



**ANCIENT ORDER  
OF HIBERNIANS**



## ***Who was Saint Patrick?***

Look at a calendar and you'll find holidays marked on certain days. For example, Americans celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday in January, President's Day in February and Independence Day on the Fourth of July. All of these holidays are related to important events in American history. But on the calendar for March you'll find that March 17 is St. Patrick's Day.

In the Catholic Church, St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. Since so many Irish people immigrated to the United States and celebrated St. Patrick's Day after they arrived, St. Patrick's Day has been assimilated (become a part of) American culture and lots of people do special things for this holiday.



St. Patrick lived in the fourth century A.D. It's hard to know exactly when he was born so long ago but it is known that he was born in Britain and that his parents were wealthy. When Patrick was sixteen his family estate was attacked by Irish robbers and they took Patrick back to Ireland as a prisoner where he stayed in captivity for six years. During this time Patrick worked as a shepherd and it is reported that he became a devout Christian. He claimed that God told him to leave Ireland and managed to escape his captors.

Patrick made his way back to Britain. After returning to Britain, Patrick believed that an angel appeared to him in a dream to tell him to become a missionary in Ireland. After fifteen years of study, he became a priest and then returned to Ireland to convert people to Christianity. Other stories about St. Patrick call him a bishop and say that he built schools, churches and monasteries. Without good written records, it's hard to know some of the exact details but legends abound.

One legend says that St. Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland. But scientists tell us that Ireland, which is an island, didn't have any snakes to begin with. The Druids were pagans in Ireland who used the serpent as a symbol and perhaps converting them to Christianity could be considered as driving out snakes. It's believed that St. Patrick died on March 17 which is why we celebrate St. Patrick's Day on that date.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Who was Saint Patrick? Graphic Organizer

Who

What

When



Where

Why

How

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the correct answer.

1. Why do we as American's celebrate St. Patrick's Day if he is the patron saint of Ireland?
  - a. It's his birthday; we celebrate it like Martin Luther King Day
  - b. He represents an important event in American history
  - c. The Irish holiday has been assimilated into American culture
  - d. None of the above
  
2. Where was St. Patrick born?
  - a. Ireland
  - b. America
  - c. Britain
  - d. France
  
3. What happened when robbers attacked his family's estate?
  - a. They burned down the house.
  - b. They took Patrick as a prisoner.
  - c. They took Patrick to the United States.
  - d. They took Patrick to Britain.
  
4. Patrick eventually became a priest. Where did he serve as a missionary?
  - a. Ireland
  - b. Britain
  - c. America
  - d. All of the above
  
5. Who were the Druids?
  - a. The robbers who attacked Patrick's family estate
  - b. Pagans living in Ireland
  - c. Christians living in Ireland
  - d. Bishops living in Britain
  
6. People say that St. Patrick's drove the snakes out of Ireland.
  - a. This is a legend.
  - b. This may be symbolic of driving out paganism.
  - c. Both a. and b. above
  - d. None of the above

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Short Answer Questions

1. Why do we have holidays?
2. Why do Americans celebrate St. Patrick's Day?
3. How did Patrick spend his early life, up to about the age of 22?
4. What did Patrick do when he returned to Ireland?
5. Do you believe the legend that Patrick drove all the snakes out of Ireland?  
Why or why not?
6. Why do we celebrate St. Patrick's Day in March?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

