

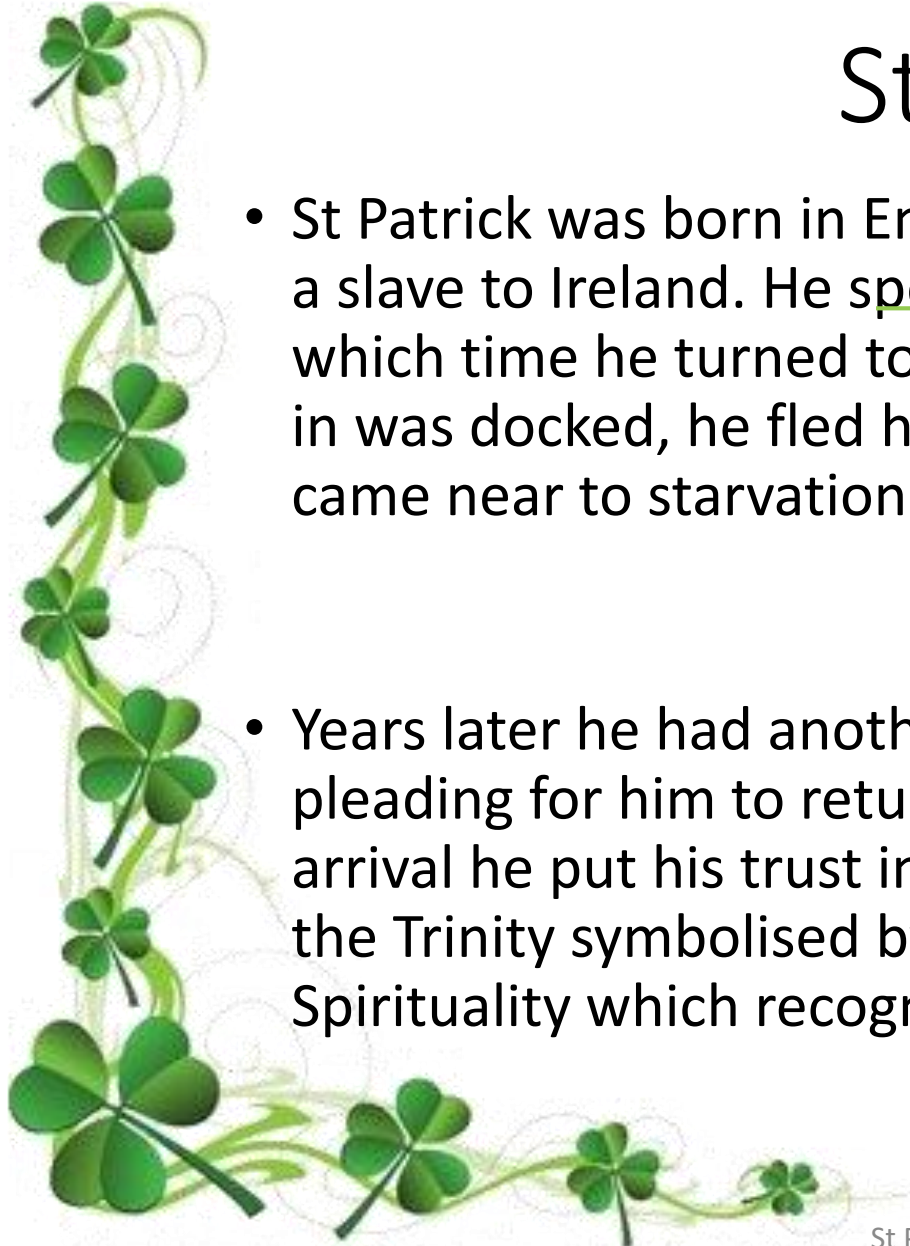
**SAINT  
ENLIGHTENER**

**PATRICK  
OF IRELAND**



# St Patrick

- St Patrick was born in England. At age 16 he was taken by Irish raiders as a slave to Ireland. He spent six bleak years there as a herdsman, during which time he turned to his faith. After dreaming that a ship to escape in was docked, he fled his master and went back to England where he came near to starvation before being reunited with his family.
- Years later he had another dream where he heard the Irish people pleading for him to return. He was reluctant but decided to go. On his arrival he put his trust in God journeying far and wide teaching about the Trinity symbolised by the shamrock, the beginning of Celtic Spirituality which recognises the powerful presence of God in all things.





