Canice

Born: 515/6

Died: 600

Feast Day

11 October

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DERRY DIOCESAN CATECHETICAL CENTRE

Cainnech of Aghaboe was born at Glengiven near Dungiven, County Derry. He is also known as Saint Canice in Ireland, Saint Kenneth in Scotland, Saint Kenny and in Latin Sanctus Canicus,

Canice's father was a famous bard. Canice spent his early years herding sheep. Although his family were poor, he studied under Finnian of Clonard, County Meath and while there he formed a lasting friendship with Saint Columba.

Canice became a Monk in Glasnevin in 550 AD. Later he founded the monastery of Agahanoe and served as its abbot.
Canice went as a missionary to Scotland with Saint Columba in 565 AD and he was known as a very effective preacher.

He built a church in the place now known as Saint Andrews. He copied out all four Gospels and wrote a commentary on them.

Canice is famed for his gifts of friendship, holiness, openness to the Holy Spirit and prayers of intercession.

The Oratory in the Celtic Garden at the Iosas Centre, Derry Vane, Donegal is dedicated to Saint Canice.

Cainnech is one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland. He is the patron of the shipwrecked and one of the patrons of Kilkenny Ireland.