

Novena in honour of Saint Patrick

There is no other God, there never was and there never will be, than God the Father unbegotten and without beginning, from Whom is all beginning, holding all things as we have learnt; and His Son, Jesus Christ Whom we declare to have been always with the Father and to have been begotten spiritually by the Father in an indescribable way, before the beginning of the World, before all beginning; and through Him are made all things, visible and invisible. He was made man, defeated death and was received into Heaven by the Father, who has given Him all power over all names in Heaven, on Earth, and under the Earth; and every tongue should acknowledge to Him that Jesus Christ is the Lord God. We believe in Him and we look for His coming soon, as judge of the living and of the dead, Who will treat every man according to His deeds. He has poured out the Holy Spirit on us in abundance, the gift and guarantee of eternal life, Who makes those who believe and obey sons of God and joint heirs with Christ. We acknowledge and adore Him as one God in the Trinity of the Holy Name.

[Through the same Christ, Our Lord, Amen].

Taken from the Confession written by St Patrick, paragraph 4, "Profession of Faith in the Trinity"

Confessio

Quia non est alius Deus nec umquam fuit nec ante nec erit post haec praeter Deum Patrem ingentum, sine principio, a quo est omne principium, omnia tenentem, ut didicimus; et huius filium Iesum Christum, quem cum Patre scilicet semper fuisse testamur, ante originem saeculi spiritaliter apud Patrem <et> inenarrabiliter genitum ante omne principium, et per ipsum facta sunt visibilia et invisibilia, hominem factum, morte devicta in caelis ad Patrem receptum, *et dedit illi omnem potestatem super omne nomen caelestium et terrestrium et infernorum et omnis lingua confiteatur ei quia Dominus et Deus est Iesus Christus*, quem credimus et expectamus adventum ipsius mox futurum, *iudex vivorum atque mortuorum, qui reddet unicuique secundum facta sua*; et effudit in nobis habunde Spiritum Sanctum, donum et pignus immortalitatis, qui facit credentes et oboedientes, ut sint *filii Dei et coheredes Christi*: quem confitemur et adoramus unum Deum in trinitate sacri nominis.

An Fhaoistin

Mar níl Dia ar bith eile ann ná ní raibh riamh ná ní bheidh go deo ach Dia an tAthair, gan ghiniúint gan tús, ar uaidh gach tús, ar leis an uile ní, de réir mar cuireadh in iúl dúinn; agus a Mhac, Íosa Críost, a ndearbhaímid faoi go raibh Sé in éineacht leis an Athair i gcónaí, a gineadh ón Athair go spioradálta ar mhodh do-labhartha roimh thosach an tsaoil, roimh an uile thosach, a ndearnadh gach ní, so-fheicthe agus dofheicthe, tríd; rinneadh ina dhuine É, bhuaigh Sé ar an mbás, glacadh ins na flathis fairis an Athair É, agus thug Seisean dó gach cumhacht, os cionn an uile ainm dá bhfuil ar neamh, ar talamh agus faoin talamh, agus admhóidh gach teanga dó gurab É Íosa Críost an Tiarna Dia. Is ann a chreidimid agus táimid ag súil lena theacht gan mhoill ina bhreitheamh ar bheo agus ar mhairbh le cúiteamh a thabhairt de réir a ngníomhartha. Agus dhoirt Sé orainne go fras an Spiorad Naomh, tabhartas agus geall na beatha síoraí, Eisean a dhéanas clann mhac Dé agus comh-oidhrí le Críost díobh siúd a chreideas ann agus a umhlaíos Dó. Is é a admhaímid agus a adhraimid, aon Dia amháin i dTríonóid an ainm naofa.



Daily Prayer

O glorious Saint Patrick, Apostle of Ireland!
I praise, bless, and glorify God for thy
sanctity, thy zeal, thy charity, thy labours,
and the success of thy labours.
I thank thee, O great Saint Patrick,
for watching over and preserving the faith
of the Irish people.

O dearest Saint Patrick!
heed not the unworthiness of thy children;
but continue, in the future as in the past,
to pray for them.

(here mention your petitions)

(remember this Parish also)

(be united with all those at prayer)

O glorious Apostle, Saint Patrick, guard and preserve, to the Day of Judgment,
the purity of the faith and morals of thy people in every land and in every clime.

O beloved Saint Patrick! obtain from God that Erin, and also our dear country of Alba,
may become again what they formerly were, "The lands of Saints and Scholars." Amen.

Litany of St. Patrick

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously hear us.

God, the Father of Heaven, have mercy on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us.

God the Holy Ghost, have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us.

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us.**

*St. Patrick, apostle of Ireland,**

*St. Patrick, vessel of election,**

*St. Patrick, model of bishops,**

*St. Patrick, enemy of infidelity,**

*St. Patrick, consumed with zeal,**

*St. Patrick, example of charity,**

*St. Patrick, glory of Ireland,**

*St. Patrick, instructor of little ones,**

*St. Patrick, our powerful protector,**

*St. Patrick, our compassionate advocate,**

*Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.*

*Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.*

*Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.*

V. Pray for us, O glorious St. Patrick.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

O God, Who didst send Thy blessed servant St. Patrick to instruct and save Thy people, and didst infuse into his heart so great a share of Thine own tenderness, charity, and zeal, listen, we beseech Thee, to the prayers which we now offer up in union with the prayers of this glorious patron and father in heaven, and grant us, through his intercession, the intentions of this Novena, and the grace rather to die than to offend thee. Amen.

