

National Proper for Ireland

*The prayers and readings
are taken from the National Proper,
approved by the
Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference and the
Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments
(Prot No. 816/07/L, 10 July 2007)*

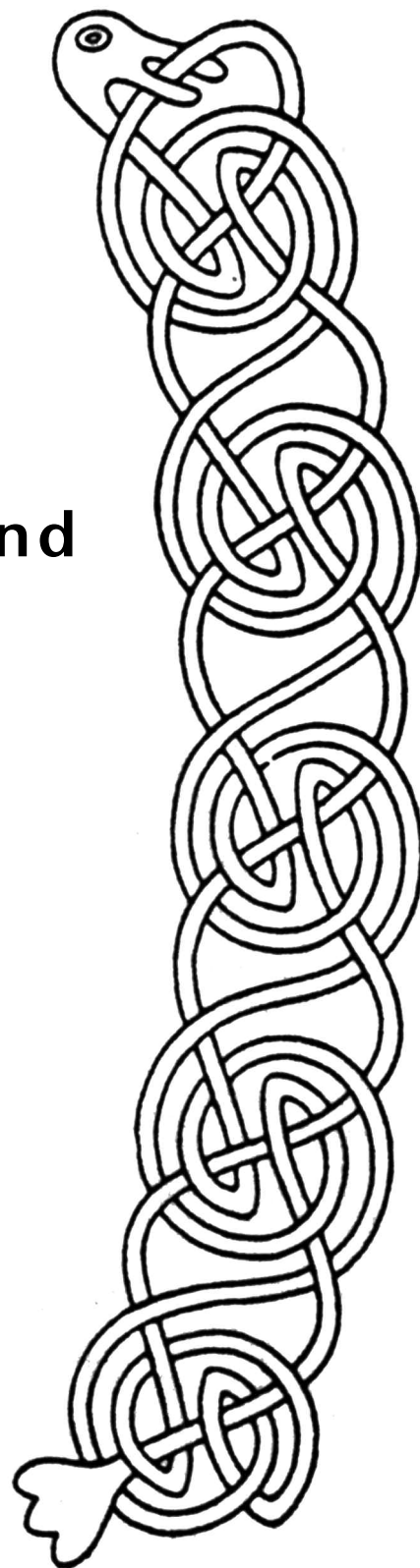


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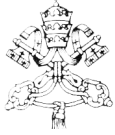
Designed by Colette Dower

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CONGREGATION FOR DIVINE WORSHIP
AND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE SACRAMENTS

Prot. N. 816/07/L

IRELAND

At the request of His Excellency, the Most Reverend Seán B. Brady, Archbishop of Armagh, President of the Conference of Bishops of Ireland, in virtue of the faculty granted this Congregation by the Supreme Pontiff BENEDICT XVI, we gladly approve and confirm the English translation of the Proper of Masses, as in the attached copy.

All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

From the offices of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 10 July 2007.

✠ Albert Malcolm Ranjith
Archbishop-Secretary

Reverend Anthony Ward
Under-Secretary

Saint Munchin, bishop

3 January

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord God, may the light which brightened the world
at the birth of Christ your Son
continue, we beseech you, to overcome all darkness,
and, by the prayers of Saint Munchin,
may it guide our steps into the way of peace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Ita, virgin

15 January
Memorial

Entrance Antiphon

On this day Saint Ita received the reward for her labours;
on this day she entered the eternal city, the heavenly Jerusalem.

Collect

Lord God, it was through the power of your Spirit,
that Saint Ita was tireless in caring for the afflicted
and in guiding the young towards holiness,
and so we pray:
prepare in our hearts, as you prepared in hers,
a home where you will dwell.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

Accept, Lord, King of Creation, the gifts we offer
as we celebrate the memory of Saint Ita
and give us, we pray, purity of heart
that we may be pleasing to you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon (John 14:23)

Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them,
and we will come to them and make our home with them, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

By our reception of the body and blood of your Son, O Lord,
nurture us in holiness,
that we may grow to our full stature in Christ.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Saint Fursa, abbot and missionary

16 January

From the Common of Saints: for an Abbot

Collect

Draw our hearts, we pray, O God most high,
to the things that are above,
so that by the intercession of the Saints,
we may imitate Saint Fursa,
whose earthly pilgrimage was a constant search
for the vision of your glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Aidan, bishop

30 January

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Almighty God, who called Saint Aidan to count all as loss
for the sake of gaining Christ,
fix, we pray, in the hearts
of all who celebrate his memory
the desire to show forth the Gospel
that they may share in its blessings.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Brigid, abbess

Secondary Patron of Ireland

1 February
Feast

Entrance Antiphon (Cf. Job 30:25)

Did I not feel for those whose day was hard?
Was not my soul grieved for the poor?

