

# OUR REDEEMER MONTHLY NEWS

## March 2023

Who was Saint Patrick?

Despite popular practice, Saint Patrick is not the Patron Saint of green beer. Patrick wasn't even Irish. He was British, lived in the 400's, and was born to parents who were Romanized. That is, they kept a stone villa, had a large bath-house for multiple people, had a fish farm, even had indoor plumbing, of a sort. They were Christians, but surrounded by Picts and Celts who were not.

When Patrick was about sixteen years old, just a year after having been declared a man rather than a youth, Irish pirates came to the land, killed his parents, and took Patrick as a slave. Taken to Ireland, Patrick was put to work on a farm as a herder of cattle. He did not attempt to escape, he did not try to kill his captors, but instead, with patience, one-by-one, he told the people around him the message of Jesus Christ. Most laughed. Some, though, heard, and believed. In time, though, he was given a vision of a boat waiting for him, and he left, took the boat, and returned to Britain.

After just a few years of freedom, however, he was given another vision, in which the Lord told him to return to Ireland, and to preach the Gospel openly. Very much like Saint Paul, when he was told by the Lord to go to the Gentiles, and to share the message of Jesus. It had to be in God's time, though. Also like Saint Paul, he was never ordained by the laying of hands, but by the direct Word of God he was chosen to go, and to make disciples. Patrick had very little formal education, but, he knew enough of the Word of God that God Himself told Patrick to go. He went.

Day after day, Patrick moved from place to place in Ireland, proclaiming the Gospel, and baptizing in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. And, like Saint Paul, he was often chased down or chased out of towns he visited, even ending up in chains in prison at least once.

His work, however, bore fruit. The newly converted to the Christian faith became very fervent for the Lord. And they, too, continued the work of spreading the Gospel.

Oddly, there doesn't seem to be any evidence of the popular story of him having chased out the snakes and serpents from the land. That, along with other stories about him, came from followers who sought to attribute miraculous powers to Patrick. What they missed, however, is that he did perform many miracles – the bringing of the heathen into Life in Christ. He was finally detained for the last time by an annoyed king, and put to death on March 17 in the year 460 AD.

So, where does that put us? Suppose, for just a moment, that you were captured, put into slavery? Where would your heart be? Would your heart still be trusting in the Lord Jesus, that He has never abandoned you, has not forsaken you, will never forget you? Or, would you give up? How strong is your faith in times of deepest trouble, when the world seems to have collapsed around you? I say, "you," but it applies to me, too.

So, let's say, "US" – where is the faith of any one of us? Do we have the fortitude to prayerfully share to peace of God with those who persecute us most harshly? Do we have it in us to forgive those who killed our parents, and ripped us out of our comfortable little worlds?

Further question: Do we really want to be remembered popularly not as the Great Missionary to the Pagans, but as the Patron Saint of Soda Bread and Green Beer? So, celebrate the life of a man called to do the work of God, to share the Good News. And if you want to celebrate with Irish Stew, Corned Beef with Cabbage, Shepherd's Pie, and a mug of beer, do so remembering why Saint Patrick is indeed SAINT Patrick.

### **Network Name and Password**

ORLC Network Name: ORLC-Sanc-WiFi

Password: OrLcWiFiWax214

ORLC Outdoor Network Name: NETGEARACA35F-SETUP

Password: sharedsecret

Click-meeting link: Ourredeemerph.clickmeeting.com

### **Website**

Our website: **[ourredeemerprospectheights.org](http://ourredeemerprospectheights.org)** contains links for in person worship registration, Livestream online worship, Bible Studies, Bulletins and Monthly News, and Online Giving. Check it often.

### **Email address for Pastor Leichman**

If you would like to send an email to Pastor Leichman, please use the following address: [Pastor@ourredeemerprospectheights.org](mailto:Pastor@ourredeemerprospectheights.org).

### **Prayer Request Information**

If you have a prayer request, please notify Jim Burmeister via text at (847) 343-3798, Phone (847)934-5963 home or (847)343-3798 cell; or via email at [elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org](mailto:elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org).

### **Wheeling Food Pantry Wish List**

The Wheeling Township food pantry is in need of the following items: Beverages (especially juice in 1 liter bottles or 2 quart sizes), Fruit (especially apple sauce, peaches and pineapple), Meat (such as beef stew, chili or corned beef), Potatoes (such as au gratin, instant mashed or scalloped), Rice (especially flavored boxes). Items need to be dropped off at the Wheeling Township office located at 1616 N Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights. Questions can be directed to Julie Villarreal at 847-259-7730.

### **Adult in person Bible Study**

Please join us for in person Adult Bible Study continues on Wednesdays starting at 11:00 am.

### **March Voter's Meeting**

There will be a Voter's Meeting on Sunday March 12<sup>th</sup> immediately following Worship.

### **SONSHINE PRESCHOOL SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER**

THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU

We would like to thank everyone for making our annual Spaghetti Dinner/Fundraiser a huge success. We were able to make over 100 meals which were enjoyed by all. It wouldn't have been such a huge success without the help of our Church members and preschool parents. Thanks for the many donations and support from everyone. We hope everyone enjoyed having the 'indoor' seating again and our short little preschool program of 'Betty Spaghetti'. Again, thanks and we look forward to doing this again next year.  
Sonshine Preschool Staff – Traudy Burmeister, Stacey Hall, Allison Sanchez



March	1 – Laurie Drake	22 – Ray Clow
	5 – JoAnn Clow	29 – Fred Vosecky
	12 – Laurel Merges	Beth Hartmann
	18 – Robin Reschke	31 - Betty Greenholt
	20 – Mario Santiago	

**Celebrating**   
*An Anniversary This Month*

March No Anniversaries this month

# MARCH

March	1	11:00 am	Adult in person Bible Study
	5	9:00 am	2nd Sunday in Lent With Communion
	7	4:30 pm	BOD Meeting
	8	11:00 am	Adult in person Bible Study
	11		Daylight Savings time begins tomorrow. Before you go to bed tonight, move your clocks ahead 1 hour.
	12	9:00 am	3rd Sunday in Lent No Communion March Birthday's Coffee and...
		10:00 am	Voter's Meeting
	15	11:00 am	Adult in person Bible Study
	19	9:00 am	Fourth Sunday in Lent With Communion
	22	11:00 am	Adult in person Bible Study
	26	9:00 am	5th Sunday in Lent No Communion
	29	11:00 am	Adult in person Bible Study