Strathclyde Britons to North Wales.
- 889 King Girig died.
- 904 Dunkeld plundered by Norse.
- 908 Diocese of St. Andrews established.
- 927 Malbride died, succeeded as Abbot of Iona by Dubhthach, son of Dubhan.

- 938 Robhartach became Abbot of Iona.
- 943 Constantine II abdicated throne, returned to St. Andrews and became Abbot; succeeded by Malcolm I, son of Donald II.
- 954 Dubhduin became Abbot of Iona. Malcolm I killed at Uluin (Auldearn) in Moray; succeeded by Indulf.
- 959 Dubhscuile became Abbot of Iona.
- 962 Duff became king.
- 964 Mughron became Abbot of Iona. Colin succeeded to throne.
- 971 Kenneth II, brother to Duff, succeeded to throne.
- 980 Maelciarain became Abbot of Iona.
- 986 Duncan became Abbot of Iona.
- 997 Kenneth III succeeded Constantine as king.
- 998 Dubhdalerthe, Abbot of Iona, died, succeeded by Muiredhach.
- 1005 Kenneth III slain at Monievaird by Malcolm, son of Kenneth II.
- 1007 Muiredhach, Abbot of Iona, died.
- 1008 Maelmuire became Abbot of Iona.
- 1009 Maeleoin succeeded Maelmuire.
- 1018 Angles of Lothians unite with Scots and Picts.
- 1024 King Malcolm (Canmore) III born.
- 1034 "Scotland born." Britons of Strathclyde unite with Scots, Picts, and Angles, under Duncan, their king.
- 1040 Macbeth killed Duncan.
- 1054 Macbeth defeated by English.
- 1058 Macbeth slain by Malcolm, son of Duncan. Malcolm Canmore came to throne.
- 1066 Norman Conquest of England; refugees flee to Wales, Ireland, and Scotland.
- 1068 (1070) Malcolm Canmore married Queen Margaret. Mac mic Baethen, Abbot of Iona, killed by the son of the Abbot Ua Maeldoraidh.
- 1075 St. Margaret rebuilt Church at Iona and founded monastery at Dunfermline.
- 1091 William the Conqueror died. William Rufus came to English throne.
- 1093 St. Margaret died November 16. Malcolm killed at Alnwick; buried in Dunfermline. Important date in Scotch history as large number of Italian clergy and English of the Roman persuasion came to Scotland.
- 1096 First Crusade.
- 1097 Magnus Barelegs, King of Norway, paid courtesy visit to Iona; showed great respect for Iona and its Church.
- 1107 King Edgar died, succeeded by his brother Alexander I, who married Sibylla, a natural daughter of King Henry of England; she died 1122. Bishopric of St. Andrews founded; Turgot appointed.

- 1114 Alexander I founded abbey at Scone; attached was priory on the Island of Loch Tay, 1122.
- 1123 Alexander I founded abbey at Inchcolm, Fife.
- 1124 King David succeeded by his brother Alexander. Robert, Prior of Scone, established priory of St. Andrews; received Culdee monastery of Lochleven; built Church of St. Rule and Tower.
- 1128 David I founded abbey at Edinburgh, Holyrood. Bishopric of Ross established.
- 1136 David I founded an abbey at Melrose, Order of Cistercians; the old Culdee institutions had been destroyed by Kenneth MacAlpine.
- 1146 Second Crusade.
- 1153 King David I died, May 31. Malcolm succeeded to throne, aged 12.
- 1156 Pope "presents" Ireland to England.
- 1158 Bishop Robert died; first Bishop of St. Andrews.
- 1160 Galloway subdued; alliance with Brittany.
- 1163 (1165) William I became king; under his reign Scotland practically became subjugated to Rome, ecclesiastically; however, some Celtic orders managed to escape.
- 1174 Treaty of Falaise made Scotland a fief of England.
- 1188 Scotland proclaimed "special daughter" of Holy See at Rome.
- 1196 Bishopric of Caithness established.
- 1197 King David changed monastery of Dunkeld, founded by Culdees to a Cathedral Church; Culdees expelled, and Gregory, their Abbot, made Bishop of diocese.
- 1200 Bishopric of Argyll (or Lismore) established.
- 1214 William I died.

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<sup>1</sup>Thomas MacLauchlan, The Early Scottish Church: The Ecclesiastical History of Scotland, from the First to the Twelfth Century (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark Co., 1864); James Rankin, A Handbook of the Church of Scotland (Edinburgh: William Blackwood and Sons); Dugald Mitchell, A Popular History of the Highlands and Gaelic Scotland from the Earliest Times Till the Close of the 'Forty Five' (Paisley: Alexander Gardner, 1900); John A. Duke, History of the Church of Scotland to the Reformation (Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd, 1937); Archibald B. Scott, The Pictish Nation: Its People, Its Church (Edinburgh: T. N. Foulis, 1918); E. C. Leal, The Christian Faith in Early Scotland (Edinburgh: John Menzies & Co., 1885).

SCOTLAND - SIXTH CENTURY



ENGLAND AND WALES - SIXTH CENTURY



CHURCH IN MEDIAEVAL SCOTLAND

