

## Apostle of Ireland

Maewyn Succat, was born in North Cumbria, UK. His parents Calpurnius and Conchessa cared dearly for him. At age 16, he was taken prisoner by Irish pirates. He arrived in Ireland, brought in captivity for six years. He prayed each day for his liberty, at last, he was freed and returned to England.

Lost in the wilderness, hunger and solitude filled in his days, he urged his comrades to pray. Surprisingly, they found a herd of wild boars, which helped them sustain their bodies. At last, he found his family. With faith renewed, he resolved to study Christianity.

He went to *Auxerre*, *Marmoutier Abbey*, and *Lérins*, France. Later, St. Germanous of *Auxerre*, Bishop of France ordered him into priesthood in the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church. His name was changed to Patrick and he began his mission. In years behind he had had a vision, he saw a man by name Victoricus

carrying loads of letters, he handed one to Patrick. The heading said: "The Voice of the Irish," the text sounded like voices of people in *Foclut*,<sup>1</sup> Ireland saying: "We appeal to you holy servant boy, come and walk among us." Because of this vision, he

returned to Ireland to complete his mission. There, doubt and hostility awaited. He suffered disdain, false charges, the burdens of immigrants, who live far from their land. Despite all of this, he baptized and converted thousands in Ireland, in England, then, all over the world!

Tales tell, the saint's ash wood walking staff took root and flourished in *Aspatria*,<sup>2</sup> as he waited his message of the dogma to reach the faithful. After his death, he became the Patron Saint of Ireland. From North to South, from East to West, Christians celebrate

St. Patrick's blessings, they dress up in green, they go to parades, they wear leprechaun hats and lapels. In three green rounded leaves, with faith, he taught the Triune: The Father, The Son, and the Holy Ghost. He saw in a shamrock the Most Holy Secret of the Trinity.

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<sup>1</sup> Patrick Mc Neill in *The Identification of Foclut*. A place by the Western Sea, now called County Mayo at Killala Bay, Ireland. Galway Archaeological and Historical Society. Vol. 22, No, 3/4. 1947.

<sup>2</sup> Parliamentary constituency of Workington, Cumbria, England. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aspatria>



**St. Patrick's Cathedral, NYC**



**St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin- Ireland**



**St. Patrick, Patron of Ireland**



**St. Patrick's Church, Butte, MT**

