

PSParish Support Pack

St Patrick

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PRAYERS AND COLLECTS

Almighty God,
who in your providence chose your servant Patrick
to be the apostle of the Irish people,
to bring those who were wandering in darkness and error
to the true light and knowledge of you:
Grant us so to walk in that light,
that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and ever.

O God,
by whose providence the blessed Patrick
was chosen to be the apostle of the Irish;
that thus the people of Hibernia,
who had gone astray in darkness
and in the errors of the Gentiles,
might be made children of the Most High
by the laver of regeneration:
Grant, we beseech thee,
that by his intercession,
we may hasten without delay
to the paths of justice.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.
From the Breviary of Armagh

God our Father
You sent Saint Patrick
to preach your glory to the people of Ireland.
By the help of his prayers,
may all Christians proclaim your love to all men.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.
Christian Prayer: The Liturgy of the Hours

Apostle sent by God to Ireland,
in your humility you called yourself a sinner,
but you became a most successful missionary
and prompted countless pagans
to follow the Saviour.
Many of their descendants in turn
spread the Good News in numerous foreign lands.
Through your powerful intercession with God,
obtain the missionaries we need
to continue the word you began.
New Saint Joseph People's Prayer Book

Alexander Carmichael (1832 - 1912) collected prayers, hymns, and incantations in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland in the 18th century. They were published in Carmina Gadelica . The most recent re-publication being in 1992 by Floris Books, Edinburgh.

A

Be the eye of God betwixt me and each eye,
The purpose of God betwixt me and each purpose,
The hand of God betwixt me and each hand,
The shield of God betwixt me and each shield,
The desire of God betwixt me and each desire,
The bridle of God betwixt me and each bridle,
And no mouth can curse me.

B

We are bending our knees
In the eye of the Father who created us,
In the eye of the Son who died for us,
In the eye of the Spirit who cleanses us,
In love and desire.

Pour down upon us from heaven
The rich blessing of Thy forgiveness;
Thou who art uppermost in the City of God,
Be Thou patient with us.

Grant to us, Thou Saviour of Glory,
The fear of God, the love of God, and His affection,
And the will of God to do on earth at all times
As angels and saints do in heaven;
Each day and night give us Thy peace.
Each day and night give us Thy peace.

Blessings

The eye of the great God be upon you,
The eye of the God of glory be on you,
The eye of the Son of Mary Virgin be on you,
The eye of the Spirit mild be on you,
To aid you and shepherd you;
Oh the kindly eye of the Three be on you,
To aid you and to shepherd you.

Grace of love be yours,
Grace of floor be yours,
Grace of castle be yours,
Grace of court be yours,
Grace and pride of homeland be yours.

The guard of the God of life be yours,
The guard of the loving Christ be yours,
The guard of the Holy Spirit be yours,

To cherish you,
To aid you,
To enfold you.
The Three be about your head,
The Three be about your breast,
The Three be about your body
Each night and each day,
In the encompassment of the Three
Throughout your life long.

More at:

<http://www.joyfulheart.com/stpatrick/>

LITANY OF ST. PATRICK

Lord have mercy on us
Lord have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.

Christ, hear us.
Christ, graciously hear us.

God, the Father of heaven,
Have mercy on us.

God, the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy on us.

God, the Holy Spirit
Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

St. Patrick,
Apostle of Ireland,
St. Patrick,
most worthy in God's eyes,
St. Patrick,
model of Bishops,
St. Patrick,
enemy of infidelity,
St. Patrick,
truly humble,
St. Patrick,

always trying to do good,
St. Patrick,
example of charity,
St. Patrick,
patron saint.... of our Parish/Cathedral,
St. Patrick,
teacher of the true faith,
St. Patrick,
our powerful protector,
St. Patrick,
our compassionate helper

For the witness and example of St Patrick,
Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

Let us pray with St. Patrick
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

O God, you sent your blessed servant St. Patrick, to teach and save the people of his time and place. You gave our Patron a loving heart like your own. You filled him with great faith and a burning desire to work hard for your kingdom. Please listen when he prays for us, his sons and daughters in the faith of Christ. Grant to us, though his intercession, a lively faith, a firm hope and a strong will to build your Kingdom. Amen.

PRAYER SERVICE FOR ST PATRICK'S DAY

Introductory Reading

Leader: Lord, from age to age gather a people to yourself, so that from North to South, and East to West, a perfect offering may be made to the glory of your name.

ALL: In the presence of this gathering, Lord, we give you thanks and praise.

Leader: Be with us in this gathering, Lord. Make us one as we proclaim your wondrous deeds and magnificent love.

ALL: We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns forever. Amen.

St Patrick's Profession of Faith in the Trinity

LHS: There is no other God, there never was and there never will be than God the Father unbegotten and without beginning the Lord of the universe as we have been taught;
RHS: and his Son Jesus Christ whom we declare to have been always the Father in a way which baffles description before the beginning of the world, before all beginning; and by Him are made, all things visible and invisible.

LHS: Jesus was made human, defeated death, and was received into Heaven by the Father who has given him all power over all names in Heaven, on earth and under the earth; and every tongue will acknowledge to him that Jesus Christ is the Lord.

RHS: We believe in Him and we look for His coming soon as judge of the living and of the dead, who will treat all persons according to their deeds.

LHS: He has poured out the Holy Spirit on us in abundance. The gift and guarantee of eternal life, who makes those who believe and obey Sons of God and joint heirs with Christ.

RHS: We acknowledge and adore Him and as God in the Trinity of the Holy Name.

ALL: Glory be to the Father, and.....

A Reflective Prayer on the Breastplate

Reader 1: Christ in the heart of everyone who speaks to me

Christ, make me attentive to the word,
that I may hear the word.

