

# Novena To Saint Patrick

Strive to imitate the innocence and extraordinary piety of which St. Patrick was a most beautiful model even during the flower of his youth. Request him to obtain for you and all Christians an increase of the holy faith which he planted in the land of our forefathers. Celebrate with the greatest piety possible his feast which falls, as you know, on the 17th of March. The Novena can be said at any time during the year.

O Blessed Apostle of Ireland! glorious St. Patrick! who didst become my father and benefactor long before my birth, receive my prayers, and accept the sentiments of gratitude and veneration with which my heart is filled towards thee. Thou wert the channel of the greatest graces to me; deign then to become also the channel of my grateful thanksgivings to God for having granted me, through thee, that precious gift of faith, which is dearer than life. O most blessed father, and patron of my country! do not, I beseech thee, despise my weakness. Remember, that the cries of little children were the mysterious invitation thou didst receive to come among us. Listen then to my most humble supplications; I unite them to the praises and blessings which will ever follow thy name and thy memory throughout the Irish Church; I unite them to the prayers of the multitude of my ancestors, who now enjoy eternal bliss, and owe their salvation, under God, to thy zeal and charity. They will eternally share thy glory, because they listened to thy word, and followed thy example. Ah! since I am descended from saints, may I blush to differ from them: may I begin from this moment to love God with all my heart, and serve him with all my strength. For this end I most humbly beg thy blessing, O great St. Patrick! and thy particular intercession, for obtaining whatever grace thou seest to be most necessary for me, and also the particular intentions of this Novena.

O charitable Shepherd of the Irish flock! who wouldst have laid down a thousand lives to save one soul, take my soul, and the souls of all Christians, under thy special care, and preserve us from the dreadful misfortune of sin. Thy zealous preaching provided us the blessings of religious instructions which we now enjoy; obtain that none of us may receive them in vain. Thou didst teach our ancestors to love our holy Faith, obtain for us that we may be true to it till death. I most humbly recommend to thee this country, which was so dear to thee while on earth. Protect it still; and above all, obtain for its pastors, particularly those who instruct us, the grace to walk in thy footsteps, that they may share in thy eternal bliss.

*(Conclude novena with the Litany of St. Patrick)*

Litany of St. Patrick

*Lord, have mercy.*

*Christ, have mercy.*

*Lord, have mercy.*

*Christ, hear us.*

*Christ, graciously hear us.*

*God, the Father of Heaven, have mercy on us.*

*God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us.*

*God the Holy Ghost, have mercy on us.*

*Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us.*



*Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us.\**  
*St. Patrick, apostle of Ireland,\**  
*St. Patrick, vessel of election,\**  
*St. Patrick, model of bishops,\**  
*St. Patrick, enemy of infidelity,\**  
*St. Patrick, consumed with zeal,\**  
*St. Patrick, example of charity,\**  
*St. Patrick, glory of Ireland,\**  
*St. Patrick, instructor of little ones,\**  
*St. Patrick, our powerful protector,\**  
*St. Patrick, our compassionate advocate,\**

*Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,  
Spare us, O Lord!*

*Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,  
Graciously hear us, O Lord!*

*Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,  
Have mercy on us.*

*V. Pray for us, O glorious St. Patrick.*

*R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

*Let us pray:*

O God, Who didst send Thy blessed servant St. Patrick to instruct and save Thy people, and didst infuse into his heart so great a share of Thine own tenderness, charity, and zeal, listen, we beseech Thee, to the prayers which we now offer up in union with the prayers of this glorious patron and father in heaven, and grant us, through his intercession, the intentions of this Novena, and the grace rather to die than to offend thee. Amen.

### Hymn: St. Patrick, Apostle and Patron of Ireland.

On wings of holy charity  
To Erin's coast Saint Patrick came,  
To curb the devil's tyranny,  
And spread the love of Jesu's name.

The Faith is firm in Erin's land,  
And Patrick dear to Irish hearts;  
Though heresy has raised her brand,  
And struck her sons with Satan's dart.

Through ages lone of gloomy night  
Our Fathers in fell bondage lay,  
When Patrick brought the Gospel's light,  
To light in truth our heavenward way.

The Faith is firm in Erin's land,  
And Patrick dear to Irish hearts;  
Though heresy has raised her brand,  
And struck her sons with Satan's dart.

### Prayer to St. Patrick as your Patron Saint

Saint Patrick, whom I have chosen as my special patron, pray for me that I, too, may one day glorify the Blessed Trinity in heaven. Obtain for me your lively faith, that I may consider all persons, things, and events in the light of almighty God. Pray, that I may be generous in making sacrifices of temporal things to promote my eternal interests, as you so wisely did.

Set me on fire with a love for Jesus, that I may thirst for His sacraments and burn with zeal for the spread of His kingdom. By your powerful intercession, help me in the performance of my duties to God, myself and all the world.

Win for me the virtue of purity and a great confidence in the Blessed Virgin. Protect me this day, and every day of my life. Keep me from mortal sin. Obtain for me the grace of a happy death. Amen

Then by celestial doctrine taught,  
To Faith and Hope was Erin turned:  
The flame of Love her children caught,  
And Peter's Chair their Faith confirmed.

The Faith is firm in Erin's land,  
And Patrick dear to Irish hearts;  
Though heresy has raised her brand,  
And struck her sons with Satan's dart.

Still, Patrick, pray that sin may fly  
From every Irish heart and home,  
And those who love to own thee nigh,  
In lawless ways may never roam.

The Faith is firm in Erin's land,  
And Patrick dear to Irish hearts;  
Though heresy has raised her brand,  
And struck her sons with Satan's dart.