Collect

Merciful God,
origin and reward of all charity,
you called Saint Brigid to teach the new commandment of love
through her life of hospitality and her care of the needy;
give to your people, by her intercession,
a generous spirit,
so that, with hearts made pure,
we may show your love to all.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First Reading: Job 31:16-20, 24-25, 31-32

Have I been insensible to the needs of the poor?
Have I been insensible to poor men's needs,
or let a widow's eyes grow dim?
Or taken my share of bread alone,
not giving a share to the orphan?
I, whom God has fostered father-like, from childhood,
and guided since I left my mother's womb.
Have I ever seen a wretch in need of clothing,
or a beggar going naked,
without his having cause to bless me from his heart,
as he felt the warmth of the fleece from my lambs?
Have I put all my trust in gold,
from finest gold sought my security?
Have I ever gloated over my great wealth,
or the riches that my hands have won?
The people of my tent, did they not say,
'Is there a man he has not filled with meat?'
No stranger ever had to sleep outside,
my door was always open to the traveller.

Alternative First Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21

Planted in love and built on love.

This is what I pray, kneeling before the Father, from whom every family, whether spiritual or natural, takes its name:

Out of his infinite glory, may he give you the power through his Spirit for your hidden self to grow strong, so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then, planted in love and built on love, you will with all the saints have strength to grasp the breadth and the length, the height and the depth; until, knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond all knowledge, you are filled with the utter fullness of God.

Glory be to him whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine; glory be to him from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 106 (107):35-38, 41-42. R/. v. 1

Response: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
for his love has no end.

1. He changes desert into streams,
thirsty ground into springs of water.
There he settles the hungry
and they build a city to dwell in. **R/.**
2. They sow fields and plants their vines;
these yield crops for the harvest.
He blesses them; they grow in numbers.
He does not let their herds decrease. **R/.**
3. He raises the needy from distress;
makes families numerous as a flock.
The upright see it and rejoice
but all who do wrong are silenced. **R/.**

Gospel Acclamation: 1 John 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

As long as we love one another,
God will live in us
and his love will be complete in us.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 6:32-38

Be compassionate just as your Father is compassionate.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.'

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

Prayer over the Gifts

As we present these gifts, O Lord,
on the feast of Saint Brigid,
may we come to know you as the source of all true love.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface

V/. The Lord be with you.

R/. And also with you.

V/. Lift up your hearts.

R/. We lift them up to the Lord.

V/. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For your wonderful love is seen in Saint Brigid:
you taught her to open her heart and hands to the poor
and to seek the image of your Son in every welcomed guest.

Through her you showed a people
the way of Mary, the Mother of your Son,
in dedicated service and holiness of life.

On this feast you fill our hearts with joy
for you continue to bless the Church
that you planted by her labours.

And so, with archangels and angels
and the whole company of Saints,
we sing the unending hymn of your praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy ...

Communion Antiphon (Cf. Matthew 25:34, 36, 40)

Come, you whom my Father has blessed, says the Lord.
I was sick and you visited me.
In truth I tell you,
in so far as you did this to one of the least of these,
you did it to me.

Prayer after Communion

You give us food from heaven, Lord,
to strengthen us in love;
grant, we pray, through the intercession of Saint Brigid,
that works of charity continue to flourish
and the light of true faith not fail.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing

May God, who in Saint Brigid has provided
an outstanding example of generosity:
make your ears be ever open to the cry of the poor.
R/. Amen.

May you who greet Saint Brigid as Mary of the Gael
receive from Jesus, Son of Mary,
the reward promised to the pure of heart.
R/. Amen.

May God fill you with his love,
as you honour Saint Brigid,
whose heart and mind became
a throne of rest for the Holy Spirit.
R/. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain for ever.
R/. Amen.

Saint Mel, bishop

7 February

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

God our Father,
who in the springtime of the faith in Ireland
raised up your servant the bishop Saint Mel,
to foster the growth of the Church;
grant, we pray,
that we who venerate his memory
may never fail to imitate his tireless labour.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Gobnait, virgin

11 February

From the Common of Virgins: for one Virgin

Collect

God of mercy,
who fashioned Saint Gobnait
as a pure vessel of grace
and a trusted intercessor for her people,
shield us kindly from harm and disease by her prayers
and give abundant success
to the work of our hands.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Fintan, abbot

17 February

From the Common of Saints: for an Abbot

Collect

Lord of heaven and earth,
whose Spirit worked so strongly
in the life of Saint Fintan
that through him many were drawn
to leave all things for the sake of the Gospel;
strengthen your Church, we pray, by his intercession,
and give us lasting peace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint David, bishop

1 March

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

O God, you gave your servant Saint David
the virtue of wisdom and the gift of eloquence
and made him an example of prayer and pastoral zeal;
grant that, through his intercession,
your Church may ever prosper and render you joyful praise.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Kieran, bishop

5 March

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

God of heaven and earth,
graciously hear our prayer
as we recall the memory of Saint Kieran,
who rejoiced in your gift of life to all creation:
and give us the fullness of life in the new creation.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Senan, bishop

8 March

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Almighty God,
by whose grace the bishop Saint Senan
put his trust in the cross of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ
and so conquered the powers of evil,
lead us safely, we pray, at his intercession
through the storms of life to the eternal shore.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Aengus, bishop and abbot

