

St Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born around the year 385 in Britain. When he was just 16, he was captured by Irish pirates and taken to Ireland. During his time there, he worked as a shepherd and found comfort in his Christian faith.

Legend has it that St Patrick used the shamrock, a three-leaved plant, to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. That's why the shamrock is often associated with St Patrick's Day. Another legend tells of St Patrick driving all the snakes out of Ireland. While it might not be entirely true (Ireland never had snakes after the last Ice Age), the story tells us about his efforts to spread Christianity.

On the 17th of March, people around the world celebrate St Patrick's Day with parades, wearing green, and enjoying Irish music and dance. It's a day to remember this remarkable saint who dedicated his life to spreading Christianity and bringing hope to the people of Ireland.

## **ACROSS**

- 3. A symbol of good luck, often found at the end of a rainbow
- 5. Creatures that St. Patrick drove out of Ireland
- 7. A mythical creature often associated with Ireland
- 8. The month this Saint's Feast Day is celebrated

## DOWN

- 1. The colour associated with St. Patrick's Day
- 2. A traditional Irish dance
- 4. The capital city of Ireland
- 6. Plant with three leaves

## Let's say a little prayer on this special day:

St. Patrick, bless us with your courage and faith.

May we, like you, find strength in challenging times and bring joy to those around us.

Amen.

## **Enjoy celebrating St. Patrick's Day!**

God bless,

Toby

If you want to share any facts with me, please email me at toby@salesiansireland.ie as I love to learn from you!



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