The Page and the Epistle



FEATURES

FEATURE: THE HISTORY OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY

MARCH 30, 2021 | JOSEPH MOSTWIN | 34 COMMENTS

St. Patrick's Day is one of the most renowned and beloved holidays around the world. Every year, March 17this widely anticipated as it comes with an abundance of festive parades, Irish culture, leprechaun hunts, four leaf clovers, and green everywhere. But how much do we really know about its origins, or who St. Patrick was?

St. Patrick was born in England in the year 385. At the age of 16, he was kidnapped and taken to Ireland, where he was forced to work as a shepherd. Throughout this ordeal, Patrick was a devout Catholic and found solace in his faith. He prayed and worshipped often, and even testified that God told him how to escape his captors. Patrick did as God instructed him, which was to travel to the coast and board the ship there that would take him home. A few years after his escape, he returned to Ireland in order to convert the people there to Christianity. After he died in 461, he became considered the patron saint of Ireland.

After his death, the Irish wanted to celebrate St. Patrick and his profound contributions to Catholicism. The day of his death, March 17, became a national holiday to celebrate his legacy. Many people associate St. Patrick's Day with drinking. While the Catholic Church permits drinking in modera-

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tion, it opposes the over-indulgence of alcohol. Therefore, this element of St. Patrick's Day may seem somewhat contradictory because many people like to use this festive holiday as an excuse to remove the restrictions of Lent and drink rather excessively.

An iconic symbol of St. Patrick's Day is the shamrock, or three-leaf clover. It is associated with St Patrick because when he was in Ireland spreading Christianity, he is said to have used the three-leaf clover as a visual representation of the holy trinity of the father, son, and holy spirit to teach the Irish people about God and Jesus. As a result, the tradition of wearing shamrocks or green clothing during St. Patrick's Day became highly popular among celebrators.

While the holiday originated in Ireland, it is now celebrated all around the world. The spread of St. Patrick's Day can mostly be attributed to the immigration of Irish people to different countries, particularly to North America. As they settled in new countries, they introduced the people there to St. Patrick's Day and all the festivities that go along with it. In some cases, the Irish immigrants, large in number, had even larger holiday celebrations in countries like the United States and Canada than in Ireland.

The global scale of the holiday serves as an opportunity for Ireland to be recognized worldwide. It is now common for the Irish Prime Minister to travel to different countries during the holiday and meet with world leaders to discuss politics, but also to take part in special celebrations. Most notably, the Prime Minister traditionally presents the President of the United States with a bowl of shamrocks.

In the United States, St. Patrick's Day is a wonderful holiday that celebrates the Irish culture and its history. It is already incredibly popular and will certainly continue to be prominent for many years to come.





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34 THOUGHTS ON "FEATURE: THE HISTORY OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY"

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MAY 6, 2022 AT 2:16 PM

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Violette

MAY 25, 2022 AT 3:01 AM I was just telling my friend about that.

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Would you recommend starting with a free platform like WordPress or go for a paid option? There are so many options out there that I'm completely confused ..

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Reagan

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You controlled to hit the nail upon the highest and also defined out the whole thing without having side effect, other folks can take a signal.

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concept

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Louisa

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JULY 1, 2022 AT 4:57 PM

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Dacia

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Hung

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Herbert

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