11 March

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop; or from the Common of Saints: for an Abbot

Collect

God of heaven and earth,
you led your bishop Saint Aengus
by his study of the Saints in Ireland
to live a life of penitence and prayer,
grant that we, who through his works
have come to know this great host of witnesses,
may be brought by your mercy to repent of our sins.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Patrick, bishop

Principal Patron of Ireland

17 March
Solemnity

Entrance Antiphon (Genesis 12:1-2)

Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.
I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

Collect

Lord, through the work of Saint Patrick in Ireland
we have come to acknowledge the mystery of the one true God
and give thanks for our salvation in Christ;
grant by his prayers
that we who celebrate this festival
may keep alive the fire of faith he kindled.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Readings: Year ABC

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus (Sirach) 39:6-10

His memory will not disappear, generation after generation his name will live.

If it is the will of the great Lord,
the scholar will be filled with the spirit of understanding,
he will shower forth words of wisdom,
and in prayer give thanks to the Lord.
He will grow upright in purpose and learning,
he will ponder the Lord's hidden mysteries.
He will display the instruction he has received,
taking his pride in the Law of the Lord's covenant.
Many will praise his understanding,
and it will never be forgotten.
His memory will not disappear,
generation after generation his name will live.
Nations will proclaim his wisdom,
the assembly will celebrate his praises.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 115:12-19. R/. v. 12

Response: How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?

1. How can I repay the Lord
for his goodness to me?
The cup of salvation I will raise;
I will call on the Lord's name. **R/.**
2. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people.
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. **R/.**
3. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;
I will call on the Lord's name. **R/.**
4. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. **R/.**

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:1-8

Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching. The time is sure to come when, far from being content with sound teaching, people will be avid for the latest novelty and collect themselves a whole series of teachers according to their own tastes; and then, instead of listening to the truth, they will turn to myths. Be careful always to choose the right course; be brave under trials; make the preaching of the Good News your life's work, in thoroughgoing service.

As for me, my life is already being poured away as a libation, as the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

Gospel Acclamation: James 1:21

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls.

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:24-32

It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this," he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'"

He put another parable before them: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air can come and shelter in its branches.'

Year B ad libitum**First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-9**

Go now to those to whom I send you.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,
'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;
before you came to birth I consecrated you;
I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.'

I said, 'Ah, Lord; look, I do not know how to speak: I am a child!'

But the Lord replied,
'Do not say, "I am a child".
Go now to those to whom I send you
and say whatever I command you.
Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to protect you –
it is the Lord who speaks!'

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me:
'There! I am putting my words into your mouth.'

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 116. R/. Mark 16:15

Response: Go out to the whole world and tell the Good News.

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! R/.
2. Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. R/.

Second Reading: Romans 10:9-18

Faith comes from what is preached, and what is preached comes from the word of Christ.

If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

But they will not ask his help unless they believe in him, and they will not believe in him unless they have heard of him, and they will not hear of him unless they get a preacher, and they will never have a preacher unless one is sent, but as scripture says: The footsteps of those who bring good news are a welcome sound. Not everyone, of course, listens to the Good News. As Isaiah says: Lord, how many believed what we proclaimed? So faith comes from what is preached, and what is preached comes from the word of Christ.

Let me put the question: is it possible that they did not hear? Indeed they did; in the words of the psalm, their voice has gone out through all the earth, and their message to the ends of the world.

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 28:19-20

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Go, make disciples of all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, yes, to the end of time.

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Gospel Reading: Mark 16:15-20

They, going out, preached everywhere.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and he said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

Year C ad libitum**First Reading: Amos 7:12-15**

It was the Lord who took me from herding the flock.

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets,' Amos replied to Amaziah. 'I was a shepherd and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord said, "Go prophesy to my people Israel."'

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 138:1-3, 7-10, 13-14. R/v. 9-10

Response: If I dwell at the sea's furthest end
even there you watch over me.

1. O Lord, you search me and you know me,
you know my resting and my rising,
you discern my purpose from afar.
You mark when I walk or lie down,
all my ways lie open to you. **R/.**
2. O where can I go from your spirit,
or where can I flee from your face?
If I climb the heavens, you are there.
If I lie in the grave, you are there. **R/.**
3. For it is you who created my being,
knit me together in my mother's womb.
I thank you for the wonders of my being,
for the wonders of all your creation. **R/.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:2-8

Never at any time have our speeches been simply flattery, or a cover for trying to get money.

It was our God who gave us the courage to proclaim his Good News to you in the face of great opposition. We have not taken to preaching because we are deluded, or immoral, or trying to deceive anyone; it was God who decided that we were fit to be entrusted with the Good News, and when we are speaking, we are not trying to please men but God, who can read our inmost thoughts. You know very well, and we can swear it before God, that never at any time have our speeches been simply flattery, or a cover for trying to get money; nor have we ever looked for any special honour from men, either from you or anybody else, when we could have imposed ourselves on you with full weight, as apostles of Christ.

Instead, we were unassuming. Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well.

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 4:18

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

The Lord has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives.

