## St. Patrick's Day

## Prep:

Print the scavenger quiz. You will need 1 for each group of 4-5 students. Laminate them (you can use packing tape or contact paper to cover the fronts of each page if you do not have a laminator).

Make a scratch-off paint by mixing two parts acrylic paint with 1 part liquid dish soap.
In each box, paint a thin coat of the special paint to cover the entire box. Let it dry, then add a second and third. If you can still see the print, add another layer until you cannot see the printing. Remember, you don't want to be able to see through the paint. Don't worry if you paint outside the box as you can scratch it off later.

Print off enough of the St. Patrick story pages for each group of 4-5 students.
Hide a "pot of gold" under a rainbow somewhere in the room for each group. I made my own rainbow poster an hung it on door of the supply locker, then put the pots of gold inside the cabinet.

Print Bingo cards on cardstock. There are 2 to a sheet. Cut the sheets in half, so there are 30 cards total and 2 blank cards in case you need to make more. The last 3 pages are the numbers to use to call. Cut these apart and mix them up well

## You Will Need:

One gold colored "pot" or cup, bowl, bucket, filled with gold chocolate coins per group of students.
A rainbow that you can hang somewhere in the room. I made my own, but if you have a poster or printout of a rainbow that works, too.

Prizes for the winners. Bingo may have several winners, so find something like a bag of candy.
Chips, plastic coins, or paper squares to cover the Bingo cards. You might want enough for each student to cover their boards.

These prep materials can also be made for you and shipped to you from https://www.etsy.com/CatholicYMResources/listing/1148014818/st-patricks-day-youth-group-supplies

## St. Patrick's Day Agenda

Prayer: As I arise today, may the strength of God pilot me, the power of God uphold me,
the wisdom of God guide me. May the eye of God look before me, the ear of God hear me,
the word of God speak for me, May the hand of God protect me, the way of God lie before me,
the shield of God defend me, the host of God save me. May Christ shield me today.
Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit, Christ when I stand, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

St. Patrick's Day Treasure Hunt: Divide group into teams of 4-5 students. Give each team a copy of the story of St. Patrick and the scratch-off quiz. The student closest to age of 14 (the age of St. Patrick when he was captured by Irish Pirates) will be team captain. Team captain should read the story of St. Patrick. When finished, teams will take the quiz and scratch off the correct answer. If their answer was correct, they will have a clue under one of the scratch offs. The clue will lead each team to their pot of gold.

St. Patrick's Day Bingo: Play just like Bingo. Give each student a bingo card and markers to cover the squares. Shuffle the calling cards and draw one at a time until someone hits bingo. Hand out prizes for Bingos! This can be played until the students get bored or until youth group is over. I like doing this last because it is so flexible.

St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. He was born in Roman Britain and when he was fourteen or so, he was captured by Irish pirates during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. At the time, Ireland was a land of Druids and pagans but Patrick turned to God and wrote his memoir, The Confession.

In The Confession, he wrote: "The love of God and his fear grew in me more and more, as did the faith, and my soul was rosed, so that, in a single day, I have said as many as a hundred prayers and in the night, nearly the same. I prayed in the woods and on the mountain, even before dawn. I felt no hurt from the snow or ice or rain."

Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain and was reunited with his family.

A few years after returning home, Patrick saw a vision he described in his memoir: "I saw a man coming, as it were from Ireland. His name was Victoricus, and he carried many letters, and he gave me one of them. I read the heading: 'The Voice of the Irish.' As I began the letter, I imagined in that moment that I heard the voice of those very people who were near the wood of Foclut, which is beside the western sea-and they cried out, as with one voice: 'We appeal to you, holy servant boy, to come and walk among us.'"

The vision prompted his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained by St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, whom he had studied under for years, and was later ordained a bishop and sent to take the Gospel to Ireland.

Patrick arrived in Slane, Ireland on March 25, 433. There are several legends about what happened next, with the most prominent claiming he met the chieftain of one of the druid tribes, who tried to kill him. After an intervention from God, Patrick was able to convert the chieftain and preach the Gospel throughout Ireland. There, he converted many people eventually thousands - and he began building churches across the country.

He often used shamrocks to explain the Holy Trinity and entire kingdoms were eventually converted to Christianity after hearing Patrick's message.

Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years. He worked many miracles and wrote of his love for God in Confessions. After years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering he died March 17, 461.

He died at Saul, where he had built the first Irish church. He is believed to be buried in Down Cathedral, Downpatrick. His grave was marked in 1990 with a granite stone. In His Footsteps:

Patrick was a humble, pious, gentle man, whose love and total devotion to and trust in God should be a shining example to each of us. So complete was his trust in God, and of the importance of his mission, he feared nothing -not even death.

## 1. St. Patrick's Day is used to celebrate the

$\qquad$
A. Day St. Patrick was born
Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again
B. Day St. Patrick died

Correct! St. Patrick Died on March 17, 461

1. Lucky the Leprechaun was visiting here today.......
C. Day St. Patrick entered Ireland
Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again
D. Day St. Patrick escaped slavery
Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again

## 2. St. Patrick was born in Ireland.

A. True
Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again
B. False
Correct! St. Patrick was born in Roman Britain
2. One of the students saw Lucky and screamed "Look! A Leprechaun!".......

## 3. According to legend, which animal did St. Patrick chase out of Ireland?

A. Monkeys


## B. Tigers

Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again
C. Snakes
Correct! According to tradition, St. Patrick chased the snakes out to sea after they attacked him during a 40-day fast on top of a hill.
3. Several younger students started to chase Lucy down the hallway.......
D. Rats

Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again

## 4. How many leaves does the Shamrock have?

A. 3:
The Shamrock has three leaves to represent the three persons of God. The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.
4. Lucky, who was carrying 5 pots of gold coins, hid his coins so he can come back tomorrow to find them.......
C. 5
Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again
B. 4
Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again
D. 2

Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again

## 5. Which color is associated with St. Patrick?

A. Orange
Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again
C. Green
Correct! Green is the color of the shamrock, and therefore is closely associated with St. Patrick.
5. .....Unless you find them first! Below, please scratch off Box 3. Be very careful, if any other boxes are scratched off, your team loses the game! Good Luck!

## B. Blue


D. Red
Sorry, Wrong answer. Try again

ONLY SCRATCH OFF THE CORRECT BOX! ANY TEAM WITH THE WRONG BOX SCRATCHED OFF, OR MORE THAN ONE BOX SCRATCHED OFF LOSES THE GAME!

Box 1
Sorry, Wrong answer. Your team has lost

Box 2
Sorry, Wrong answer. Your team has lost

Box 3
The Treasure is hidden at the end of the Rainbow! Find a rainbow and look for the end!

Box 4
Sorry, Wrong answer. Your
team has lost

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| B3 | B9 | B15 | 121 | 127 | N33 |
| B4 | B10 | 116 | 122 | 128 | N34 |
| B5 | B11 | 117 | 123 | 129 | N35 |
| B6 | B12 | 118 | 124 | 130 | N36 |


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