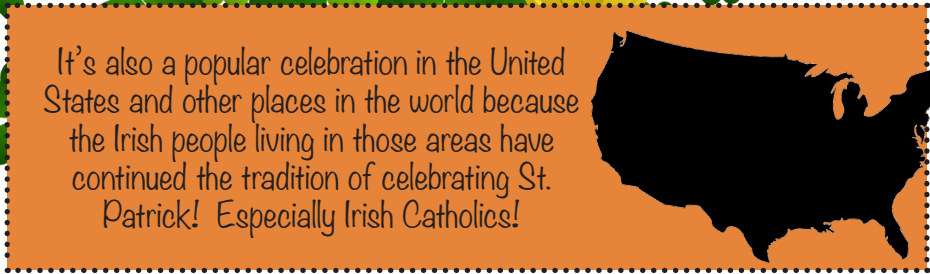


Saint Patrick's Day



St. Patrick's Day is the national holiday of Ireland.



It's also a popular celebration in the United States and other places in the world because the Irish people living in those areas have continued the tradition of celebrating St. Patrick! Especially Irish Catholics!



MARCH

It's celebrated on the 17th of March, because that is the date that St. Patrick died.



St. Patrick was born in the 4th century, was a bishop, and originally from England. When Saint Patrick became a priest, he went to Ireland as a missionary so that he could teach the people about God.



On St. Patrick's Day, people usually wear green clothes to honor St. Patrick who is almost always depicted wearing green!



The traditional food that is eaten on this day is corned beef and cabbage.

Saint Patrick was born in England, but when he was a teenager, he was captured by Irish pirates who took him to Ireland as a slave. After six years, Saint Patrick escaped and returned to England and his family.



Leprechauns are imaginary small Irish fairies who live in the forests. They make shoes and have lots of gold, but they are very unfriendly. They are associated with St. Patrick's Day because they are associated with Ireland, but they otherwise don't have anything to do with the Saint.



St. Patrick used examples to explain the mysteries of the faith in simple ways. One day, Saint Patrick compared the Trinity to a shamrock. He said that the shamrock has three leaves, but it is only one plant. In the same way, God is three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—but one God.