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11

'Lord, I am a sinful man.' Jesus said, 'Do not be afraid.'

Jesus was standing one day by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied, 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then bringing their boats back to the land, they left everything and followed him.

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, accept this pure sacrifice
which, through the labours of Saint Patrick,
your grateful people make
to the glory of your name.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface

V/. The Lord be with you.

R/. And also with you.

V/. Lift up your hearts.

R/. We lift them up to the Lord.

V/. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
and to offer you fitting praise
as we honour Saint Patrick.

For you drew him through daily prayer
in captivity and hardship
to know you as a loving Father.

You chose him out of all the world
to return to the land of his captors,
that they might acknowledge Jesus Christ, their Redeemer.

In the power of your Spirit you directed his paths
to win the sons and daughters of the Irish
to the service of the Triune God.

With joyful hearts we echo on earth
the song of the angels in heaven
as they praise your glory without end:

Holy, Holy, Holy ...

Communion Antiphon (Cf. Matthew 8:11)

Many will come from east and west
and sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob
at the feast in the kingdom of heaven, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Strengthen us, O Lord, by this sacrament
so that we may profess the faith taught by Saint Patrick
and to proclaim it in our way of living.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing

May God the Father, who called us together
to celebrate this feast of Saint Patrick,
bless you, protect you and keep you faithful.
R/. Amen.

May Christ the Lord, the High King of Heaven,
be near you at all times and shield you from evil.
R/. Amen.

May the Holy Spirit, who is the source of all holiness,
make you rich in the love of God's people.
R/. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain for ever.
R/. Amen.

Saint Enda, abbot

21 March

From the Common of Saints: for an Abbot

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Spirit prepared Saint Enda
to guide many to holiness in the monastic life,
grant, through his example and intercession,
that our lives be directed by the Gospel
and our hearts fixed on the joys of heaven.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Macartan, bishop

24 March

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord God, hear the prayers of your Church
and give us the strength of St Macartan,
faithful disciple of Saint Patrick,
that we, like him, may triumph over all evil
and worship you in spirit and in truth.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Ceallach (Celsus), bishop

1 April

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

God ever faithful,
who restored the vigour of the Church in Ireland
through the generosity and courage of Saint Ceallach,
look with mercy on us today, and by his prayers,
renew our life, revive our strength,
and build us up on the one foundation stone,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Laserian, bishop

18 April

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

God of glory,
who reveal to those who search for you with all their hearts
the mysteries of the heavenly kingdom;
grant, at the intercession of Saint Laserian,
that we who seek wisdom in the cross of Christ
may find the fullness of life in his resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Asicus, bishop

27 April

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

O God of heaven,
by whose grace Saint Asicus became a disciple of Patrick
and worked for the beauty of your worship,
be pleased, by his prayers,
to make of our lives a work of art
fashioned for the glory of your name.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Conleth, bishop

4 May

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Father in heaven,
from whom all good gifts come,
pour forth upon your Church today
the same grace which enabled Saith Conleth
to nurture for you a holy people
eager in the works of justice and of love.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Blessed Edmund Rice, religious

5 May

From the Common of Saints: for one Saint, for Religious

Collect

Heavenly Father,
you inspired Edmund Rice to open his heart to Christ
present in those oppressed by poverty and injustice;
in the power of your Holy Spirit
grant that we may follow his example of faith and generosity
as we seek to live lives of love and service.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Comgall, abbot

10 May

From the Common of Saints: for an Abbot

Collect

Receive, O Lord, the praise of your people
on the feast of the abbot Saint Comgall;
and as by your grace he formed a family to give you fitting worship
and to spread the gospel in many lands,
give, at his intercession,
the joy of weaving for your glory
a canticle of homage from the nations.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Carthage, bishop

15 May

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord God, you drew Saint Carthage to monastic life
through the beauty of your Church's worship,
and made him content to be a stranger
and a pilgrim for the sake of Christ;
give us, we pray, by his prayers,
a share in his gentleness and forbearance.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Brendan, abbot

16 May

From the Common of Saints: for an Abbot

Collect

O God, who helped Saint Brendan navigate the seas
in his eagerness to spread the Gospel;
grant us, at his intercession,
on our journey through life
to set our course according to your peace
and bring us to the harbour we desire in heaven.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Kevin, abbot

3 June
Memorial

Entrance Antiphon (Cf. Psalm 61:1-2)

For God alone my soul waits in silence;
he alone is my rock and my salvation.

