



My Dear Parishioners,

Praise be Jesus Christ! Thanks to all who made our 40 Hours Celebration so beautiful, Lent at St. Patrick's is off to a terrific start! This Saturday, we welcome to our parish Bishop Chylinski. He will be here Saturday to bestow the Sacrament of Confirmation on 19 of our young people. Please pray for them. In addition to welcoming a Bishop this week, we celebrate a Bishop, Saint Patrick, our Patron. I share with his autobiographical reflection. May the Slave turned Saint, fill your heart with HOPE!

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

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### A REFLECTION OF ST. PATRICK *(In his own words)*

My name is Patrick. I am a sinner, a simple country person, and the least of all believers...I was taken into captivity in Ireland, along with thousands of others. We deserved this, because we had gone away from God, and did not keep his commandments.

It was there that the Lord opened up my awareness of my lack of faith. Even though it came about late, I recognized my failings. So I turned with all my heart to the Lord my God, and he looked down on my lowliness and had mercy on my youthful ignorance. He protected me and consoled me as a father does for his son.

This is why I cannot be silent – nor would it be good to do so—about such great blessings and such a gift that the Lord so kindly bestowed in the land of my captivity. This is how we can repay such blessings, when our lives change and we come to know God, to praise and bear witness to his great wonders before every nation under heaven.

After I arrive in Ireland, I tended sheep every day, and I prayed frequently during the day. More and more the love of God increased, and my sense of awe before God. Faith grew, and my spirit was moved, so that in one day I would pray up to one hundred times, and at night perhaps the same. I even remained in the woods on the mountain and I would rise to pray before dawn in snow and ice and rain. I never felt the worse for it, and I never felt lazy—as I realize now, the spirit was burning in me at this time....

I remained on in Ireland and that not of my own choosing, until I almost perished. However it was very good for me, since God straightened me out, and he prepared me for what I would be today. I was far different then from what I am now, and I have care for others.

I must take care not to hide the gift of God which he has generously given us in the land of my captivity. It was then that I looked for him with all my strength, and there I found him, he protected me from all evils--- this is what I believe---on account of his Spirit living and working in me to this very day....So I'll never stop giving thanks to my God who kept me faithful in that time of my temptation, I can today with confidence offer my soul to Christ my Lord as a living victim. He is the one who defended me in all my difficulties...Whatever comes about for me, good or bad, I ought to accept them equally and give thanks to God. He has shown me that I can put my faith in him without wavering and without end.

(Confessions of St. Patrick, 1-3;16-28;33-34)



## ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT ST. CHARLES BORROMEO SEMINARY

Thursday, March 27, 2025  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Join your fellow parishioners for a day trip to the new campus of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary on Thursday, March 27. Upon our arrival, we will be greeted by our Seminarians Michael & Josh who will be our tour guides. This day will include a personal

guided tour of the campus, a Holy Hour in the Immaculate Conception Chapel, and lunch with our seminarians. We will **car pool** to the Seminary and **depart from St. Patrick Church parking lot at 9:00AM with estimated return time of 2:00PM**. Please bring a bagged lunch.

For more details on transportation and to join us, please contact **Jen Keller in the Parish Office at 610-444-4364 or**

**[jenkellersp@gmail.com](mailto:jenkellersp@gmail.com)**