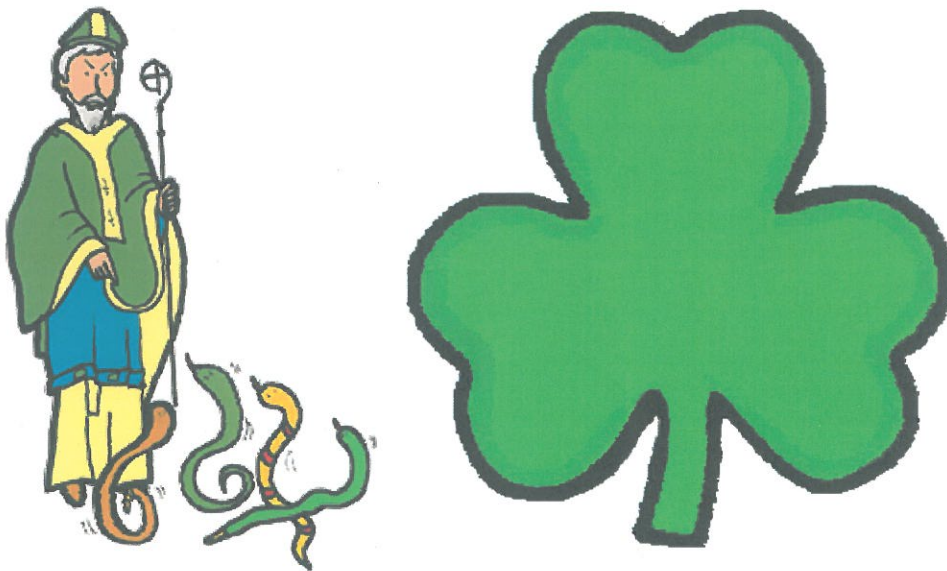## St. Patrick's Day

March 17th is Saint Patrick's Day. In Ireland, it has been a holiday for hundreds of years. Now, it is also celebrated in many places in North America.

Patrick was born around 385, somewhere in Europe. As a young man, he was taken from his home by pirates. They sold him as a slave in Ireland. Patrick escaped and went home. Later, he went back to Ireland to teach the people the Christian religion. Irish people have honored him ever since.



They celebrated St. Patrick's Day by going to church, relaxing, eating, and drinking. As Irish people went to other countries, they took this holiday with them. It became a festival for Irish people in foreign countries.