



St Brigid's Cloak

Brigid and her friends wanted to tell all the people in the land about the love of God. They wanted everyone to hear the Good News that God loved them. Brigid decided that she must build a church, so that everyone would have a place to come when they wanted to talk to God. But Brigid had no land in which to build her church. *“Someone will have to give me land on which to build my church. I will go to the Chieftain and ask for a piece of ground.”*

And off she went. Now the Chieftain was a very sly man. He decided he would play a trick on her. When Brigid asked the Chieftain for some land on which to build her church, he said *“very well. Come with me.”* he took Brigid to the top of a hill. *“Look down there, all the land as far as you see, is mine, it belongs to me.”*

Then he told Brigid to take off her cloak. *“You ask me for land. I will give you as much land as your cloak can cover. Take it off and lay it down on the ground and see how much ground it covers.”* Brigid was very disappointed. She knew her cloak was very small and would not cover nearly as much land to build a church. The Chieftain laughed and laughed.

Brigid laid her cloak on the ground. You would hardly believe what happened next. The cloak began to grow bigger and bigger. It spread out wider and wider, further and further. The Chieftain stopped laughing. His face grew pale. The cloak was still growing. *“Stop it! stop it! Stop it now!”* now it was Brigid's turn to laugh. She told the cloak to stop. She had more than enough land now to build her church. She went back and told her friends what had happened. That night they thanked God for helping them with their church.