Collect

In the solitude of Glendalough, O Lord,
you spoke to the heart of Saint Kevin
and taught him to find through prayer
the life that he desired;
by his intercession,
turn our hearts from all that would betray us,
for you alone are our goal and our reward.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

On your altar, Lord, we lay these gifts,
signs of life and fruitfulness;
grant, we pray, that, like Saint Kevin,
we may dedicate the whole of our lives to your service.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon (Psalm 42:8)

By day the Lord commands his steadfast love
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

Prayer after Communion

Our delight, Lord God of hosts,
is to sing your praise in this Eucharist;
give us, we pray, your strength on our earthly journey
that we may find a home at your altar in heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

Saint Charles Lwanga and companions, martyrs

*4 June
Memorial*

All as in the Roman Missal

Saint Jarlath, bishop

6 June

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord God, in commemorating your bishop Saint Jarlath
we acclaim the victory of Jesus Christ,
the radiant sun that knows no setting;
guide our steps, we pray, by your providence,
so that walking as children of the light
we may reach the end of all our ways,
Jesus Christ our Lord, risen and glorious.
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Colman, bishop

7 June

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

As we commemorate Saint Colman of Dromore, Lord our God,
we celebrate the riches of your blessing;
grant to your Church, we pray, this threefold gift:
to love learning, to live simply,
and to seek your kingdom above all things.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Columba (Colum Cille)

abbot and missionary

Secondary patron of Ireland

9 June
Feast

Entrance Antiphon (Cf. Psalm 138:9-10)

If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
your right hand hold me fast.

Collect

Almighty God,
who filled the heart of Saint Columba
with the joy of the Holy Spirit
and with deep love for those in his care;
grant, by his intercession,
that your pilgrim people may follow him,
strong in faith, sustained by hope,
and one in the love that binds us to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First Reading: Romans 12:1-2, 9-13

Love each other as much as brothers should, and have a profound respect for each other.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Do not let your love be a pretence, but sincerely prefer good to evil. Love each other as much as brothers should, and have profound respect for each other. Work for the Lord with untiring effort and with great earnestness of spirit. If you have hope, this will make you cheerful. Do not give up if trials come; and keep on praying. If any of the saints are in need you must share with them; and you should make hospitality your special care.

Alternative First Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

We are ambassadors for Christ.

The love of Christ overwhelms us when we reflect that if one man has died for all, then all men should be dead; and the reason he died for all was so that living men should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised to life for them.

From now onwards, therefore, we do not judge anyone by the standards of the flesh. Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh, that is not how we know him now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 33:2-3, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15. R/. v. 11

Response: Those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R/.**
2. Revere the Lord, you his saints.
They lack nothing, those who revere him.
Strong lions suffer want and go hungry
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing. **R/.**

3. Come, children, and hear me
that I may teach you the fear of the Lord.
Who is he who longs for life
and many days, to enjoy his prosperity? **R/.**
4. Then keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking deceit.
Turn aside from evil and do good;
seek and strive after peace. **R/.**

Gospel Acclamation: Psalm 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 8:18-27

Follow me.

When Jesus saw the great crowds all about him he gave orders to leave for the other side. One of the scribes then came up and said to him, 'Master, I will follow you wherever you go'. Jesus replied, 'Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head'.

Another man, one of his disciples, said to him, 'Sir, let me go and bury my father first'. But Jesus replied, 'Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their dead'.

Then Jesus got into the boat followed by his disciples. Without warning a storm broke over the lake, so violent that the waves were breaking right over the boat. But he was asleep. So they went to him and woke him saying, 'Save us, Lord, we are going down!' And he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened, you men of little faith?' And with that he stood up and rebuked the winds and the seas; and all was calm again. The men were astounded and said, 'Whatever kind of man is this? Even the winds and the sea obey him'.

Alternative Gospel

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 19:27-29

You who have followed me will be repaid a hundred times over.

Peter said to Jesus: 'What about us? We have left everything and followed you. What are we to have, then?' Jesus said to him, 'I tell you solemnly, when all is made new and the Son of Man sits on his throne of glory, you will yourselves sit on twelve thrones to judge the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses, brothers, sisters, father, mother, children or land for the sake of my name will be repaid a hundred times over, and also inherit eternal life.'

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, in your goodness receive these gifts
and through the prayers of Saint Columba
make us ever worthy to serve you.

Through Christ our Lord.

Preface

V/. The Lord be with you.

R/. And also with you.

V/. Lift up your hearts.

R/. We lift them up to the Lord.

V/. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
and to offer you fitting praise
as we honour Saint Columba.

For you gave him joy in all the works of your hands
and from his youth he delighted in your praise
making songs to the glory of your name.

With your gift of wisdom he guided many
in holiness, charity and fidelity
along the pathways to heaven.

And answered your call to become for Christ
a pilgrim from his native land,
so that those who dwelt across the seas
might hear the Gospel of peace.

And so, with archangels and angels,
with all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory
and join in their unending chorus of praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy ...

Communion Antiphon (Cf. Colossians 3:14-15)

Clothe yourselves with love and let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

Prayer after Communion

As we have received from you, Lord,
the blessing of your holy gifts,
we pray that, at the intercession of Saint Columba,
their healing power
may work within us in body, mind and spirit.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing

May the Lord be a sure path beneath your feet,
a bright light before you,
a kindly shepherd behind you;
this day, this night and always.
R/. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain for ever.
R/. Amen.

