

# Theme: Saint Patrick, Enlightener of Ireland

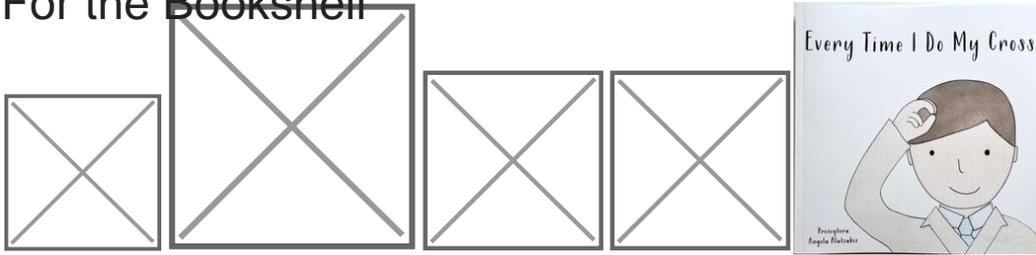
Mini-study on Saint Patrick and the Holy Trinity.

Feast day: 17th of March

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# Overview

For the Bookshelf



For the Toy Shelves

[Saint Patrick Printables](#) and [Colouring Sheets](#)

Outings

# The Life of Saint Patrick

## Introduction

Watch a fourteen-minute video, "[Storytime with Presbytera: Saint Patrick](#)", or in Gaelic a four-minute video, "[Pàdraig Naomh](#)".

## Activity 1

Learn to sing the chorus of "[Pàdraig Abstol, Alleluia!](#)"

## Activity 2

Saint Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland. Make twisty pipe-cleaner snakes. Put them all in one basket or tub, then roll a dice and count out that many snakes into a second basket or tub. Repeat until all the snakes are gone.



## Lunch Snack

Literally any green food arranged like a three-leaf shamrag.

## Activity 3

Make a Trinity shamrock craft, such as [this one](#). You could display it on a background stamp-printed with three corks or a capsicum.



## Activity 4

Watch a one-minute video: "[Còig Criomagan Latha Fhèil Phàdraig](#)".



# The Holy Trinity

## Introduction

Watch a four-minute video, "[St. Patrick's Bad Analogies](#)".

## Activity 1

Make triangles, squares, and line segments from toothpicks and playdough. Use them to make 3D shapes. Which is the strongest? What does that tell us about the Holy Trinity?

## Activity 2

Make nine large equilateral triangles (skewers, out of cardboard, etc) and colour each corner: red, blue, and yellow. Try to put all these triangles into [one large triangle](#). Then, try to make sure that each corner where the triangles meet has one of each colour.

## Lunch Snack

Make triangle food.

## Activity 3

Make a trinity knot stained-glass suncatcher or a triskelion knot.



## Activity 4

Learn the "[Trinity Song](#)" to the tune of Frère Jacques:

God the Father, God the Father,

God the Son, God the Son,

God the Holy Spirit, God the Holy Spirit,

Three in One, Three in One.

# The Sign of the Cross

## Introduction

Watch a six-minute video from Rocko's Music Factory: "[The Sign of the Cross](#)".

## Activity 1

Read through Part 8 of [St. Patrick's Breastplate](#):

Crìosda leam / Christ with me

Crìosda romham / Christ before me

Crìosda na mo dhèidh / Christ behind me

Crìosda annam / Christ within me

Crìosda fodham / Christ beneath me

Crìosda tharam / Christ above me

Crìosda air deas orm / Christ at my right

Crìosda air tuath orm / Christ at my left

Then, taking an icon of Christ, act it out: move the icon in front of, behind, to the left to the right, et cetera, as you read out the poem. For "Christ within me", do not swallow the icon; hold it between arms and chest, or bend over around it.

## Activity 2

Practice making the sign of the cross. Make sure to imagine it as two lines across your body, rather than four points.

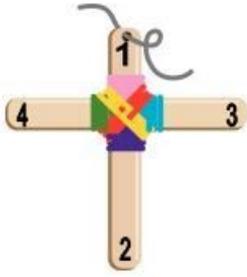
Discuss and practice the hand shape: three fingers for the Trinity and two pointing down for Christ's two natures. Really, making the sign of the cross is like a mini version of Patrick's Verse 8.

## Lunch Snack

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## Activity 3

Make a Sign of the Cross pop-stick necklace, with numbers to remind you which order to make the points in. Wear it on your chest like a pectoral cross - or like St. Patrick's breast-plate.



## Activity 4

Learn to sing "Dia air mo chulaibh" to the tune of "Be thou my vision".

*DIA AIR MO CHÙLAIBH, DIA RI MO THAOBH  
DIA AIR MO BHEULAIBH IS 'NA MO BHEUL;  
DIA 'NA MO CHRIDHE IS DIA 'NA MO SMUAIN  
DIA LEAM GACH LATHA IS GU SÌORRAIDH BUAN.  
AMEN  
AIR FONN "SOILLS' AIR MO SMUAIN"*