

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Gen 12:1-2*

Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Hail glorious Saint Patrick, dear saint of our isle,
On us thy poor children bestow a sweet smile,
And now thou art high in thy mansion above,
On Erin's green valleys look down in thy love.

*On Erin's green valleys,
On Erin's green valleys,
On Erin's green valleys look down in thy love.*

Hail, glorious Saint Patrick
thy words were once strong
against Satan's wiles and infidel throng;
not less is thy might where in heaven thou art;
O, come to our aid in our battle take part.

OR

We praise and thank you our Father above,
who offers us peace in your kingdom of love.
Your people are saved by the death of your Son
who leads us to glory where all will be one.
Accepting this Gospel we honour Saint Patrick,
who taught in our land what your kindness has done.

Your word has revealed what our future will be,
"Raised up from earth I draw all men to me,"
May we like Saint Patrick bear witness to you,
reflecting your love in whatever we do.
He came to our country which once had enslaved him,
to preach the good news that God makes all things new.

(Same tune as Hail Glorious Saint Patrick)

Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And with your spirit.

THE FEAST OF ST PATRICK

17th March

Patrick was born very probably in the early years of the fifth century in Britain. He was taken captive at the age of 16 and brought to Ireland, where he worked as a slave. His captivity had a very positive effect on his spiritual life. He escaped back home at the age of 22. It was obvious to him that God was calling him to return to convert the Irish. After studies in Europe he returned to Ireland and made a very large number of converts. His spiritual journey is recounted in his Confession.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Brethren (Brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom: Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy

You came in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

You will come in glory with salvation for your people: Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

The absolution by the priest follows:

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,

Lord God, heavenly King,

O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten

Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the

Father,

you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;



you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

Lord, through the work of Saint Patrick in Ireland we have come to acknowledge the mystery of the one true God and give thanks for our salvation in Christ; grant by his prayers that we who celebrate this festival may keep alive the fire of faith he kindled.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

SIT

FIRST READING *Eccles (Sir) 39:6-10*

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus

If it is the will of the great Lord, the scholar will be filled with the spirit of understanding,
he will shower forth words of wisdom, and in prayer give thanks to the Lord. He will grow upright in purpose and learning, he will ponder the Lord's hidden mysteries.

He will display the instruction he has received, taking his pride in the Law of the Lord's covenant. Many will praise his understanding, and it will never be forgotten. His memory will not disappear, generation after generation his name will live. Nations will proclaim his wisdom, the assembly will celebrate his praises.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 115:12-19. R/. v. 12

R: How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?

1. How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?
 The cup of salvation I will raise;
 I will call on the Lord's name. **R.**
2. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people.
 O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. **R.**
3. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds.
 A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;
 I will call on the Lord's name. **R.**
4. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people,
 in the courts of the house of the Lord,
 in your midst, O Jerusalem. **R.**

SECOND READING

2 Tim 4:1-8

A reading from the Second Letter of St Paul to Timothy

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching. The time is sure to come when, far from being content with sound teaching, people will be avid for the latest novelty and collect themselves a whole series of teachers according to their own tastes; and then, instead of listening to the truth, they will turn to myths. Be careful always to choose the right course; be brave under trials; make the preaching of the Good News your life's work, in thoroughgoing service.

As for me, my life is already being poured away as a libation, as the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I

have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION

Jam 1:21

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

GOSPEL

Mt 13:24-32

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

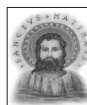
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this," he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air can come and shelter in its branches.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, *(All bow during the next three lines)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

SIT

Raising the host, the priest says:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.



The priest pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

Raising the chalice, the priest says:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

Bowing the priest says quietly:

With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, O Lord.

Then the priest washes his hands, saying quietly:

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity; and cleanse me from my sin.

— **STAND** —

Facing the people the priest says:

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all
his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Lord, accept this pure sacrifice which, through the labours of Saint Patrick, your grateful people make to the glory of your name. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II

PREFACE of St Patrick

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, and to proclaim your greatness with due praise as we honour Saint Patrick.

For you drew him through daily prayer in captivity and hardship to know you as a loving Father. You chose him out of all the world to return to the land of his captors, that they might acknowledge Jesus Christ, their Redeemer.

In the power of your Spirit you directed his paths to win the sons and daughters of the Irish to the service of the Triune God. And so, with the Angels and Archangels, and with the great multitude of the Saints, we sing the hymn of your praise, as without end we acclaim:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your
glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

— **KNEEL** —

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.

The Priest joins his hands and, holding them extended over the offerings, says:

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body ✠ and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND
DRINK FROM IT,
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY
BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND
ETERNAL COVENANT,
WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR
YOU AND FOR MANY
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.**

DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

The mystery of faith

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

Then the Priest, with hands extended, says:

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you. Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Francis our Pope, **N.** our Bishop, his assistant Bishop(s), and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph her Spouse, with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

The Priest takes the chalice and the paten with the host and, elevating both, he says:

Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

COMMUNION RITE

— **STAND** —

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:
Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And with your Spirit.

The priest may add these or similar words.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The priest places a small piece of the host in the chalice saying quietly:

May this mingling of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

Meanwhile the people sing or say:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

— KNEEL —

The priest says quietly:

May the receiving of your Body and Blood, Lord Jesus Christ, not bring me to judgment and condemnation, but through your loving mercy be for me protection in mind and body, and a healing remedy.

Raising the host the priest says:

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

And together with the people he says once:

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

May the Body of Christ keep me safe for eternal life.

The Priest reverently consumes the Body of Christ.

Then he takes the chalice and says quietly:

May the Blood of Christ keep me safe for eternal life.

The Priest raises a host slightly and shows it to each of the communicants, saying:

The Body of Christ. **Amen.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Cf. Mt 8: 11*

Many will come from east and west and sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob at the feast in the Kingdom of Heaven, says the Lord.

COMMUNION HYMN

Céad míle fáilte romhat,
a Íosa, a Íosa,
Céad míle fáilte romhat, a Íosa,
Céad míle fáilte romhat,
a Shlánaitheoir,
Céad míle fáilte romhat,
Íosa, a Íosa.

Glóir agus moladh duit, a Íosa,
a Íosa,
Glóir agus moladh duit, a Íosa.
Glóir agus moladh duit,
a Shlánaitheoir,
Glóir, moladh agus buíochas duit,
Íosa, a Íosa.

PRIVATE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Christ with me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me, Christ in me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right hand,
Christ on my left hand,
Christ where I sit, Christ where I arise,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

(St. Patrick's Breastplate: adapted)

— STAND —

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Strengthen us, O Lord, by this sacrament so that we may profess the faith taught by Saint Patrick and to proclaim it in our way of living. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

SOLEMN BLESSING

May God the Father, who called us together to celebrate this feast of Saint Patrick, bless you, protect you and keep you faithful. **Amen.**

May Christ the Lord, the High King of Heaven, be near you at all times and shield you from evil. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, who is the source of all holiness, make you rich in the love of God's people. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain for ever. **Amen.**

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

**Christ be near at either hand,
Christ behind, before me stand,
Christ with me where e'er I go.
Christ around, above, below.**

**Christ be in my head and mind
Christ within my soul enshrined,
Christ control my wayward heart;
Christ abide and ne'er depart.**

**Christ my life and only way,
Christ my lantern night and day;
Christ be my inchanging friend,
Guide and shepherd to the end.**