

# ST. PATRICK'S DAY

*March 17*



## ORIGIN OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY

The Irish have observed St. Patrick's Day as a religious holiday since the island's conversion to Christianity in the early Middle Ages.

The stories of origin about Saint Patrick vary, but according to legend, his birth name was Maewyn and he was born in the fourth century in Roman Britain. Kidnapped by pirates at the age of sixteen, Maewyn was sold into slavery and taken to Ireland. He spent several years herding sheep there and learning about the people. He eventually escaped to a monastery in Gaul (France) and converted to Christianity. When he later became a bishop, he was given the name Patricius (Patrick), and went back to Ireland as a missionary where he helped spread Christianity throughout the country. After his death on March 17, 461, Patrick was named Ireland's patron saint.

St. Patrick's Day was first celebrated in the American colonies in 1737. The Charitable Irish Society of Boston organized a feast and a religious service to honor and celebrate the Irish culture that so many colonists had been separated from. It included a feast and a religious service, and was held primarily to honor and celebrate the Irish culture that so many colonists had been separated from.

The first St. Patrick's Day parade in New York City took place on March 17, 1762, giving the Irish soldiers serving in the English military the opportunity to reconnect to their roots. Today, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated by people of varied backgrounds around the globe with parades, dancing, special foods, and of course, lots of

**green!**

## *Did you know?*

According to Irish legend, the shamrock became associated with St. Patrick's Day because the saint used the three-leafed plant as a metaphor for the Holy Trinity when he was first introducing Christianity to Ireland.

*also:*

Your odds of finding a four-leaf clover are about 1 in 10,000.

## LAKE ISLE OF INNISFREE

*a poem by William Butler Yeats*

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,  
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made:  
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honey-bee,  
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.  
And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,  
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;  
There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,  
And evening full of the linnet's wings.  
I will arise and go now, for always night and day  
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;  
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey,  
I hear it in the deep heart's core.

