

Saint Patrick



St. Patrick's name was not Patrick! He was born Maewyn Succat. He lived in the 4th century A.D. in Roman Britain and wasn't Irish. At the age of 16 he was captured by Irish pirates and taken to Ireland as a slave. At the age of 22 he escaped slavery and went back to Britain where he converted to Christianity and became a priest. He then changed his name to Patricius which is Latin for "Father figure." Patricius soon became Patrick.

At great risk to himself he returned to Ireland to preach the Gospel to the Irish people who were predominately pagan. Tradition says that he used the shamrock (3-leaf clover) to teach the Irish about the Trinity. It is believed that he may have converted over 100,000 people to the church.

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ORANGE COAST



Newsletter

March, 2021



Good News... Lent...

By Pastor Ken Studer

Lent is typically associated with Roman Catholics, though some Protestants (Lutherans, Methodists, Anglicans and a few others) observe Lent as well.

What is Lent? Lent is a time (approximately six weeks) of solemn religious observance. It begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes three days before Easter Sunday. It is a time for self-reflection, prayer and self-sacrificing. It lasts 40 days. There are different ways of counting the 40 days by different groups. Some groups do not count Sundays so Lent could be as many as 46 days long.

Often adherents give up some pleasure for Lent, e.g. desserts, smoking, alcohol, sex, etc. Or, they commit to modified fasting. They do this because when Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness just before Jesus began His ministry, He gave up food for 40 days and nights.

Another possible reason why Lent lasts 40 days is because some in the early church believed that Christ was in the tomb for 40 hours.

Why don't all Christians celebrate Lent? It is be-

cause most Protestants believe that self-sacrificing is not something that is to be done for six weeks every Spring, but self-sacrificing is the Christian's lifestyle.

While many sincere Christians are truly blessed by fasting during Lent, I don't think God is pleased when we do it only 40 days a year. God wants all of us all the time.

The kind of fasting that God wants is given in Isaiah 58. Notice God's words.

This is the kind of fasting I want: Free those who are wrongly imprisoned; lighten the burden of those who work for you. Let the oppressed go free, and remove the chains that bind people. Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them.

Fasting during Lent is okay but make sure it is true fasting and not just 40 days a year! The Good News is that God wants us to be continually fasting!



Is temporarily suspended. Watch for announcements to discover when it will resume.

COVID—Worship Services

Orange Coast Church continues to follow the Southeastern California Conference’s guidelines for conducting worship services during the COVID pandemic. Currently Orange Coast Church has three options for Saturday worship services:

Online Church Service

Outdoor Church Service In The Parking Lot

Indoor Worship Service In The Sanctuary

*All options begin on Saturday at 11 AM and do NOT include live music. Social distancing and masks are mandatory at the indoor and outdoor services.

March Worship Schedule

This month Pastor Ken begins a 5-part sermon series leading up to Easter. In this series he will address some of the lesser known characters at the cross.

- 03-06 Malchus**
- 03-13 Gestas**
- 03-20 Dismas**
- 03-27 Barabbas**
- 04-03 Longinus (Easter Sabbath)**

March Birthdays

Jacqueline Ngo	March 01	Anthony Njroge	March 15
Cherie Byfield	March 02	Aidyn Carlson	March 16
Angela Graf	March 02	Patrick Bitzer	March 17
Taiko Lacey	March 02	Allan Galera	March 17
Timothy Azuogu	March 03	Archana Roy	March 17
Theo Do	March 03	Alex Sims	March 17
Marissa Bolz	March 04	Emily Jones	March 18
Paloma Martinez	March 04	Jesus Camacho	March 19
Gage Meyer	March 04	Eli Ghelfi	March 19
Aria Cohen	March 06	Halle Joy Black	March 20
Agustina Riffel	March 06	Chloe Riddle	March 20
Norman Roberts	March 06	Cathy Escalante	March 21
Kalpana Roy	March 06	Daniel Chung	March 22
James Schulze	March 06	Gary Jones	March 22
Sofia Sideris	March 06	James Lii	March 22
Luke Chang	March 07	Alexis Prado	March 23
Vicki Grubbs	March 07	Oswaldo Marinotti	March 24
Kara Martin	March 07	Eniyan Ravindran	March 24
Alexis Beitz	March 09	Delicia Ramos	March 25
Bolarinwa Ola	March 09	Alina Avelar	March 26
James Fraizer	March 10	Paul Dompas	March 26
Geraldine Gopen	March 10	Geoffrey Spellen	March 26
Lauren York	March 11	Evyn Barb Mingo	March 27
Stefan Caputo	March 13	Adrian Rivera	March 27
William Chappell	March 13	Brooke Tooma	March 27
Tracy Ishii	March 13	Lauren Ysseldyke	March 27
Lorna Reid-Martin	March 13	Caroline Jensen	March 28
Brendon Brockmann	March 14	Priscilla Butaya	March 29
Geoff Farley	March 14	Nader Nasralla	March 29
Kevin Hsieh	March 14	Connor Seaman	March 29
Mira Anderson	March 15	George Sideris	March 30
David Byfield	March 15	Carlos Castillo	March 31