

# personal english



The **patron saint of Ireland** is traditionally associated with two symbols: the **shamrock** (which later became also a symbol of Ireland as a Christian, first, and then, Catholic, country) and the **snakes**. The shamrock is said to have been used by the saint as a visual explanation of the **Holy Trinity** while preaching to the pagan Irish. As for the snakes, it was the **absence of these animals in Ireland** that first gave rise to the legend that they had all been miraculously banished from the island by this saint, who chased them into the sea after they had attacked him while fasting on a hilltop. Saint Patrick is such a pivotal figure in Irish identity as to be celebrated by each and every Irish community worldwide on **March 17<sup>th</sup>**.

## Character #10

### St. Patrick Ireland



Click on the picture to watch  
a **VIDEO**  
on St. Patrick!