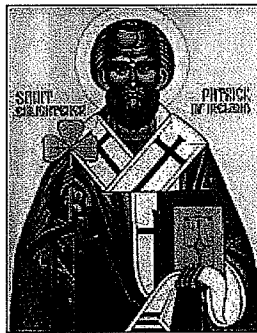




The Olive Shoots  
St. Symeon Orthodox Church  
March 17, 2013

✙ St. Patrick of Ireland ✙



GREAT LENT BEGINS TOMORROW!

"The Lord opened the Understanding of my  
unbelieving heart, so that I should recall my sins."

~ St. Patrick

Monday-Thursday: Great Canon of St. Andrew of  
Crete at 6:30 PM

Friday: Presanctified Liturgy at 6:30 PM

Saturday: Vespers at 6:00 PM

Check out our website-[theoliveshoots.webstarts.com](http://theoliveshoots.webstarts.com)!



### **Troparion — Tone 3**

Holy Bishop Patrick, / Faithful shepherd of Christ's royal flock, /  
You filled Ireland with the radiance of the Gospel: / The mighty  
strength of the Trinity! / Now that you stand before the Savior,  
/ Pray that He may preserve us in faith and love!

### **Kontakion — Tone 4**

From slavery you escaped to freedom in Christ's service: / He sent  
you to deliver Ireland from the devil's bondage. / You planted the  
Word of the Gospel in pagan hearts. / In your journeys and  
hardships you rivaled the Apostle Paul! / Having received  
the reward for your labors in heaven, / Never cease to pray for the  
flock you have gathered on earth, / Holy bishop Patrick!

### **Today's Bible Verse:**

“For if you forgive men their trespasses,  
Thy heavenly Father will also forgive  
thee.”

**- Matthew 6: 14**

What does this mean?

If you forgive people who did something  
wrong on Earth, then God will forgive  
you in Heaven.

## St. Patrick

**St. Patrick** was born in **England**. He was born with the name **Maewyn** (*May-Win*) Succat (*Socket*) and he grew up just as other kids did. He went to school, and he went to church. At the age of 16, he was **kidnapped** by **pirates** and taken to **Ireland**. There He was renamed "Pig Boy." He fed pigs, and watched the people of Ireland pray to things like Twigs and Pond Scum. They practiced a religion called **Paganism**. Pagans believe that everything is a god and that everything is powerful. There are wrong! Then he remembered what he learned in church about God. He started to pray all day every day, and soon, he would pray over 100 times a day! He had already lived there for 6 years! One night as he was praying, he was told by God that he could leave Ireland. He went on a boat to France, and started school again. After living in France for a while, he had a dream that the people of Ireland needed him to teach them about **God**. He finished school, and became a **Bishop**, and changed his name to Patrick. The **Saint** returned to Ireland and taught the people there about the **Trinity** using a 3 leaf **clover**. The Trinity is similar to a clover or Shamrock because he is 3 persons in one. He is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy **Spirit**. A shamrock has 3 leaves and it is one plant. St. Patrick died on March 17, and became a saint in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century.

Use the bold words in the story and write them below, and then find them in the word search.

### **Saint Patrick**

K U Y V Y F M Q E T U A S H B  
D C N M I D A C Y P I E S I W  
S H I U H U E M C T I R S B O  
H C S R D K W Q U A A H I R G  
D S N B T P Y V R Z O U I P Y  
Y F L U D A N I K P T X M A S  
M T C D K H P I D R E V O L C  
O O W A R T D C N G L K L J R  
Y J T H V N U A A A B I V T L  
O W N R A R B V L J I W I N M  
F R Z P I U C D G B U Q B I B  
N H P Q Y N O G N F R I Y A Y  
C E K T V G I R E L A N D S D  
D R Y H Q S T T M Q E W R O G  
M S I N A G A P Y R M X D H W

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