Hymns

Father Faber's Hymn

All praise to St. Patrick, who brought to our
mountains
The gift of God's faith, the sweet light of his love!
All hail to the shepherd who showed us the
fountains
That rise in the heart of the Saviour above!
For hundreds of years, in smiles and in tears,
Our saint has been with us, our shield and our stay;
All else may have gone, Saint Patrick alone,
He has been to us light when earth's lights were all
set,
For the glories of faith they can never decay;
And the best of our glories is bright with us yet,
In the faith and the feast of Saint Patrick's Day!

There is not a saint in the bright courts of heaven
More faithful than he to the land of his choice;
Oh, well may the nation to whom he was given,
In the feast of the sire and apostle rejoice!
In glory above, true to his love,
He keeps the false faith from his children away;
The dark false faith far worse than death,
Oh, he drives it far off from the green sunny shore,
Like the reptiles that fled from his curse in dismay;
And Erin, when error's proud triumph is o'er,
Will still be found keeping Saint Patrick's Day.

Then what shall we do for the heaven sent father?
What shall the proof of our loyalty be?
By all that is dear to our hearts we would rather
Be martyred sweet Saint, than bring shame upon
thee.
But oh, he will take the promise we make,
So to live that our lives by God's help, may display
The light that he bore to Erin's shore.
Oh Yes Father of Ireland! no child wilt thou own
Whose life is not lighted by grace on its way;
For they are true Irish, ah yes, they alone,
Whose hearts are all true on Saint Patrick's day.

St Patrick's Lorica (Breastplate)

I bind unto myself today
the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three.

I bind this day to me forever,
by power of faith, Christ's incarnation,
his baptism in the Jordan river,
his death on cross for my salvation,
his bursting from the spiced tomb,
his riding up the heavenly way,
his coming at the day of doom,
I bind unto myself today.

I bind unto myself today
the virtues of the starlit heaven,
the glorious sun's life-giving ray,
the whiteness of the moon at even,
the flashing of the lightning free,
the whirling wind's tempestuous shocks,
the stable earth, the deep salt sea
around the old eternal rocks.

I bind unto myself today
the power of God to hold and lead,
God's eye to watch, God's might to stay,
God's ear to hearken to my need,
the wisdom of my God to teach,
God's hand to guide, God's shield to ward,
the word of God to give me speech,
God's heavenly host to be my guard.

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

I bind unto myself the name,
the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three,
of whom all nature has creation,
eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation;
salvation is of Christ the Lord!

The Parish Anthem

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

Hail, glorious St. Patrick, thy words were once strong
Against Satan's wiles and a heretic throng;
Not less is thy might where in Heaven thou art;
Oh, come to our aid, in our battle take part!

In a war against sin, in the fight for the faith,
Dear Saint, may thy children resist to the death;
May their strength be in meekness, in penance, and prayer,
Their banner the Cross, which they glory to bear.

Thy people, now exiles on many a shore,
Shall love and revere thee till time be no more;
And the fire thou hast kindled shall ever burn bright,
Its warmth undiminished, undying its light.

Ever bless and defend the sweet land of our birth,
Where the shamrock still blooms as when thou wert on earth,
And our hearts shall yet burn, wherever we roam,
For God and St. Patrick, and our native home.

Scotland's Hymn

Oh Bless us, St Patrick, in Scotland today,
Enthroned in thy glory, oh bless us, we pray!
The Faith of our Fathers to Scotland restore,
And love of Our Lady as in days of yore.

This land has forgotten the debt which we owe
To thy saintly sons who came here long ago
The light of God's grace to this country bring
And win us for ever to serve Christ our King.

But we who remember, united in prayer,
Here beg thee to shield us with thy loving care.
May darkness no longer our country enfold
Bring Scotland, St Patrick, again to the fold!

For round us the shadows of sin have returned.
Thy message of sweetness and love is now spurned.
Oh help us thy children, when danger draws nigh,
As true sons of Mary to live and to die!

In God we shall conquer, His cross we shall bear.
All sorrows and slights for His sake we shall dare.
Brave knights in His service our lives we shall spend.
And fight for the Faith till life's battle shall end.

Give strength to our will, keep our heart ever pure.
In temptation's hour grant us grace to endure.
When tempest assail us on life's stormy sea,
The Rock of St Peter our safeguard shall be!

Fill earth with the blessing of love and of peace,
That all hate may vanish, all warfare may cease.
This world has grown weary of force and of fraud.
Oh guide it, St Patrick, and lead it to God!

VT CHRISTIANI ITA ET ROMANI SITIS

This inscription is found on façade of the Triumphal Arch on the south entrance to the church. It comes from the *Dicta Patricii*, or Sayings of St. Patrick, and means
Be ye Christians as those of the Roman Church

Aeclessia Scottorum immo Romanorum, ut Christiani ita et Romani sitis, et decantetur vobiscum ut oportet omni hora orationis vox illa laudabilis: Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Church of the Scots, nay of the Romans, as ye are Christians so also be Romans; and let that praiseworthy sentence be chanted by you at every (canonical) hour, as it ought to be: Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us.

