

Chapel Finian, Mochrum



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These simple ruins were probably built in the 10/11 century and dedicated to St Finian (Finnian) who was educated at Whithorn and died in 579AD. It is thought that Finian could have taught Columba. Columba was to establish the Christian community in Iona.

Museums, Galleries Scotland supported a laser survey of the site. Click the link for more details - <https://www.whithorn.com/chapelfinian3dsurvey/>

Chapel Finian was a likely resting place for pilgrims travelling from Ireland to the Shrine of St Ninian in Whithorn, in the simplest of open boats. Among the pilgrims would have been those visiting the ecclesiastical centre in Whithorn for study and the religious life.

We look at these few remaining stones, just an outline of a building. Behind those cold stones are the living stones of those who built the chapel, those who said the psalms, prayed and sung. Behind these cold remains are those who braved the sea in open boats to witness to their faith. And today, there will those who make a pilgrim's stop at the remains and at the site of the holy well, although the well has little water in it. These 21st century pilgrims are today's living stones.



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I invite you to imagine you are sat overlooking Luce Bay with the remains of Chapel Finian behind you. Calmly say the Lord's Prayer



Click the link below for Over my head, this version arranged by John Bell, Iona Community

<https://youtu.be/Dn6stMl8c0w?si=ckI8R6jnSr9kCcsf>

*Over my head I hear music in the air;
over my head I hear music in the air;
over my head I hear music in the air;
there must be a God somewhere.*

*And when I'm feeling troubled ,
I hear music in the air; . . . x3
and when I'm feeling troubled,
I hear music in the air;
and when I'm feeling troubled,
I hear music in the air;
there must be a God somewhere. [Refrain]*

*Oh, when the world is silent,
I hear music in the air; . . . x3
oh, when the world is silent,
I hear music in the air;
oh, when the world is silent,
I hear music in the air;
there must be a God somewhere. [Refrain]*

*Now when I think on Jesus,
I hear music in the air;
now when I think on Jesus,
I hear music in the air;
now when I think on Jesus,
I hear music in the air;
there must be a God somewhere. [Refrain]*

(Traditional Gospel song – Public domain)

Acknowledgements.

My guide for this series is Britain's Pilgrim Places (2021 by Nick Mayhew-Smith & Guy Hayward) from the British Pilgrimage Trust. Described as a 'treasure trove for the armchair pilgrim' (Phillip Carr-Comm)

The book contains over 600 pilgrim places and 100 routes for pilgrims.

Daily Worship from the Iona Community is available through this link  **YouTube**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwDTTUfoQ5YQRfA5bUi8ObQ>

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(Derek is a retired Anglican Parish Priest and a member of the congregations of All Saints & St James and St Stephen's, Elton Prior to his ordination he was accredited as a Methodist Preacher in 1968 and served within the Methodist Church until returning to the Anglican Church in the mid 1980's)

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Dual Parishes of Kirklees Valley, Bury, (All Saints, Elton & St James, Woolfold) and St Stephens, Elton are in the Diocese of Manchester.

Vicar of the two parishes - Br. Samuel Eccleston O.P. (Anglican Order of Preachers- Dominicans)