

Kilcullen Parish Newsletter

Church of the Sacred Heart & St. Brigid, Kilcullen.

Church of St. Joseph, Gormanstown.

Registered Charity Number 20016166

Saint Patrick Man, Truth, Legend

Indeed, the figure behind all these celebrations seems so shadowy that many People's first question about Patrick is: Did he really exist?

Exist he did. He is the only Roman citizen whose name we know who, once captured and sold into slavery beyond the frontiers of the empire, escaped and whose story has come down to us. Later, probably much later, he returned to the land of his captivity as a bishop intent on announcing the gospel as a missionary in places where it had not been heard, and because while there he wrote two short works in Latin which have survived, we know of him and his work.

I see him as a Christian bishop, from a well-to-do clerical family on the frontier of a crumbling empire, who preached the faith of the Latin wing of the church and who had an intense belief in the special importance of his mission in bringing about the completion of the preaching of Christ.

(excerpt taken from "Patrick (ebook) Thomas O'Loughlin)

**God our Father,
you sent Saint Patrick to
preach your glory to the
people of Ireland.
By the help of his prayers,
may all Christians proclaim
your love to all men.
Grant this through our
Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.**

Amen

ST. PATRICK'S PRAYER

St. Patrick's prayer for the faithful captures the wonderful spirit that made him Ireland's patron saint and one of the Church's most beloved missionaries.

May the Strength of God pilot us.
May the Power of God preserve us.
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.
May the Hand of God protect us.
May the Way of God direct us.
May the Shield of God defend us.
May the Host of God guard us.
Against the snares of the evil ones.
Against temptations of the world
May Christ be with us!
May Christ be before us!
May Christ be in us,
Christ be over all!
May Thy Salvation, Lord,
Always be ours,
This day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.