Saint Davnet, virgin

14 June

From the Commons of Virgins: for one Virgin

Collect

In the life and work of Saint Davnet, Lord,
you revealed both the power of your grace
and your loving care for the Church;
at the intercession of this holy virgin,
grant your Church pastors, we pray,
who may follow the truth in a spirit of love
and guide others by the authority of their witness.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

The Irish Martyrs

20 June
Memorial

From the Common of Martyrs: for Several Martyrs

Collect

In troubled times, O Lord,
you gave us as a pattern of constancy
the Blessed Martyrs of Ireland,
who for the joy that was set before them
endured the cross, rejecting its shame;
grant, by their prayers,
that faithfully following your commandments
we may bring forth fruits of unity and peace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Oliver Plunkett, bishop and martyr

1 July
Memorial

Entrance Antiphon (Ezekiel 34:11, 23-24)

I will seek out my sheep, says the Lord, and I, the Lord, will be their God.

Collect

God our Father,
you filled Saint Oliver with your spirit of fortitude,
enabling him to feed your people with his word
and to lay down his life for the faith;
at his intercession
keep us strong in the same true faith
and help us to proclaim it everywhere.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

All-powerful God,
look upon the gifts we bring
as we commemorate Saint Oliver,
and grant that we who rejoice to celebrate
the mystery of the death of the Lord
may imitate the love we celebrate.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon (John 12:24-25)

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone;
but if it dies, it bears much fruit, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

May the sacrament of unity we have shared, Lord,
renew in us the power of your Spirit
so that, after the example of Saint Oliver,
we may work for reconciliation and peace.
Through Christ our Lord.

Saint Moninne, virgin

6 July

From the Common of Virgins: for one Virgin

Collect

Lord God,
in the quiet of the mountain side
you led Saint Moninne along the paths of perfection
in a community of loving service;
grant, we pray, that as she was generous to all in need
so may we give ourselves willingly to the service of others.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Maelruain, bishop and abbot

7 July

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop; or from the Common of Saints: for an Abbot

Collect

Lord God, through your grace
Saint Maelruain established at Tallaght
a devoted community of prayer, poverty and obedience
that formed many in wisdom and holiness;
grant, by his prayers, that we who inherit his teachings
may ourselves grow daily in true devotion.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Kilian, bishop and martyr

8 July

From the Common of Martyrs outside Eastertide: for one Martyr; or from the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord God, who called Saint Kilian from his native land
to preach the Gospel in Europe
and crowned his work with martyrdom;
make us, we pray, strong in the faith he preached
and eager to witness to its power.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Declan, bishop

24 July

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord God, who through Saint Declan
sowed the seeds of faith in Ireland,
grant that your people,
by following his example of prayer
and continuing his love for the poor,
may come to maturity in Christ.
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Nathy, bishop

9 August

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

God, faithful and true,
by the life, death and resurrection of your Son
you have redeemed the entire creation
and made known to us the mystery of your divine love;
grant that, after the example of your bishop Saint Nathy,
we may become Christ's faithful disciples
and grow in the knowledge of your truth.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Felim, bishop

9 August

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord of glory,
in the self-abasement of your Son
you gave us an example that we are to follow;
through the intercession of your bishop Saint Felim,
take from your Church all that encumbers it
and make us ready to serve you
in freedom and in love.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Muredach, bishop

12 August

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord God, each year on the feast of Saint Muredach, your bishop,
you recall to our minds
the love with which you care for us,
the providence that sustains our lives;
build up, we pray, your Church
by the working of your Spirit among us
and make us instruments of your Gospel in the world.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Attracta, virgin

12 August

From the Common of Virgins: for one Virgin

Collect

Lord, you are present and live among us
in the sick and in all who suffer;
as once you called Saint Attracta
to care for the weak and the homeless,
so open now our eyes to know you
and our hearts to give you welcome.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Lelia, virgin

12 August

From the Common of Virgins: for one Virgin

Collect

Lord God, you have promised to come to those who love you
and to make your home with them;
through the prayers of Saint Lelia, your virgin,
make our hearts ready to receive you,
and fill our lives with your divine love.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Fachtna, bishop

13 August

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord, who never cease to feed your people,
by your word of life;
grant that, as once, through the labours of Saint Fachtna,
you gathered disciples who would devote themselves
to the study of the scriptures,
so today make us eager to know you
and to find you in the Gospel we proclaim.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Eugene, bishop

23 August

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord, you tended the beginnings of the Church in our country
and nurtured its growth to yield a rich harvest;
grant that at the prayers of Saint Eugene,
the seed of faith may spring up strong among your people
to produce a hundredfold now in our day.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Fiacre, monk

30 August

From the Common of Saints: for a Monk

Collect

Lord, our creator and loving God,
in the lifework of Saint Fiacre
you have shown your power
to heal the ravages of disease
and in the wilderness to bring forth life;
give us, we pray, the vision of faith,
to see your hand in the beauty of creation
and to recognise your face in all who suffer.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Aidan of Lindisfarne, bishop and missionary

31 August

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord God,
you sent the gentle bishop Saint Aidan
to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ;
grant us, by his prayers, to live as he taught
in simplicity, humility and love for the poor.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Mac Nissi, bishop

4 September

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Send labourers, O Lord, we pray,
to reap where your bishop Saint Mac Nissi sowed your word,
and grant that at the final harvest sower and reaper
may rejoice together in your kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Ciaran, abbot

9 September
Memorial

Entrance Antiphon (Cf. Jeremiah 17:7-8)

Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord,
he is like a tree planted by water,
that sends out its roots by the stream.