# Lord of the Universe

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Lord of the universe,  
Word of life,  
Open to us the riches of your teaching.  
Lead us ever deeper into your mystery  
Of who you are  
And where you are leading us.  
Spirit of God,  
Open our hearts  
To the wonders  
Of your love



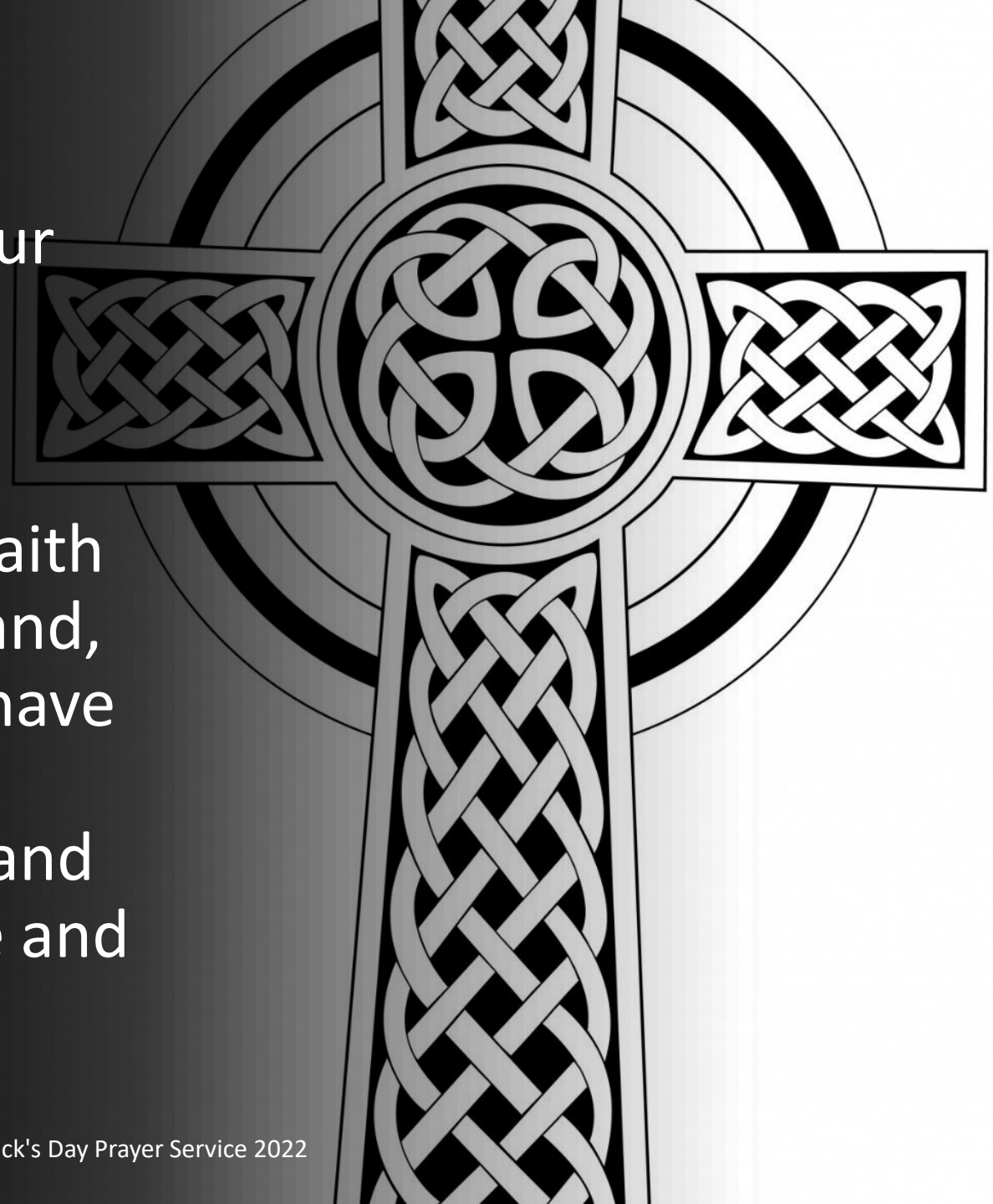



Scripture: Paul to the  
Romans 8

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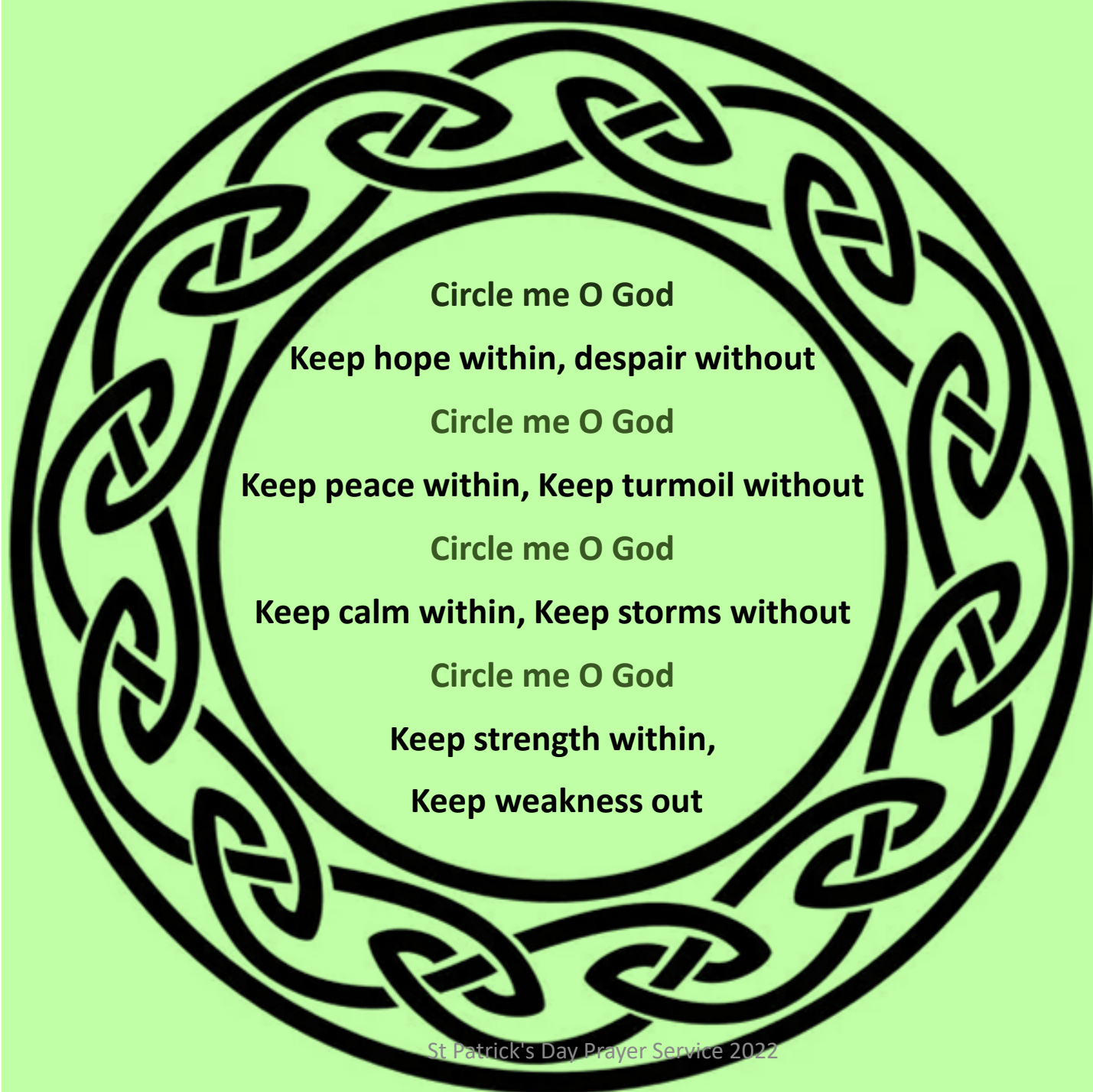
If God is for us who can be against us?  
For I am convinced that neither death,  
nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor  
things present, nor things to come, nor  
powers, nor height, nor depth, nor  
anything else in all creation, will be  
able to separate us from the love of  
God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Once this scripture becomes our own personal experience, life becomes quite different rediscovering a power and a strength that is not our own. Faith is the discovery that he is at hand, 'in him we live and move and have our being.' Faith is the joy of knowing that we dwell in him and he in us. Living in the presence and love of God.