Christ, make me listen to the other,
that I may hear the other.

Christ when words fail and communication breaks down,
You are still there to keep us together.

***ALL: Christ, let me hear you
in the voice of a friend,
in the chatter of a child,
in the utterances of the mute,
in the words of a stranger.***

Reader 2: Christ in the eyes of everyone that sees me

Christ, let me see You in others.

Christ, let others see You in me.

Christ, let me see You:

as the caller

as the poor

as the stranger at my door.

You are the wanderer, the unfed.

You are the homeless, with no bed.

You are the other who comes to me

Open my eyes that I may see.

***ALL: Christ, grant that in me others may see:
Your glory, Your grace, Your goodness, Your presence.
We have been created in the image of God.***

Reader 3: Christ in the ear that hears me

Christ, You are there before I speak,
Help me to respect You.
Christ, You are present in the listener,
Let me reveal You.
Christ, may my words not hide
You the Word.

***ALL: Christ is here, Christ is there,
Christ is everywhere.
Christ above, Christ below,
Christ along the path I go.***

**ALL: O God, you sent your blessed servant St. Patrick,
to teach and save the people of his time and place.
You gave him a loving heart like your own.
You filled him with great faith and a burning desire
to work hard for your kingdom.
Please listen when he prays for us, His sons.
Grant to us, through his intercession,
a lively faith, a firm hope, and a strong will
to build your Kingdom.
AMEN.**

Hymn: Hail, Glorious St. Patrick or other suitable hymn. eg Lift Thy Banner Church of Erin

(Adapted)

Hail, glorious St. Patrick, your faith still lives on,
May the story you left us unite us as one;
And now you are high in the mansions above,
On our journey through life, look down in thy love.
On our journey through life, on our journey through life,
On our journey through life, look down in thy love.

Your people now exiles on many a shore,
Will love and revere you till time be no more;
The fire you have kindled ever burn bright,
Its warmth undiminished, undying its light.
Its warmth undiminished, its warmth undiminished
Its warmth undiminished, undying its light

Hail glorious St Patrick your vision was grand,
You carried Christ's message throughout all the land.
The example you left us invites us to strive.
That faith in Christ Jesus, be always alive.
That faith in Christ Jesus, that faith in Christ Jesus,
That faith in Christ Jesus, be always alive.

St Patrick's journey

An absolutely wonderful resource for children aged 7 - 11. On the BBC Northern Ireland's education web site, there are resources for teachers, for groups and individual youngsters. This is perhaps the best site period for this age group - and adults can enjoy learning as well. Brownie points guaranteed if you bring this to the attention of a teacher who may be unaware of it! Plenty here also for the capable children's ministry leader.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/northernireland/saintpatrick/>

5 ideas for St Patrick's Day

<http://ministry-to-children.com/ideas-saint-patricks-day/>

Children's addresses

<http://www.kidsermons.com/StPatsSermon.html>

<http://rosebank.org/sermons/2007/03/st-patricks-day-sermon/>

SERMON SOURCES

St Patrick was a Baptist

This US baptist pastor obviously has had enough of the green beer and the dominant ownership of the saint by the Irish Roman Catholic diaspora. He has done his homework. It is worth reading for stimulation on an angle or two.

<http://www.reformedreader.org/history/patrick.htm>

For the fainthearted

A sermonette on Ian Poulton's blog site. Good to see an Englishman celebrating Patrick - the Irish Brit!

<http://www.forthefainthearted.com/2010/03/16/sermon-for-saint-patricks-day-17th-march-2010/>

Rt Rev David Chillingworth

Sermon preached in St Patrick's Cathedral Dublin on 17 March, 2008. Short, crisp and informative - would you expect anything else? Starts with the image of the St Patrick's Centre in Downpatrick, works in celtic mission via Iona. Basic question asked - is whether the heritage of Patrick – the Christian faith planted on this island – has a contribution to make to Ireland and to the world today. Bishop David says, "I think that the great movements taking place in Irish society – the shifting of social, cultural and religious tectonic plates – provide a new set of opportunities for the rediscovery and the replanting of the faith of Patrick." He points to three of them: to three of them.

1. The Celtic saints took their faith to remote places - taking a commitment of love to remote places.
2. the opportunity to recapture the faith of Patrick so that it can build bridges not divide.
3. The challenge of modern secular Ireland - "Celtic Spirituality offers ways to faith for people who want to pray in simplicity and who integration and meaning in life and faith, faith and the world."

You may encounter difficulty with the link below. If so, Google: David Chillingworth St Patrick Dublin.

www.churchnewsireland.org

<http://www.google.co.uk/search?q=chillingwoth+sermon+stpatrick+dublin&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&aq=t&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a>

Rt Rev Michael Jackson

Sermon preached at a Service of Thanksgiving for 100 years of St Patrick's Church, Castle Archdale. Interesting use of the "spiritual geography" of the diocese - White Island etc. Bishop Michael says, "Our inheritance as members of the Church of Ireland was not invented at the Reformation. We are heirs to the ancient tradition of the Christian Church in this land. We do Christian life today little service by cutting ourselves off from our roots if we look only to nearer history in search of the riches of a wider, a farther and a longer history. We need the whole of the tradition of which we are part." Nice identification of the various aspects of "tradition".

<http://clogher.anglican.org/news08/0807sermon.html>

The Celtic otherworld

Interesting address from an Episcopal Church in Georgia. Despite its tedious presentation which involves scrolling down a narrow text. Good quotations from Irish sources and George McLeod of Iona, to stress an aspect of the nature of Celtic spirituality.

<http://www.stfrancismacon.com/sermons/SermonTheCelticOtherworld.php>