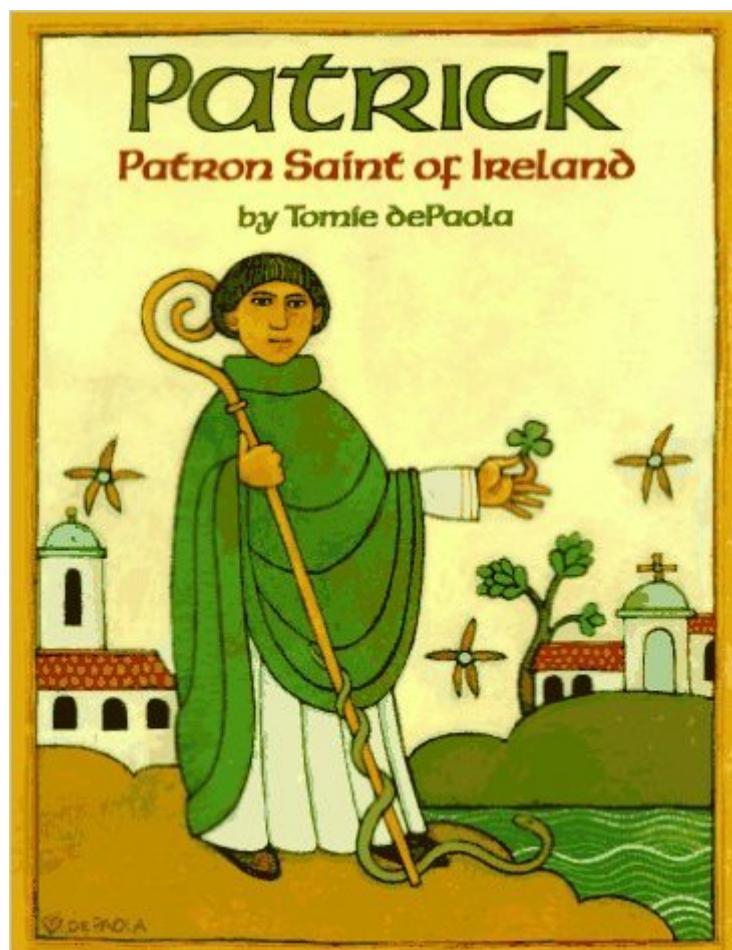


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# Patrick: Patron Saint Of Ireland



## Synopsis

The story of Patrick's life, from his noble birth in Britain, to his being captured and taken to Ireland by a group of bandits, to the "dreams" that led him to convert the Irish people to the Christian faith. DePaola also retells several well-known legends, including the story of how Patrick got rid of all the snakes in Ireland.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 700L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Holiday House (P); unknown edition (February 1994)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0823410773

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (80 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #85,992 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > St. Patrick's Day #29 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Religious #96 inÂ  Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Biographies > Saints

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

I have always enjoyed the picture books of Tomie dePaola. His unique illustration style is immediately recognizable and is reminiscent of religious icons found in Catholic and Orthodox churches. Not surprisingly, dePaola often tackles Christian themes, making them accessible for younger readers and their parents. Among my all-time favorite children's book is his "The Clown of God," which I have enjoyed reading to children prior to Christmas. "Patrick: Patron Saint of Ireland" is another such book. The simple narrative mainly addresses Patrick's early years as a British boy, captured by the Irish to become a slave shepherd in Ireland. After many years alone in prayer, he escapes, but eventually is called in a dream to return to Ireland to spread the love of God. After religious studies, becoming a missionary and then a bishop, he finally returns to Ireland, setting up churches, but not without opposition from some of the local rulers. What I appreciate about this version of St. Patrick's story is the dependency on historical fact in the main narrative. The book

concludes with six one-page summaries of the better-known legends of Ireland's patron saint, such as driving out the snakes, and his use of the shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity. Refreshingly, these legends are briefly, but affectionately, told without judgment. It is left to the reader (or the parent) to decide what to make of them. The author concludes with a one-page epilogue, lovingly explaining how he was introduced as a young child to St. Patrick by his Irish Catholic grandparents.

Tomie dePaola's Patrick, patron-saint of Ireland is a joy to read and see. The story is clear and simple, the drawings strong and cheerfull. Not many historians mention the Irish hounds on the ship to France. Tomie dePaola does, with knowledge and artfull humor.

Growing up in an Irish Catholic family myself, I had heard a great deal about St. Patrick. When we received this book as a gift I started reading it to my children, and they loved it. There were stories even I hadn't heard about St. Pat! As with his St. Francis book, Tomie DePaola's book holds children's interest throughout the many stories while other books of this length lose children. Kids remember the stories and repeat them because they are told so lovingly and in such a fun way! I now bring this book to their school and read it to all their classrooms every St. Patrick's Day to let children know that there is more to Patrick than green beer!

A wonderful book by Tomie dePaola filled with helpful information about the true story of St. Patrick's life, as well as fun legends attributed to the patron Saint of Ireland. dePaola's bold illustrations lend to the attraction of the book. He mentions at the end of the book his reasons for writing it and his attraction to Saint Patrick. My own eight year old son has a strong devotion to Saint Patrick and this book is among his favorites. I appreciate the clear differentiation between fact and legend in this book and would highly recommend it for any family.

Four instead of five stars for length of book when reading to children. It may contain too many life details of St. Patrick for very young children. I learned a few legends I had never heard before and the context of St. Patrick's life emphasizes that great service for God takes dedication over time.

Tomie dePaola is one of my favourite children's illustrators and I love the books he writes and illustrates, especially his Catholic books. There is really nothing else that can compare with them in pure quality and delight. I've read this one before many times and it deserves a permanent place in any home library. Not much is known about the real St. Patrick and dePaola starts off with telling us

Patrick's life story as far as we know it factually. It is a wonderful story of a young man who is captured and enslaved but through his love of God perseveres. Upon escaping and returning home, he becomes a priest and eventually a bishop who feels called to go back to his place of enslavement, Ireland, to spread the Good News. And this is Patrick's legacy as we know it, how he brought Christianity to Ireland. Following this dePaola devotes a spread each to the common legends surrounding St. Patrick which may be true or may just be simple legends such as his driving the snakes out of Ireland, his use of the shamrock to explain the trinity, his floating on a stone across the sea, the light that shone from his fingers, and a few others. A wonderful picture book and offered now for the first time in ebook format.

Wonderful drawings and engaging narration for 2-3rd graders. Many historic accounts of St. Patrick along with somemore traditional/local myths/stories. Nice to have an engaging book about St. Patrick that doesn't involveleprachauns, pots of gold and beer. Only reason for the 4 stars instead of 5 is because this book is a paperback insteadof hardbound : If the kids have free access to it they will destroy it. Since the book is out of print I was very luckyto be able to find a used copy which was in very good shape.

My kids loved reading this for St Patrick's Day! I liked the way it treated the more objective parts of his history first, and then had an added section of legends about St Patrick that included the reported miracles (like driving all the snakes out of Ireland by playing a drum). Illustrations are lovely, as I would expect from de Paola, and text is excellent for kids. My daughter keeps asking to re-read it.

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