## AN IRISH BLESSING

*May your thoughts  
be as glad as the  
shamrocks,*

*May your heart be as  
light as a song,*

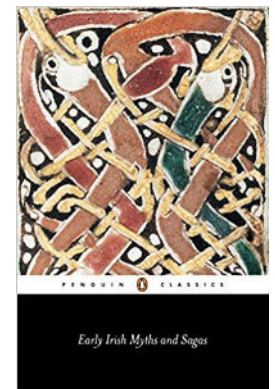
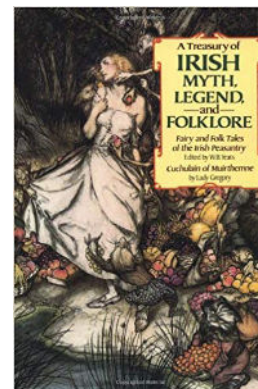
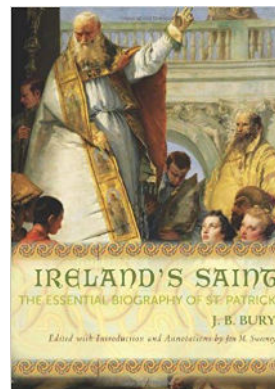
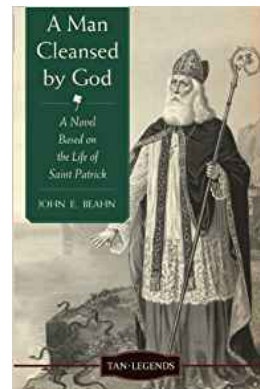
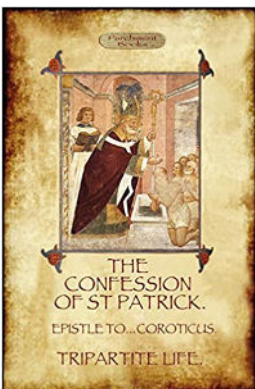
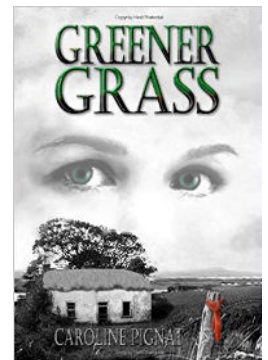
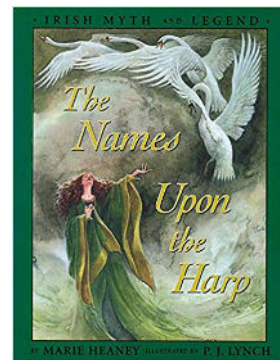
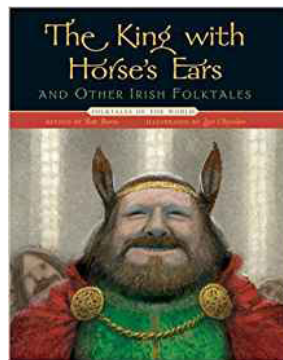
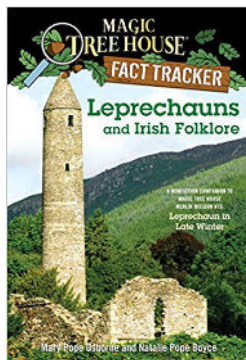
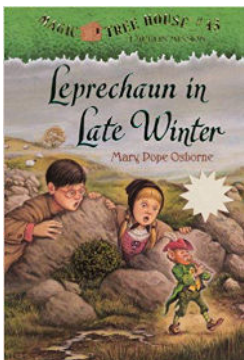
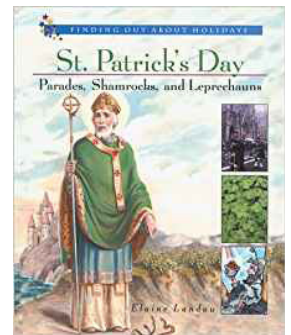
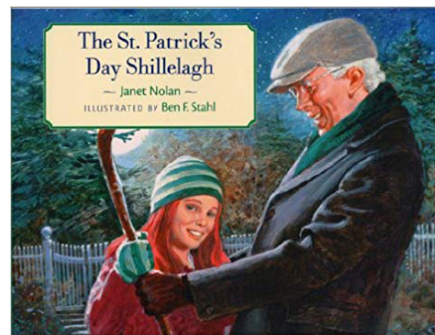
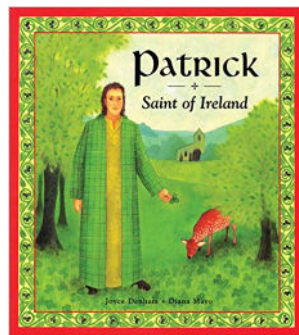
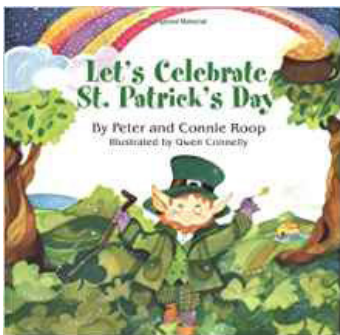
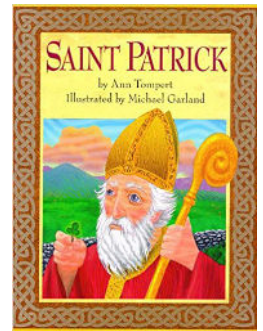
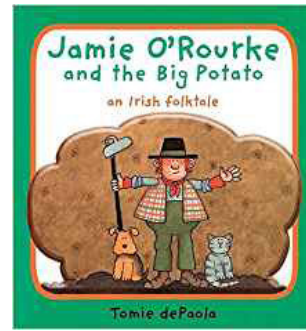
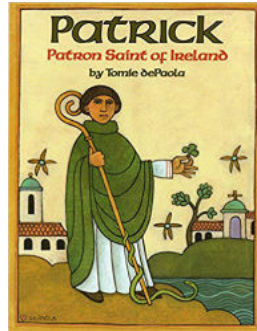
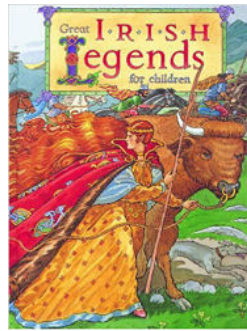
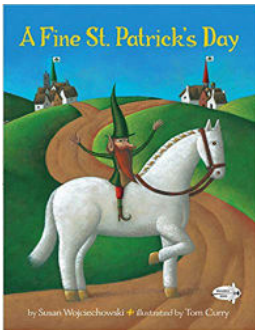
*May each day bring  
you bright, happy  
hours,*

*That stay with you all  
the year long.*

**INNISFREE IS A REAL PLACE!** A small, uninhabited island (just like Yeats said it was!), it is situated in a lake called Lough Gill in Sligo County, Ireland.