Collect

Lord and shepherd of your people,
who led Saint Ciaran to green pastures
beside peaceful waters,
and prepared the place of his resurrection
at Clonmacnois;
grant, by his prayers, that we may know the shortness of life
so that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, may the gifts we place before you
as we commemorate Saint Ciaran,
bring us nourishment on earth
and a foretaste of eternal joys.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon (Psalm 41:2)

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God.

Prayer after Communion

Strengthen us, Lord, we pray
by the sacrament we have received,
so that through our life and in our death
Christ may be glorified.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Saint Ailbe, bishop

12 September

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord, you nourished the household of the Church
through the merits and labours of Saint Ailbe;
watch over the flock, we pray,
and endow it with your choicest gifts.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Eunan (Adomnan), abbot

23 September

From the Common of Saints: for an Abbot

Collect

Lord God, in the life of Saint Eunan
you revealed the Gospel to the poor
and restored freedom to captives;
grant us a share, we pray,
in his eagerness to imitate the Saints
and in his compassion for sinners.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Finbarr, bishop

25 September

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

O Lord, who has promised
through your Only Begotten Son that the poor in spirit
will inherit the kingdom of heaven;
fix our wayward hearts, we pray,
on the treasure of the Gospel
that, with the example of Saint Finbarr for guide,
our delight may be in serving you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Canice, abbot

11 October

From the Common of Saints: for an Abbot

Collect

O God of mercy,
in joy and in sorrow,
turn our minds and hearts to you,
and with the abbot Saint Canice to plead for us
grant that nothing, in life or in death,
may sever us from your love.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Gall, abbot and missionary

16 October

From the Common of Saints: for an Abbot

Collect

Lord, our God,
who drew Saint Gall to seek you in solitude,
and in the lofty splendour of the mountain
revealed yourself to him;
grant us by his intercession
to follow the pattern
of his meekness and unyielding faith
and so enter with him
into the joy of Christ our Lord.
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Otteran, monk

27 October

From the Common of Saints: for a Monk

Collect

God of faithfulness,
you have given us the joy of commemorating Saint Otteran,
who left family and country for love of the Gospel;
through his intercession
grant us a strong faith to recognise your voice
and to respond readily to your call.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Colman, bishop

29 October

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Father of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who established your dwelling
in the heart of your bishop Saint Colman,
and through solitude and contemplation
made him strong in your love;
form us, we pray, in the spirit of penance and prayer
so that we, too, may live by your divine life.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Malachy, bishop

3 November
Memorial

Entrance Antiphon (1 Samuel 2:35)

I will raise up for myself a faithful priest;
he will do what is in my heart and in my mind, says the Lord.

Collect

Almighty God,
who called your bishop Saint Malachy to work for the unity and growth
of the Church throughout Ireland;
grant that we may follow his example
in striving for reconciliation and peace
and become Christian both in name and in deed.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

Look with favour, Lord, upon your people,
who celebrate the memory of Saint Malachy,
for by the offering we make to your glory
you build up the life of the Church.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon (Cf. John 15:16)

You did not choose me, says the Lord, I have chosen you,
to go and bear fruit that will last.

Prayer after Communion

By the power of this sacrament, Lord,
purify, we pray, your Church:
restore your spirit within us,
and renew our vigour in your service.
Through Christ our Lord.

All the Saints of Ireland

6 November
Feast

Entrance Antiphon (Cf. Eccles (Sir) 44:1-2)

Let us sing the praises of our ancestors in their successive generations,
for the Lord has created an abundance of glory,
and displayed his greatness from earliest times.

Collect

Lord God,
as we celebrate the power of the Gospel
that you displayed in the Saints of our land,
work for us, we pray, new wonders of your grace:
that the faith may grow stronger among us,
and true charity bind us in peace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First Reading: Letter to the Hebrews (11:2, 12:1-4, 15, 13:1)

Keep running steadily in the race we have started.

It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shameful of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death. Be careful that no one is deprived of the grace of God and that no root of bitterness should begin to grow and make trouble; this can poison a whole community. Continue to love each other like brothers.

Alternative First Reading: Ecclesiasticus (Sirach) 44:1-15

Let us praise our ancestors.

Let us praise illustrious men,
our ancestors in their successive generations.
The Lord has created an abundance of glory,
and displayed his greatness from earliest times.
Some wielded authority as kings
and were renowned for their strength;
others were intelligent advisers
and uttered prophetic oracles.
Others directed the people by their advice,
by their understanding of the popular mind,
and by the wise words of their teaching;
others composed musical melodies,
and set down ballads;
others were rich and powerful,
living peacefully in their homes.
All these were honoured by their contemporaries,
and were the glory of their day.
Some of them left a name behind them,
so that their praises are still sung.
While others have left no memory,
and disappeared as though they had not existed,
they are now as though they had never been,
and so too, their children after them.

