**Fr. Columba McCann OSB Elected Abbot of Glenstal Abbey**

Fr. Columba has been elected as Abbot of Glenstal Abbey.

A Dubliner, he studied in Rome and was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Dublin. He is a liturgist, a musician and was master of liturgical ceremonies to the Archbishop.

Fr. Columba entered the novitiate at Glenstal Abbey in 2004 and has held a number of roles including organist, novice master and oblate director as well as serving as Chaplain and choir director in the Abbey School.

Fr. Columba is a good friend of both Fr. Dermot and I. We both hold him in the highest regard. We have used his two books “101 Liturgical Suggestions” (2014) and “Becoming human, Becoming Divine: The Christian Life according to Blessed Columba Marmion (2024), here in Balally, the latter as our Advent book.

We pray a blessing on Abbot Columba as he assumes guidance of the wonderful monastery of Glenstal Abbey.

May Blessed Columba Marmion (whose name he chose), guide and direct him.

Fr. Jim