# a small selection of books



SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS + MORE

# a small selection of books

## CONTINUED

TITLE	AUTHOR	LEVEL
<i>The Night Before St. Patrick's Day</i>	Natasha Wing	PreK-Pri
<i>A Fine St. Patrick's Day</i>	Susan Wojciechowski	PreK-Pri
<i>That's What Leprechauns Do</i>	Eve Bunting	PreK-Pri
<i>St. Patrick's Day in the Morning</i>	Eve Bunting	PreK-Pri
<i>Jack and the Leprechaun</i>	Ivan Robertson	PreK-Pri
<i>Great Irish Legends for Children</i>	Yvonne Carroll	PreK-Int
<i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	Gail Gibbons	K-Pri
<i>Patrick Patron Saint of Ireland</i>	Tomie dePaola	K-Int
<i>Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato</i>	Tomie dePaola	PreK-Int
<i>Let's Celebrate St. Patrick's Day</i>	Peter and Connie Roop	K-Int
<i>Patrick: Saint of Ireland</i>	Joyce Denham + Diane Mayo	K-Int
<i>The St. Patrick's Day Shillelagh</i>	Janett Nolan	Pri-Int
<i>Leprechaun in Late Winter (Magic Tree House)</i>	Mary Pope Osborne	Pri-Int
<i>Leprechauns and Irish Folklore: A Nonfiction Companion to Leprechaun in Late Winter</i>	Mary Pope Osborne	Pri-Int
<i>The Story of Saint Patrick</i>	James A. Janda	K-LMS
<i>Shamrocks, Harps, and Shillelaghs: The Story of the St. Patrick's Day Symbols</i>	Edna Barth	Int-LMS
<i>A Pot O' Gold: A Treasury of Irish Stories, Poetry, Folklore, And (of course) Blarney</i>	Kathleen Krull	Int-UMS
<i>The King with Horse's Ears and Other Irish Folktales</i>	Batt Burns	Int-UMS
<i>The Names Upon the Harp: Irish Myths and Legends</i>	Marie Heaney	Int-UMS
<i>The King of Ireland's Son</i>	Padraic Colum	LMS + older
<i>Greener Grass</i>	Caroline Pignat	UMS + older
<i>The Confession of Saint Patrick</i>	Saint Patrick	HS-Adult
<i>Patrick: In His Own Words (includes the Latin and English!)</i>	Joseph Duffy	HS-Adult
<i>The Wisdom of St. Patrick</i>	Greg Tobin	HS-Adult

# a small selection of books

## CONTINUED

TITLE	AUTHOR	LEVEL
<i>A Man Cleansed by God: A Novel Based on the Life of Saint Patrick</i>	John Edward Beahn	HS-Adult
<i>St. Patrick of Ireland: A Biography</i>	Phillip Freeman	HS-Adult
<i>Ireland's Saint: The Essential Biography of Saint Patrick</i>	J.B. Bury	HS-Adult
<i>Fairy and Folk Tales of the Irish Peasantry</i>	William Butler Yeats (Editor)	HS-Adult
<i>Early Irish Myths and Sagas</i>	Jeffrey Gantz (Translator)	HS-Adult

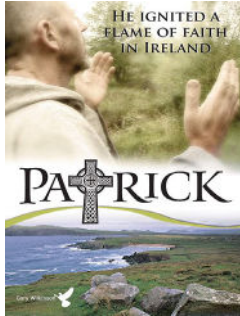
### *parents:*

#### PLEASE PREVIEW ALL MATERIALS BEFORE SHARING WITH YOUR CHILD

You are the best judge of what is appropriate for your child/ren and what they will enjoy. Try checking [goodreads.com](https://www.goodreads.com) for reviews.



# MOVIES + TELEVISION



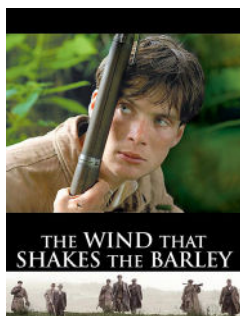
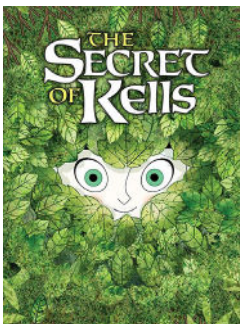
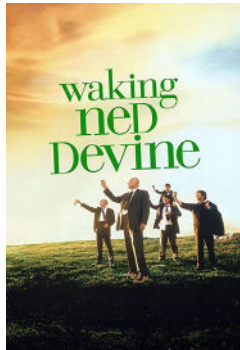
## DOCUMENTARIES

