

Saint Patrick's Day

by Deanna Alexander



Saint Patrick's Day, also known as The Feast of Saint Patrick day, is celebrated on March 17th each year which is the traditional day of Saint Patrick's death.

This day observes Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland. It also celebrates the heritage and culture of Ireland.





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Saint Patrick was a Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland. He was know for spreading Christianity in the fifth century. He was born in 387 AD and died 461 AD.

Traditionally blue was the color that represented Saint Patrick's Day. It later changed to green. Green represents Ireland, the Emerald isle and the shamrock that Saint Patrick holds.

Ireland



The shamrock represents the holy trinity. It was used by Saint Patrick to teach Pagans about the holy trinity. This was a simple representation that all levels of education could understand. The leaves represent the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

(Deanna Alexander)



Today, many people wear an item of green or a shamrock on Saint Patrick's Day. Be careful, if you are not wearing green you may get pinched. This tradition is a way to say shame you for not participating. It is also an American tradition dating back to the 1700's. If you are not wearing green you may get pinched by a mischievous leprechaun.

A leprechaun is an Irish fairy. It is not known exactly why the leprechaun is associated with Saint Patrick's Day. One theory speculates that Americans' have lumped together Irish symbols.



Celebrations include parades, parties, festivals, the wearing of green, eating corned beef and cabbage and Mass services.