

Around the year 400, Patrick was born in Scotland. When Patrick was sixteen years old he was captured as a slave by the high king of Ireland. He was sold in Ireland and was taken to the North east of the country to herd sheep. During his six years of solitude he found a life of prayer and pledged his life to God.

One night Patrick had a vision and he escaped from slavery and found his way home to his family. Patrick studied religion for many years to become a priest and a missionary and at night he would hear in his dreams the call from the Irish. They called him to come and free them from paganism, "crying to thee, come hither and walk with us once more".

Finally Pope Celestine fulfilled Saint Patrick's wish and ordained him as bishop to preach the word of God to the Celtic People. Saint Patrick then came back to Ireland to help teach the word of God. He helped to build churches and he baptised the pagans into Christianity, he also ordained bishops and priests but this did not come without difficulty.

Prayer to St Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland

Most glorious Saint Patrick,
Bishop and Confessor,
chosen by the Almighty to be the Apostle of Ireland,
we, the children of those to whom you preached the Faith of Christ,
never to be renounced,
hail you as the wonderful instrument of God's mercy
for the obtaining of our eternal salvation.

Most glorious Apostle and Patron of our island,
submit to the Almighty our every temporal and spiritual want,
that through your intercession,
we may be relieved, in all our necessities through life,
and when called from this world to the glory of God,
we may, to your honour,
be found worthy of the faith that is within us,
and of eternal salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PARISH of KENMARE
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Friday, 17th March 2017. Holyday of Obligation
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**St. Patrick's Day ~ Lá le Pádraig**



***Mass Times:***

***Direendaragh:*** Thursday (16<sup>th</sup> Mar) ... 6.30 p.m.

***Holy Cross Church ... Mass Intentions.***

**8.00pm Thurs (16<sup>th</sup>)**

Florrie O'Sullivan, Gortamullen Hse. ... Anniversary

**9.30am Fri (17<sup>th</sup>)**

Denis Harrington, Dromatouk. .... Anniversary

**12 noon (Fri 17<sup>th</sup>)**

Janice Vass, Gerahdiveen. .... Anniversary

***Templenoë:*** ... ***Mass Intention***

**10.45am Fri (17<sup>th</sup>)**

J.P. & Kathleen O'Sullivan ..... Anniversary



***Shamrock will be blessed at  
all Masses***

***Hail, Glorious St. Patrick***

Hail, glorious St. Patrick, dear saint of our isle,  
On us thy poor children bestow a sweet smile;  
And now thou art high in the mansions above,  
On Erin's green valleys look down in thy love.

Hail, glorious St. Patrick, thy words were once strong  
Against Satan's wiles and a heretic throng;  
Not less is thy might where in Heaven thou art;  
Oh, come to our aid, in our battle take part!

In a war against sin, in the fight for the faith,  
Dear Saint, may thy children resist to the death;  
May their strength be in meekness, in penance, and prayer,  
Their banner the Cross, which they glory to bear.

Thy people, now exiles on many a shore,  
Shall love and revere thee till time be no more;  
And the fire thou hast kindled shall ever burn bright,  
Its warmth undiminished, undying its light.

Ever bless and defend the sweet land of our birth,  
Where the shamrock still blooms as when thou wert on earth,  
And our hearts shall yet burn, wherever we roam,  
For God and St. Patrick, and our native home.

***St. Patrick's Breastplate***

***Christ be with me,  
Christ within me,  
Christ behind me,  
Christ before me,  
Christ beside me,  
Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort  
and restore me.***

***Christ below me,  
Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet,  
and in danger,  
Christ in hearts  
of all that love me.  
Christ in mouth  
of friend and stranger.***