



# — LOUGH ERNE — PILGRIM WAY

## Devenish Island Children's Worksheets

## What was a monastery in early Ireland?

A monastic site had many functions in early Ireland. In many ways it performed many functions we would now associate with a town. As the evidence from primary source material highlights, it was:

- **A Place of Worship.**

'Let him be constant at prayer; his canonical hours let him not forget them'.

- **A Centre for Scholarship & Craftmanship.**

'My hand is weary with writing... My slender-beaked pen pours forth / A Black draught of shining dark-blue ink'.

- **A Holy Place of Burial.**

'Be the earth that covers me / Holy earth of monastery I lying there alone'.

- **A Place where People lived.**

'Multitudinous Devenish'.

- **An Economic Unit**

'Three sounds of increase: the lowing of a cow in milk, the din of a smithy and the swish of a plough'.

- **A Place where Guests were received**

A clean house for guests and a big fire, washing and bathing for them, and a couch without sorrow'.

- **A Place where children were educated.**

'Whence are you, learning's son?  
From Clonmacnois I come;  
My course of studies done'.

- **A Place where produce and treasures from the surrounding land was stored.**

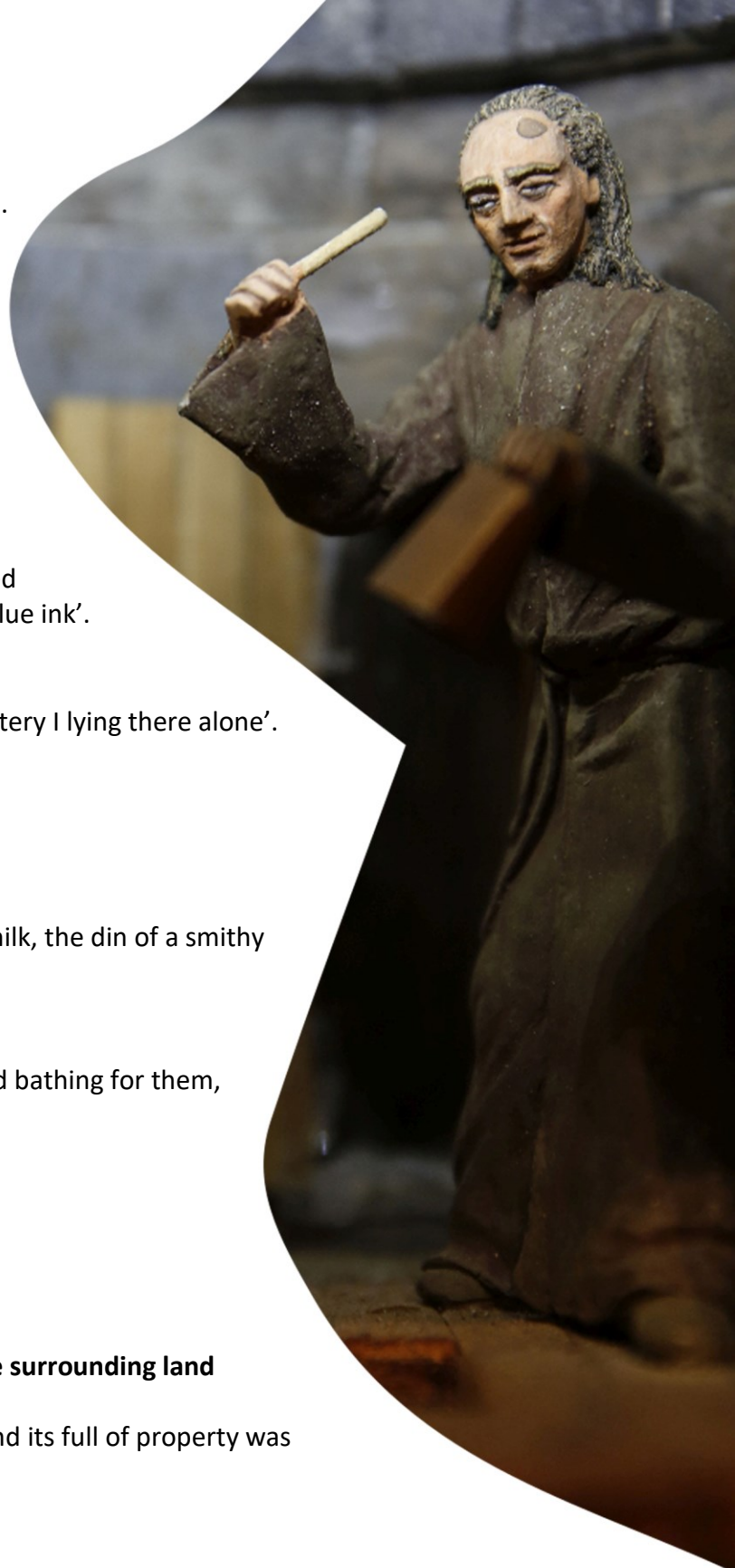
The church of Duleek was broken into by Vikings and its full of property was taken out of it' (in 881).

- **A Sanctuary for fugitives.**

'Molaise is no weak protection for me'.

- **A Place where meeting were held**

'Devenish of Assemblies'.



## ACTIVITY 1: DEVENISH

Fill in the gaps using these words and titles, each word or title is used only once.

<b>6<sup>th</sup> Century</b>	<b>Bell tower</b>	<b>Island of Oxen</b>
<b>Storage</b>	<b>Shelter</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Century</b>
<b>837</b>	<b>1157</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> September</b>

- Devenish Island is also known as:

.....

- In which century did St Molaise die?

.....

- What is the date of St. Molaise's feast day?

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- In what year did the Vikings raid Lough Erne?

.....

- In what year was Devenish burned?

.....

- In which century did the Augustinians come to Devenish?

.....

- Name three possible uses for the Round Tower when the monks lived here.

1.....

2.....

3.....

Label this plan of Devenish.



## ACTIVITY 2

Use the clues to help you unscramble the words.

Residence of monks: mtonsarey:\_\_\_\_\_

Person who journeys to a sacred place: iplmirg: \_\_\_\_\_

Person sent out to spread the gospel: ssimariony \_\_\_\_\_

Holy person: ainst \_\_\_\_\_

Building for Christian worship: urchhc \_\_\_\_\_

## ACTIVITY 3 WORDSEARCH

Find these words:

MONASTERY	WORKSHOPS	MONKS
CHRISTIANITY	DRUMLANE	ST MOLAISE
ERNE	ST MOGUE	PILGRIM
ST PATRICK	PRAYING	DEVENISH

W O R K S H O P S A P O  
 S N U I C C T S I I Y R  
 Y T I N A I T S L R H C  
 H H M N G S R G E U E E  
 S A T O G E R T M C M M  
 I T G C L I S I A E N R  
 N E M R M A I K W P A E  
 E E I O N L I Y N H T Y  
 V E S O G M R S A O P S  
 E O M E R U N R E R M E  
 D S N E N R E O T G P I  
 K I O S S D N W R S H E



**What did the monks on Devenish eat?**

Primary sources tell us that the monks on Devenish Island ate very well. They grew food on the island. The main crop was corn, from this they made bread & gruel. They also ate pork and beef, and because they keep cows they had cream and cheeses. Hens & bees were also kept on the island, so the monks had eggs and honey too.

In the garden they grew their own fruit & vegetables, including onions, peas, beans, apples & strawberries. The monasteries also made their own beer and mead.

What do you think of this diet?

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What would you like to eat from this selection?

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What can be made from corn?

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Why did the monks not grow potatoes?

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What is gruel?

.....

What is mead?

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