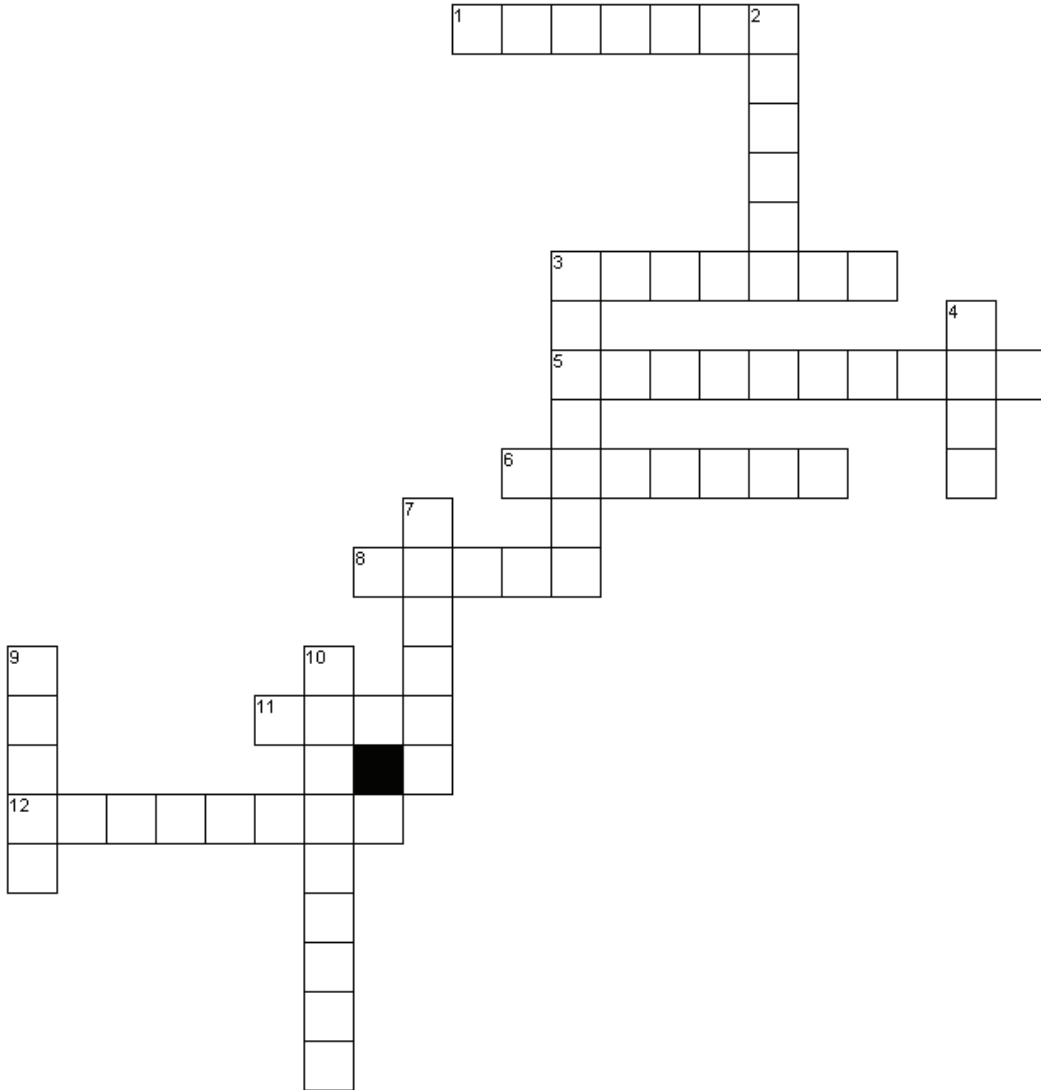
## St. Patrick's Day Vocabulary Words

<b>saint</b>	a person officially recognized, especially by canonization, as being entitled to public veneration and capable of interceding for people on earth
<b>Irish</b>	of or relating to Ireland or its people, language, or culture
<b>blarney stone</b>	a stone in Blarney castle, Ireland, said to make those who kiss it proficient in the use of blarney
<b>emerald</b>	a brilliant green to grass-green transparent variety of beryl, used as a gemstone
<b>leprechaun</b>	one of a race of elves in Irish folklore who can reveal hidden treasure to those who catch them
<b>gold</b>	soft, yellow, corrosion-resistant element, the most malleable and ductile metal, occurring in veins and alluvial deposits and recovered by mining or by panning or sluicing. A good thermal and electrical conductor, gold is generally alloyed to increase its strength, and it is used as an international monetary standard, in jewelry, for decoration, and as a plated coating on a wide variety of electrical and mechanical components
<b>Dublin</b>	the capital and largest city of Ireland, in the east-central part of the country on the Irish Sea
<b>rainbow</b>	an arc of spectral colors, usually identified as red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet, that appears in the sky opposite the sun as a result of the refractive dispersion of sunlight in drops of rain or mist
<b>shamrock</b>	a trifoliate plant used as a national emblem by the Irish. The legend is that St. Patrick once plucked a leaf of it for use in illustrating the doctrine of the trinity.
<b>parade</b>	an organized public procession on a festive or ceremonial occasion
<b>colcannon</b>	an Irish dish of mashed potatoes and cabbage, seasoned with butter
<b>luck</b>	The chance happening of fortunate or adverse events
<b>St. Patrick</b>	a patron saint of Ireland; an English missionary to Ireland in the 5th century
<b>Belfast</b>	the capital and largest city of Northern Ireland

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# St. Patrick's Day Crossword Puzzle Worksheet



