

# The Lives of the Saints for Boys



Written by  
Louis M. Savary

Illustrated by  
William Luberoff & Robert Berran

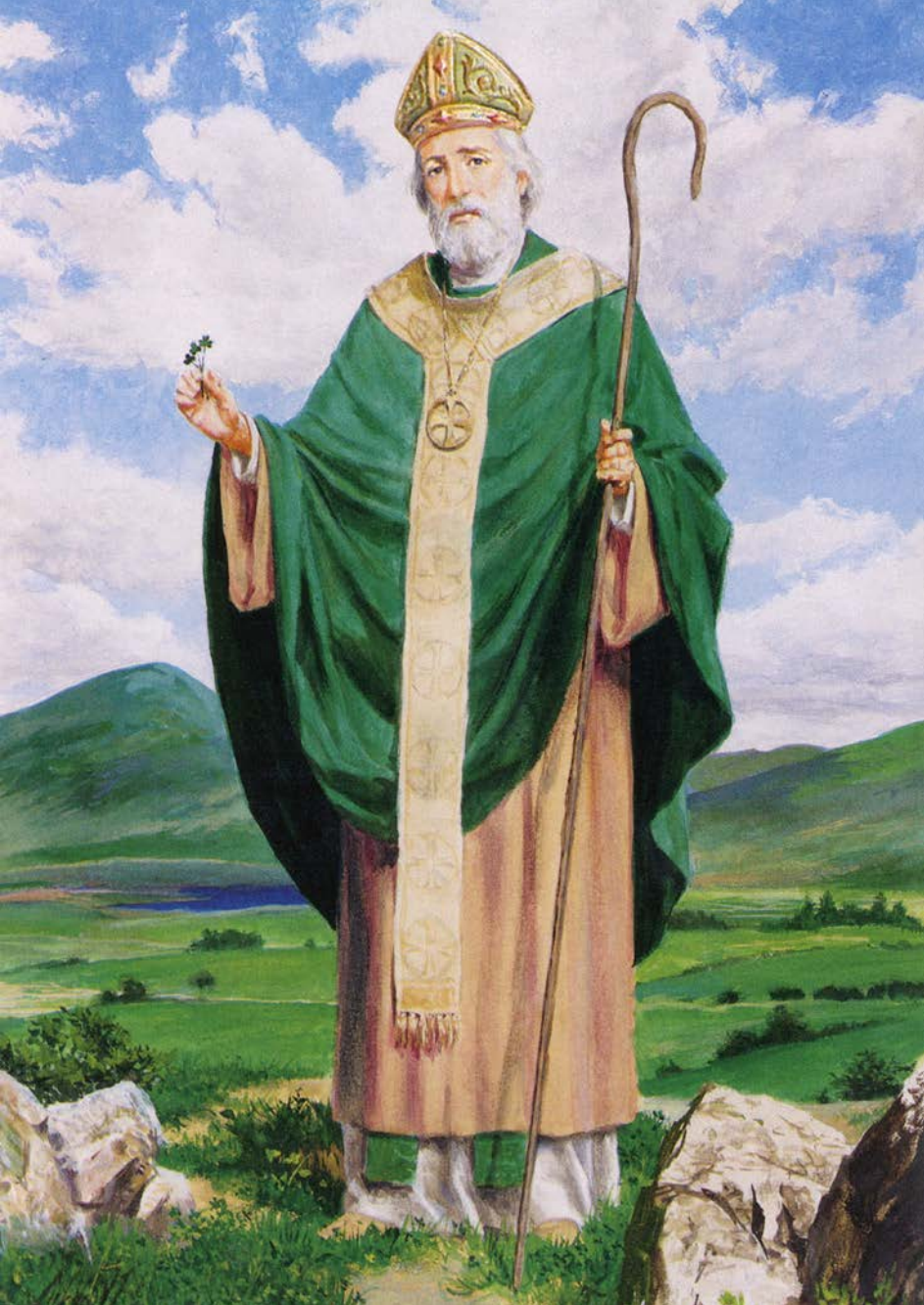


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# Saint Patrick

**P**atrick was born in Wales, but he developed a special love for the people of Ireland. In those days, the Irish did not know about Jesus and Mary. Patrick wanted to tell them, so the Pope sent Bishop Patrick to Ireland.

Because Patrick was a very likable person, the Irish people welcomed him. They loved stories and songs, and they especially loved the stories Patrick told them about Jesus and Mary. He taught the Christian faith in story form. For example, he explained the Holy Trinity by pointing to the shamrock flower which had three petals yet was one plant.

The kings and soldiers sat and listened to him, as did the women. All asked to be baptized. Patrick traveled through Ireland preaching the Christian religion. The Irish people have always remained faithful to the heritage brought by Patrick. He died about 461.





# Saint Ignatius Loyola

**I**n 1521, Ignatius Loyola, a soldier, had his knee wounded in battle. While he was recovering from his wound, he began reading about Christ and the Saints. “I can do what they did,” he said to himself. Ignatius pictured the world as a battlefield. So he decided to become a “soldier of Christ.”

While at the University of Paris, Ignatius began to gather friends who wanted to serve with him under the banner of Christ. These young men called themselves the “Companions of Jesus.” People nicknamed them the Jesuits, and the order was known as the Society of Jesus.

“The Companions,” Ignatius said, “are ready to do any work or go anywhere in the world for God’s greater glory.” Amid all their fame, they chose to live among the poor and to teach catechism to children. The Jesuits became famous as teachers and missionaries.