

Saint Patrick

St. Patrick was from Ireland. When he was age 16, he was kidnapped and taken to England to be a slave. While he was there, he gave his heart to the Lord. St. Patrick remained in England six years. In one of St. Patrick's letters he told of God delivering him.

From Saint Patrick's letter:

"And it was there of course that one night in my sleep I heard a voice saying to me: "You do well to fast: soon you will depart for your home country." And again, a very short time later, there was a voice prophesying: "Behold, your ship is ready." And it was not close by, but, as it happened, two hundred miles away, where I had never been nor knew any person. And shortly thereafter I turned about and fled from the man with whom I had been for six years, and I came, by the power of God who directed my route to advantage (and I was afraid of nothing), until I reached that ship."

St. Patrick had this to say about his journey.

“ The journey itself was not without incident either, as their food supplies were not enough for the voyage and many of the crew began to starve after some twenty-eight days.”

After being delivered by God St. Patrick wanted to return to his country and preach the gospel to his people in Ireland. The shamrock is said to be one of the objects he used to explain the trinity. (God The Father, The Son, Jesus Christ, and The Holy Spirit) Therefore the shamrock has become a symbol associated with St. Patrick's Day.

St. Patrick's preaching upset some of the worshippers of Satan. (Druids) Many times he was imprisoned, but somehow managed to escape. He went many places in Ireland establishing churches. His ministry in Ireland lasted thirty years.

St. Patrick died March 17th. in 461 AD. That day has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day ever since. In Ireland there is great celebration and feasting in memory of St. Patrick on March 17th. Not only is St. Patrick's Day celebrated in Ireland, but in other Christian countries as well.

Several traditions have sprang up around St. Patrick's Day . Parades, feasting, and wearing and decorating with shamrocks and the color green.

* Wearing green has become a tradition for St. Patrick's Day. You may get a pinch if you don't hold to this tradition.

St. Patrick wrote a hymn. Here are a few beautiful words from that hymn.

I arise today
Through God's strength to pilot me:
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's host to save me
From snares of devils,
From temptations of vices,
From everyone who shall wish me ill,
Afar and anear,
Alone and in multitude.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise,
Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

St. Patrick's Day Word Search



Word List

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| celebrate | parade | Christian | pinch |
| churches | prison | escape | shamrock |
| green | ship | Ireland | slave |
| Jesus | St. Patrick | ministry | trinity |

St. Patrick's Day Questions

1. How long did St. Patrick serve as a slave? _____
2. How old was St. Patrick when he was sold as a slave? _____
3. In you own words explain how St. Patrick escaped slavery. _____

4. On what day do we celebrate St. Patrick's Day? _____
5. What did St. Patrick use to teach people about the Trinity? _____
6. What might a person give you if you are not wearing green on St. Patrick's Day? _____

7. Did all people love St. Patrick? _____ How do we know this?

8. Look at the following verse

(2Ti 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.)

What kinds of persecution do Christians suffer today? _____

Heb 13:5 *Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*

Use the drawing of the shamrock to show the Trinity.