- *Patrick* (2004)
- *The History of Saint Patrick's Day* (2010)
- *In Search of Ancient Ireland* (2002)
- *The Story of Ireland* (2011)
- *A Short History of Ireland* (1998)



## MOVIES/MINISERIES/TV SERIES

- *St. Patrick: The Irish Legend* (2000)
- *Into the West* (1992)
- *Finian's Rainbow* (1968)
- *The Secret of Kells* (2009)
- *Song of the Sea* (2014)
- *Darby O'Gill and the Little People* (1959)
- *Into the West* (1992)
- *The Secret of Roan Inish* (1994)
- *A Shine of Rainbows* (2009)
- *Waking Ned Devine* (1998)
- *The Quiet Man* (1952)
- *Da* (1998)
- *Dancing at Lughnasa* (1998)
- *The Molly Maguires* (1970)
- *The Legend of Longwood* ((2014)
- *Evelyn* (2002)
- *The Field* (1990)
- *The Wind That Shakes the Barley* (2006, not rated but contains a lot of violence and language, so use parental judgment)



## AND MORE:

- <http://www.history.com/topics/st-patricks-day>
- [https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=saint+patrick](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=saint+patrick)
- <http://kidstvmovies.about.com/od/stpatricksdaysday/tp/stpatricksmov.htm>
- [Riverdance Example \(or any YouTube videos with Irish dancing\)](#)

# links

## Poetry

Irish Blessings, quotations, proverbs, and toasts  
100 Irish Poems

## Information + Activities

### Various Grades

<http://www.history.com/topics/st-patricks-day/history-of-st-patricks-day>

<https://www.ireland.com/en-us/articles/regions/irelands-ancient-east/irelands-ancient-east/>

<https://www.freehomeschooldeals.com/?s=st+patricks+day>

<http://www.blessedbeyondadoubt.com/the-ultimate-list-of-saint-patricks-day-resources-and-ideas-2/>

<https://www.familyeducation.com/search/st%20patricks%20day>

<http://www.thecraftycrow.net/st-patricks-day/>

<http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/st-patricks-day/printables/>

<https://sallysbakingaddiction.com/grandmas-irish-soda-bread/>

<http://watchknowlearn.org/Category.aspx?CategoryID=462>

<https://www.teachervision.com/search/st%20patricks%20day>

[http://www.teach-nology.com/teachers/lesson\\_plans/holidays/stpats/](http://www.teach-nology.com/teachers/lesson_plans/holidays/stpats/)

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/unit/st-patricks-day-everything-you-need>

<http://www.parents.com/recipes/holidays/st-patricks-day-snacks/#page=1>

<http://www.parents.com/fun/arts-crafts/kid/st-patricks-day-crafts-for-kids/#page=1>

<http://www.dltk-holidays.com/patrick/>

<http://www.dltk-kids.com/world/ireland/index.htm>

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/article/printable-st-patricks-day-props>

## Preschool/Kindergarten:

<http://www.coloring.ws/patrick.htm>

<http://coloringbookfun.com/St%20Patricks%20Day/index.html> <http://livingmontessorinow.com/2015/02/15/free-st-patricks-day-printables-montessori-inspired-st-patricks-day-phonics-activities/>

[http://www.bigactivities.com/ctd/st\\_patricks\\_day/](http://www.bigactivities.com/ctd/st_patricks_day/)

## Primary/Intermediate

<https://www.education.com/worksheets/st-patricks-day/>

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/stpatrick/>

<http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/st-patricks-day-crafts>

## Intermediate/Lower Middle School

<https://www.education.com/worksheets/fifth-grade/st-patricks-day/>

<http://www.incredibleart.org/links/stpatricks.html>

<https://hattifant.com/st-patricks-day-shamrock-coloring-pages/>

## Upper Middle School/High School

<http://www.getcoloringpages.com/celtic-knot-coloring-pages>

<https://www.gaelicmatters.com/celtic-knot-symbols.html>

[https://juliannakunstler.com/art2\\_celtic\\_knots.html](https://juliannakunstler.com/art2_celtic_knots.html)

[https://www.ancient.eu/Book\\_of\\_Kells/](https://www.ancient.eu/Book_of_Kells/)

<http://www.irishcultureandcustoms.com/>