## **ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

# Promoting awareness of Irish culture

The Irish Cultural Society is dedicated to promoting other, albeit less colorful, aspects of Irish culture. The Irish are known as writers, speakers, poets, bards, playwrights, songwriters, singers, dancers. The Irish have been and are in every aspect of science, government, military, and more.

The first meeting of the Irish Cultural Society (ICS) took place on April 3, 1975, at Incarnate Word College. About 40 people attended the first meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was the growing need for an organization that would provide leadership and endeavor to give a true picture of Irish culture and make visible the rich heritage of the Irish on the Texas cultural scene.

Initially, membership was limited to those who were actually born in Ireland. Msgr. Terence Nolan was elected chairman, and Sister Carmel O'Callaghan, PBVM, was elected secretary.

Under Tom Macken and Sister Teresa Stanley, CCVI and others, a committee was formed to draw up a constitution. It was voted the organization be named the "Irish Cultural Society of San Antonio."

On May 11, 1975, the constitution was approved. And, on Oct. 19, 1975, membership rules changed to open membership to anyone with cultural interests similar to those of the society's founding members.

# Harp & Shamrock Society of Texas honors three

The Harp and Shamrock Society of Texas has announces its 2020 Irishman of the Year and Cusack Award recipients. The Irishman of the Year is Dana Goodman. He is the current secretary of the 54 year old society and an outstanding leader in various endeavors of the organization.

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The Cusack Award recipients are Dr. Gerald Mulvey, a professor at the University of the Incar-

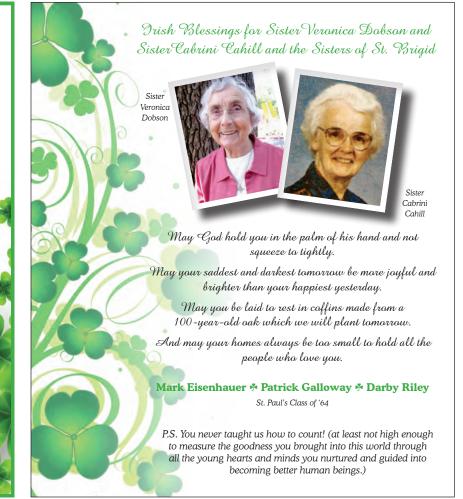
nate Word, and Elvira Barrera who has been a leader in the society's Scholarship Committee. Dr. Mulvey has been a leader whose interest is in the Irish in San Antonio's past and where they were located and has promoted unknown Irish sites in the San Antonio area. Barrera has been instrumental in writing grant proposals for the Harp and Shamrock Society which enabled the society to develop Passport to Ireland which

PHOTO PROVIDE

Harp and Shamrock Society of Texas honorees included Dana Goodman as Irishman of the Year and Cusack Award recipients Dr. Gerald Mulvey and Elvira Barrera. They were recognized at a banquet at the Petroleum Club.

talks about the influential Irish who settled San Antonio. The Cusack Award is given to members of the Harp and Shamrock Society who have distinguished themselves in service to the society.

The Irishman of the Year and the Cusack recipients were recognized at the Annual Awards Banquet of the Harp and Shamrock Society held on February 22 at the Petroleum Club.



#### St. Patrick's Day comes with memories when I think back to many of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word whom I have known over the years as teachers and, later, very dear friends.

Here's to the memory of Sister Alacoque Caddell (Dublin), Sister Kathleen Dryburgh, Sister Anthelma Boyle (Meath), Sister Antoninus Buckley (Limerick), Sister Philomena Burke (Mayo), Sister Margaret Carew (Tipperary), Sister Teresa Connors (Tipperary), Sister Christine Murphy (Calway), Sister Mary Teresa Daly (Roscommon), Sister Cecilia Fahy (Galway), Sister Ann Finn (Longford), Sister Patrick Ignatius Hastings (Mayo), Sister Beatrice Hogan (Limerick), Sister Patricia Kennedy (Galway), Sister Kathleen Kenny (Laois), Sister Margaret Nugent (Dublin), Sisters Alacoque and Theophane Power (Waterford), Sister Doreen Skinner (Cork), Sisters Ann and Mona Smiley (Kildare), and Sr. Mary James Whelan (Wicklow).

