

## ST. FINTAN,

ABBOT OF CLUAINEDNECH,

WHICH Usher interprets the Ivy-Cave, in the diocess of Lethglean, in Leinster, in the sixth century. He had for disciple St. Comgal, the founder of the abbey of Benchor, and master of St. Columban. Colgan reckons twenty-four Irish saints of the name of Fintan; but probably several of these were the same person honoured in several places. Another St. Fintan, surnamed Munnu, who is honoured on the 21st of October, was very famous. See Colgan, Usher, and Henschenius.

## FEBRUARY XVIII.

## ST. SIMEON, BISHOP OF JERUSALEM,

MARTYR.

From Euseb. l. 3. c. 32. Tillem, t. 1. p. 186. and t. 2. Le Quien, Oriens Christ. t. 3. p. 140.

A.D. 116.

ST. SIMEON was the son of Cleophas, otherwise called Alpheus, brother to St. Joseph, and of Mary, sister of the Blessed Virgin. He was therefore nephew both to St. Joseph and to the Blessed Virgin, and cousin-german to Christ. Simeon and Simon are the same name, and this saint is, according to the best interpreters of the holy scripture, the Simon mentioned,(1) who was brother to St. James the Lesser, and St. Jude, apostles, and to Joseph or José. He was eight or nine years older than our Saviour. We cannot doubt but he was an early follower of Christ, as his father and mother and three brothers were, and an exception to that of St. John,(2) that our Lord's relations did not believe in him. Nor does St. Luke(3) leave us any room to doubt but that he received the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost with the Blessed Virgin and the apostles; for he mentions present St. James and St. Jude, and the brothers of our Lord. Saint Epiphanius relates,(4) that when the Jews massacred

(1) Matt. xiii. 55.

(2) John vii. 5.

(3) Acts i 14.

(4) Hær. 78. c. 14.