It is said that when the Celtic saints were troubled by evil or attacked by enemies, they drew a circle around themselves. Sometimes they actually made a circle around themselves by using a stick or their finger. This was no magic, but an expression of the reality of the presence of God.



**Circle me O God  
Keep hope within, despair without**

**Circle me O God  
Keep peace within, Keep turmoil without**

**Circle me O God  
Keep calm within, Keep storms without**

**Circle me O God  
Keep strength within,  
Keep weakness out**



# The lords prayer in Irish

## Ár n-Athair

Ár n-Athair atá ar neamh,  
Go naofar d'ainim,  
Go dtagfadh do ríocht,  
Go ndéantar do thoil ar an talamh  
mar a dhéantar ar neamh.  
Ár n-arán laethúil tabhair dúinn inniu,  
agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha  
mar a mhaithimidne dár bhféichiúna féin  
(Ach ná lig sinn i gcathú,  
ach saor sinn ó olc,)



# Concluding Prayer

May the strength of God guide us.  
May the power of God preserve us.  
May the wisdom of God instruct us.  
May the hand of God protect us.  
May the way of God direct us.  
May the shield of God defend us.  
May the angels of God guard us  
Against the snares of evil.  
May Christ be with us  
Christ above us  
Christ in us  
Christ before us.  
May your grace O Lord,  
Be always ours  
This day and forever more.

