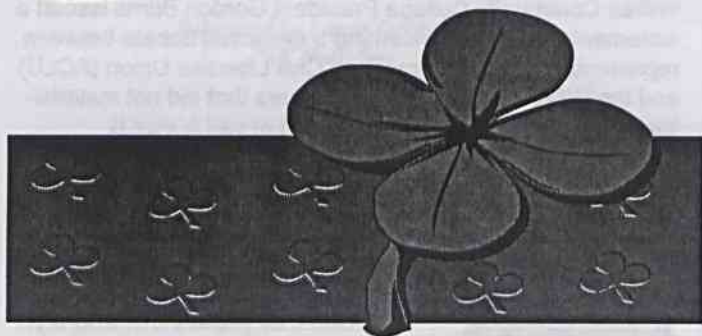


St. Patrick's Day



St. Patrick's Day Trivia

1. What is a synonym for *greenback*?
2. Do you need a *green card* if you are a US citizen?
3. Which state is the *Green Mountain State*?
4. If you were in a *greenroom*, what would you be preparing to do?
5. For which sport is a *greens fee* paid?
6. What does the word *greenhorn* describe?
7. If you had a *green thumb*, what would be your talent?
8. For what type of job would you wear a *green beret*?
9. If you were described as behaving *green-eyed*, would that be positive or negative?
10. On which continent is *Greenland* located?

The Legend of St. Patrick's Day

By: Carrie Rogers

St. Patrick was born in Britain, the son of an English Magistrate in the late fourth century A.D. At the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by pagan Irish raiders and sold into slavery in Ireland. Time alone on a mountainside tending his master's sheep awakened his spirituality and God became the focus of his life. After seven years in captivity, he had a dream directing him to the seashore where he would find a ship to take him to freedom. Patrick followed the path revealed to him in his dream and escaped.

Upon returning to his homeland from captivity, he was haunted by memories of Ireland. Even though he was born British, he considered himself Irish because it was in Ireland that he discovered his faith in God. Again he had his vision, this time compelling him to return to Ireland to preach the gospel.

As a missionary to Ireland, Patrick suffered many trials, including imprisonment by the Druids. However, after winning favor with local kings, conflict with the Druids lessened and he converted many peasants to Christianity. For 28 years, Patrick traveled across the countryside, spreading the word of God.

By the spring of 461, after spending many years spreading the gospel, St. Patrick's life was nearing its end. He died on March 17, after a long and fruitful life. The clans of Ireland began to bicker over who should receive the honor of having his final resting place on their land. To avoid this sacrilegious end to his life, friends secretly took his body away to be buried in a secret grave.

So, where do the color green and shamrocks enter the picture? St. Patrick is said to have spoken much about the trinity-the father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Some say he traveled the green, shamrock covered hills of Ireland, using the shamrock to illustrate the trinity. In honor of St. Patrick's Day, adorn yourself in green so you won't get pinched and remember the message of St. Patrick who spent his life sharing the gospel with those who had enslaved him.



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