



Name _____

The History of St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day is a holiday celebrated each year on March 17th. Its origins date back to Ireland in 5th century. St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. He was born in Roman Britain some time in the late 4th century, He was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken as a slave to Ireland. He escaped years later and returned to Ireland and converted the Irish to Christianity. He died on March 17th, 461.

Following Patrick's death, legends grew around him saying that he drove the snakes out of Ireland but this was most likely a symbol of driving paganism out. Another legend is that he explained the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) using the shamrock.

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heritage. Today, people of all backgrounds celebrate St. Patrick's Day, mostly in Ireland, the United States, Canada, and Australia.

1. The holiday was dated back to _____.
2. St. Patrick returned to Ireland and _____.
3. He described the Holy Trinity using a _____.
4. The first St. Patrick's parade was in the _____.