

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

16. 03. 2025

Celebrating Patron's Day: Honouring Our Heritage, Faith, and the Spirit of Lent

St Patrick lived in England in the 4th century. He was a young man who was kidnapped and worked as a slave in Ireland, after escaping and returning home, he eventually returned to Ireland, and preached the gospel in Ireland, resulting in many souls being saved. Patron's Day is celebrated on 17th March every year across the world and in Christian/Irish communities.

Patron's Day is a time of reflection, gratitude, and celebration, honouring the legacy of those who have guided and supported our community. It is a day to acknowledge the selfless contributions of our patrons—be they are spiritual leaders, educators, or benefactors—who have shaped our lives and institutions. Their unwavering dedication continues to inspire us to serve others with kindness and faith.

This celebration takes on even greater significance as it falls within the season of Lent, a time of prayer, sacrifice, and renewal. Just as Lent calls us to reflect on Christ's ultimate sacrifice and our own spiritual growth, Patron's Day invites us to consider how we can follow the example of our patrons—through acts of service, generosity, and humility. Their legacy is a reminder that true greatness lies in selfless giving and unwavering faith, values that resonate deeply during this Lenten season.

As we prepare our hearts for Easter, Patron's Day serves as a powerful encouragement to deepen our faith and commitment to others. Whether through charitable works, prayer, or acts of kindness, we honour our patrons by continuing their mission of love and service.

A quote from St Patrick states, " I cannot keep silent, nor would it be proper, so many favours and graces has the Lord deigned to bestow on me in the land of my captivity."

It is only through selfless living and sacrifice that we really see the blessings of God. As we seek God more through a sacred time of reflection and renewal, the blessing from Numbers 6:24-26 seems most relevant.

"The Lord bless thee and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace".

Thank God for the sacrifice made by many for His glory and most of all, thank God for His sacrifice as we reflect upon this during Lent, and I pray that the Lord opens our hearts to live lives of faith, compassion, and service, just as those before us have done.
