Early Christian Monks and Monasteries: Keyword List

• St. Patrick
• Legends/stories
• 432AD
• Palladius
• Missionary
• Spread christianity
• convert pagans
• Shamrock (to explain the Trinity)
• Monks
• Community
• 1st Monasteries: wooden building
• Then: stone buildings
• Round Tower
• Uses: storage, pointing to Heaven, protection, observation, belfry (bell tower)
• Stone church/oratory
• Scriptorium (copying books)
• Illuminated Manuscripts (Book of Kells, Book of Durrow, Cathach)
• Vellum: calfskin, Parchment: goat/sheepskin
• Inks: berries, plants
• Handwritten usually in Latin
• Very ornate designs, celtic interlacing filigree, pictures of animals, saints, God, scenes from bible
• Wooden houses
• High (stone) (Celtic) crosses (designs or scenes from Bible)
• Beehive huts (cells)
• Skellig Michael (Kerry)
• Hermits (hermitage): living in isolated places
• Monasteries: stone fence, farm
• Pilgrims visited monasteries on pilgrimage
• Metalwork: tools, Ardagh chalice (cup), croziers (bishops' staff or cane), reliquaries (storing relics-bits of saints bodies or clothing), Book Shrines (box for precious books)
• Cloak: habit
• Haircut: tonsure
• St. Kevin: Glendalough
• St. Ciaran: Clonmacnoise