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Across**

1. a brilliant green to grass-green transparent variety of beryl, used as a gemstone
3. stone a stone in Blarney castle, Ireland, said to make those who kiss it proficient in the use of blarney
5. one of a race of elves in Irish folklore who can reveal hidden treasure to those who catch them
6. an arc of spectral colors, usually identified as red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet, that appears in the sky opposite the sun as a result of the refractive dispersion of sunlight in drops of rain or mist
8. a person officially recognized, especially by canonization, as being entitled to public veneration and capable of interceding for people on earth
11. soft, yellow, corrosion-resistant element, the most malleable and ductile metal, occurring in veins and alluvial deposits and recovered by mining or by panning or sluicing
12. a trifoliate plant used as a national emblem by the Irish. The legend is that St. Patrick once plucked a leaf of it for use in illustrating the doctrine of the trinity.

**Down**

2. the capital and largest city of Ireland, in the east-central part of the country on the Irish Sea
3. the capital and largest city of Northern Ireland
4. The chance happening of fortunate or adverse events
7. an organized public procession on a festive or ceremonial occasion
9. of or relating to Ireland or its people, language, or culture
10. an Irish dish of mashed potatoes and cabbage, seasoned with butter

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## St. Patrick's Day Vocabulary Quiz Worksheet

Directions: Match each vocabulary word on the left with its definition on the right.

1. gold                      the capital and largest city of Ireland, in the east-central part of the country on the Irish Sea
2. emerald                the capital and largest city of Northern Ireland
3. colcannon            an arc of spectral colors, usually identified as red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet, that appears in the sky opposite the sun as a result of the refractive dispersion of sunlight in drops of rain or mist
4. leprechaun           one of a race of elves in Irish folklore who can reveal hidden treasure to those who catch them
5. shamrock             a patron saint of Ireland; an English missionary to Ireland in the 5th century
6. Irish                    an organized public procession on a festive or ceremonial occasion
7. Dublin                 soft, yellow, corrosion-resistant element, the most malleable and ductile metal, occurring in veins and alluvial deposits and recovered by mining or by panning or sluicing. A good thermal and electrical conductor, gold is generally alloyed to increase its strength, and it is used as an international monetary standard, in jewelry, for decoration, and as a plated coating on a wide variety of electrical and mechanical components
8. Belfast                the chance happening of fortunate or adverse events
9. blarney stone        a trifoliate plant used as a national emblem by the Irish: The legend is that St. Patrick once plucked a leaf of it for use in illustrating the doctrine of the trinity.
10. rainbow              an Irish dish of mashed potatoes and cabbage, seasoned with butter
11. saint                  of or relating to Ireland or its people, language, or culture
12. St. Patrick            a stone in Blarney castle, Ireland, said to make those who kiss it proficient in the use of blarney
13. parade                a person officially recognized, especially by canonization, as being entitled to public veneration and capable of interceding for people on earth
14. luck                    a brilliant green to grass-green transparent variety of beryl, used as a gemstone



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## St. Patrick's Day Word Search Worksheet

**Directions:** Find each word. All words are positioned left to right.

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

DUBLIN	GOLD	LEPRECHAUN	ST. PATRICK
EMERALD	BLARNEY STONE	COLCANNON	IRISH
PARADE	RAINBOW	SHAMROCK	LUCK
BELFAST	SAINT		



**ANCIENT ORDER  
OF HIBERNIANS**



## **Answer Key**

### **Multiple Choice**

1. c.      2. c.      3. b.      4. a.      5. b.      6. c.

### **Short Answer**

1. To celebrate important events in history or religion
2. Many Irish people immigrated to the United States. Americans have included St. Patrick's Day into our culture from the Irish immigrants.
3. He was born to wealthy parents and lived on the family estate until he was 16. He was captured by robbers and taken captive to Ireland where he worked in captivity as a shepherd. He finally escaped and returned to Britain at about the age of 22.
4. Patrick had become a priest after he escaped from captivity. He returned to Ireland as a missionary to convert people to Christianity.
5. We shouldn't believe the legend. Ireland, which is an island, didn't have any snakes to begin with.
6. It's believed that St. Patrick died on March 17 which is why we celebrate St. Patrick's Day on that date.

### **St. Patrick's Day Crossword puzzle**

**Across:** 1. emerald      3. Blarney Stone      5. leprechaun      6. Rain  
8. saint      11. Gold      12. shamrock

**Down:** 2. Dublin      3. Belfast      4. Luck      7. Parade  
9. Irish      10. colcannon