

On **March 17** each year, we celebrate **St Patrick's Day**. The Word Bank will help you to fill in the blanks and tell the story of how St Patrick came to be Ireland's Patron Saint

St Patrick was born in _____ many years ago. When he was just a young



boy, he was captured and taken to _____ where he was sold as a slave to a farmer. Patrick's job was to mind _____. The farmer didn't look after Patrick very well. He was often very _____ and ate the same food as the sheep and pigs.

He _____ to God every night. God was his best friend. Then one night he heard a _____. It was God. God told him to escape and to go back to Wales. Patrick was very happy to go home and he decided to do God's work and become a _____. Then he had a _____ that God wanted him to go back to _____ and tell the people all about how much God _____ them. Patrick didn't want to go, but he knew it was the _____ thing to do. When Patrick came back to Ireland, he used the _____ to tell the people about God – the _____, the _____ and the Holy _____.

WORD BANK

Son	voice	hungry	Wales	animals
Prayed	Ireland	Spirit	dream	priest
Father	loved	Ireland	right	shamrock



SACRED SITES OF ST. PATRICK IN IRELAND

Lough Derg, Co. Donegal:

Legend has it that St. Patrick had a vision of the afterlife while in a cave on an island in Lough Derg in Co. Donegal. Other Irish saints like St. Daveoc also visited the island, and it became a place of pilgrimage. Today people travel during the summer months for three days of fasting, and praying giving up their sleep and their shoes and socks!! You can find out more about this island by visiting www.loughderg.ie where you can see images of the island as well as reading about people's personal experiences of the island.

Slane, Co. Meath:

After Patrick had escaped and left Ireland he had a dream in which he was told to return to Ireland. In the dream the angel told him to return and tell the people the good news about God. Patrick trained as a priest before his return. When he did return in the year 432 AD, he lit the first Easter fire on the Hill of Slane.

The Rock of Cashel

The Rock of Cashel is in Co Tipperary. It is also known as St Patrick's Rock, Carraig Phádraig. It was here that Patrick is said to have baptised Aenghus, the King of Munster in the 5th Century. You can find more information at www.cashel.ie

Croagh Patrick, Co. Mayo

Croagh Patrick, overlooks Clew Bay in County Mayo, and it is considered the holiest mountain in Ireland. In 441 AD Patrick spent 40 days fasting on the top of this mountain. Each year about 1 million pilgrims climb Croagh Patrick. On 'Reek Sunday', the last Sunday in July, there are over 25,000 pilgrims on the mountain. For more information and pictures see www.croagh-patrick.com

To Do

Find all these places on a map of Ireland
Find out more about these and other sites associated with St Patrick
Compile a Fact File on one Sacred Site
Find out if there is anywhere in your parish that is associated with St Patrick or any other saint.

LÁ FHÉILE PÁDRAIG 17^ú MÁRTA

- Céiliúirimid Lá Fhéile Pádraig ar an 17^ú Márta gach bliain
- Is é Naomh Pádraig patrún na hÉireann
- Deirtear gur rugadh Naomh Pádraig sa bhliain 385 AD sa Bhreatain Bheag – áit dar ab ainm Banwen.
- Ag aois a sé mbliana déag, gabhadh Naomh Pádraig agus díoladh mar sclábhaí é le feirmeoir caorach.
- D'éalair sé nuair a bhí sé dhá bhliain is fiche agus chaith sé an chéad dhá bhliain déag eile i mainistir.
- Nuair a bhí sé sna tríochadaí d'fhill sé ar Éirinn mar misinéir.
- D'úsáid Naomh Pádraig an tseamróg chun a mhíniú do dhaoine faoin Tríonóid Naofa, sé sin go bhfuil triúr duine in aon Dia amháin – an tAthair, an Mac agus an Spiorad Naomh.
- Fuair Naomh Pádraig bás i Saul sa bhliain 461 AD agus cuireadh é i nDún Pádraig i gCo. an Dúin.
- Ceiliúrtar cultúr agus stair na hÉireann ar fud an domhain uilig ar Lá Fhéile Pádraig.
- Is lá saoire poiblí é Lá Fhéile Pádraig anseo in Éirinn ach an raibh a fhios agat gur ionainn an scéal i ndhá cheantair i gCeanada – Newfoundland & Labrador.
- Seo thíos iomann a chanaimid in onóir do Naomh Pádraig. Can an t-amhrán le do rang.



Dóchas Linn Naomh Pádraig

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Aspal mór na hÉireann
'Ainm oirirc gléigeal
Solas mór an tsaoil é
'S é do chloígh na draoithe
Croíthe dúra gan aon mhaith
D'ísligh dream an díomais
Tré neart Dé ar dtréanfhlaithe

Sléibhte gleannta maighe
's bailte mór' na hÉireann
Ghlan sé iad go deo dúinn
Míle glóir dár Naomh dhil
Iarraimid ort, a Phádraig
Guí orainne Gaela
Dia linn lá 'gus oíche
's Pádraig Aspal Eireann

ÉIST: www.kandle.ie/dochaslinnnaomhpadraig