Here is a list of generous men
whose good works have not been forgotten.
In their descendants there remains
a rich inheritance born of them.
Their descendants stand by the covenants
and, thanks to them, so do their children's children.

Their offspring will last for ever,
their glory will not fade.
Their bodies have been buried in peace,
and their name lives on for all generations.
The peoples will proclaim their wisdom,
the assembly will celebrate their praises.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 125. R/. v. 5

Response: Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **R/.**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **R/.**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **R/.**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **R/.**

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad:
your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 6:20-26

How happy are you who are poor. But alas for you who are rich.

Fixing his eyes on his disciples Jesus said:

'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.
Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.
Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.
Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.
Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

Prayer over the Gifts

Accept at our hands, O Lord, we pray,
these gifts of the fruits of the earth
that we bring before you
on the feast of all the Saints of Ireland;
and by this holy sacrifice make of us a pure offering
to the glory of your name.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface

V/. The Lord be with you.

R/. And also with you.

V/. Lift up your hearts.

R/. We lift them up to the Lord.

V/. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

For you are glorified in the Saints of this land
and in them you manifest the rich diversity of your gifts,
which come to us through the death and resurrection of Christ your Son.
In these faithful servants he has come close to us;
in the familiar pattern of their lives
 he shows us the ways of holiness;
in their intercession for us
 he offers to you the pleading of our own.

And so in company with them and with all the angels
we cry out with a single voice
in praise of your glory:

Holy, Holy, Holy ...

Communion Antiphon (Matthew 5:8-10)

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God;
blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God;
blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

By your never-failing gift, O Lord,
these sacraments have sustained your people
on their pilgrim way;
grant that in the strength of this same food
we too may walk to the holy mountain
where you dwell with all the Saints.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing

May God, whose glory is revealed in all the Saints of this land,
keep you strong in faith.

R/. Amen.

By the victory of the Cross of Christ the Lord
may he bring you to the glory of the resurrection.

R/. Amen.

And by his grace may the noble company of Saints
be with you at life's end
and welcome you to paradise.

R/. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain for ever.

R/. Amen.

Saint Willibrord, bishop and missionary

7 November

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

God, the saviour of all nations,
you sent your bishop Saint Willibrord
to proclaim the Gospel to many peoples
and to confirm them in the faith;
grant us, at his intercession,
to witness to your steadfast love by word and deed,
so that your Church may increase
and grow strong in holiness.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Laurence O'Toole, bishop

14 November

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

God of all holiness,
who called Saint Laurence O'Toole from a life of quiet and solitude
to be a shepherd of your people, a teacher of the clergy,
and friend of the poor;
grant, we pray, that we may follow his example of perseverance
and through his intercession
arrive at the peace of your kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Columban, abbot and missionary

23 November
Memorial

Entrance Antiphon (Psalm 26:1)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

Collect

O God, in Saint Columban you have given us
a wonderful model of missionary zeal
joined with love of the monastic life;
grant by his intercession and example
that we may seek you above all things,
and work to enlarge the company
of those who believe in you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

Accept our gifts, O Lord,
as you accepted the dedicated life of Saint Columban,
and by this sacrifice
consecrate us to your service.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon (Cf. Psalm 41:1)

Like the deer that yearns for flowing streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God.

Prayer after Communion

May the grace of this sacrament, Lord God,
which accompanied Saint Columban on his pilgrimage for Christ,
strengthen us in time of trial,
that we may stand with confidence
before the judgement seat of your Son.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Saint Colman, bishop

25 November

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Almighty God,
you gave your bishop Saint Colman the gift of gracious speech
and called him to build up the Church;
grant us, by his intercession,
so to sing your praise in the midst of our toil here on earth,
that we may delight in the enjoyment of heavenly rest.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Fergal, bishop and missionary

27 November

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Almighty God,
you sent Saint Fergal from his homeland
to lead a distant people
in the ways of holiness and learning;
grant that by our love for the truth of the Gospel
we too may grow in the knowledge of your Son.
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Finnian, bishop

12 December

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

By the work of your bishop Saint Finnian, Lord,
you formed a multitude of Saints
in the knowledge of the Gospel
and in the monastic life;
in our own day raise up, we pray, at his intercession,
Saints to edify your people
by the vitality of their Christian lives.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Flannan, bishop

18 December

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

As we prepare to celebrate, O God,
the mystery of your Word made flesh,
grant us the grace, we pray,
through the intercession of Saint Flannan,
to hear the Gospel your Son proclaims to us
and to nurture the seed he sows in our hearts.
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Saint Fachanan, bishop

20 December

From the Common of Pastors: for a Bishop

Collect

Lord God,
as we eagerly await the dawning of the Sun of Justice,
who will scatter the darkness of ignorance and sin
to shed the light of your glory on the world,
we commemorate your bishop Saint Fachanan,
praying that, through his intercession,
you bring us to the joy of that day which has no end.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