Many of the sisters taught me at Incarnate Word High School and later Incarnate Word College (now UIW). Others I met at the Village through my good friend Sister Christine Murphy.

Others, too, I give grateful thanks in memory to Dr. Sean Burke, Tom Molloy, Josephine Quinn, Peggy Dougherty, Phyllis McLoughlin, Willy Fahy, Msgr. Tom French, Msgr. Leo Dolan, Msgr. Lawrence Walsh,

> And, last but not least to my great-grandmothers, Kate McHugh Oswalt and Ann Jennings Kramer.

> > – JOAN MOODY –

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### **ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

## Harp & Shamrock Society of Texas celebrating St. Patrick's Day 2020 FESTIVITIES SCHEDULE

#### Sat, March 14

-Festival/Passport of Ireland; LaVillita and Arneson Theatre Irish Entertainment. Noon-8 p.m.

#### Sun, March 15

-Festival/Passport to Ireland; LaVillita and Arneson Theatre Irish Entertainment. Noon-6 p.m. -St. Patrick's Day River Parade; San Antonio Riverwalk. Starting at

#### Tue, March 17

5 p.m.

-St. Patrick's Day Harp & Shamrock Wreath Laying Ceremony; Alamo. Noon.

#### Sat, March 21 -37th Annual Harp

& Shamrock 5K Run and Competitive Walk; Southside Lions Park East (4600 Pecan Valley Drive, San Antonio). 8 a.m.

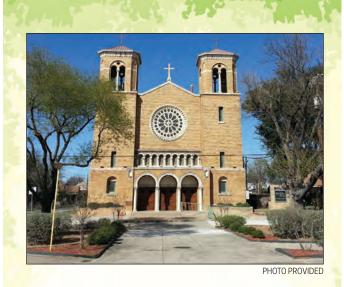
# History of the Harp & Shamrock Society of Texas

In October 1966, at St. Mary's University, two professors and a graduate student met to inaugurate a society which would involve persons of Irish nationality or heritage to do honor to the land of their forefathers. Dr. Sean Burke, an Irish born professor at Incarnate Word College (now University of the Incarnate Word); Joseph B. McShane, a San Antonio native, third generation, graduate student and retired Air Force colonel; and Patrick J. Dowd, a New York City, first generation, scientist and instructor at the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine; gathered together planned the goals of an Irish Society.

On March 17, 1967, the first official activity of the newly formed Society took place outside the Alamo. Twenty or so members laid a wreath at the door of the Alamo Shrine with Irish tunes played by the Central Catholic High School Band. A month later, the first officers and directors were elected. In March 1968, the first St. Patrick's Day Parade started in downtown San Antonio with 250 marchers walking four blocks to the Alamo.

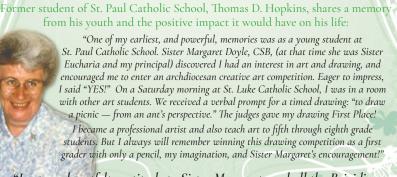
On March 17, 1969, the Society joined with the Paseo Del Rio Association to dye the San Antonio River green and rename it "The River Shannon" for a day. Since then this tradition has been continued with a special Irish show of song, dance and music at the Arnesen River Theater.

After celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2016, the society has continued to further the culture and traditions of the Irish in San Antonio. In addition, members strive to be civically active volunteering to serve other not-for profit organizations.



# March 17 is St.

Patrick's Feast Day The St. Patrick's Day Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m., on Tuesday, March 17 at St. Patrick Church at 111 Willow Street in San Antonio. The presider will be Msgr. Enda McKenna. Fellowship and small reception will follow in the parish hall. All are invited.



"I express heartfelt gratitude to Sister Margaret, and all the Brigidine Sisters, for their lives of service as educators." - Thomas D. Hopkins, Artist, Educator -

# **Casa de Padres**

extends a joyous and blessed St. Patrick's Day greetings to & Rev. Emmet Carolan & Rev. Tony Cummins & Msgr. Patrick Marron & Msgr. Enda McKenna & Msgr. Terry Nolan and to all priests who serve, with St. Patrick's faith and perseverance, in the Archdiocese of San Antonio.

> CASA de PADRES 8520 Cross Mountain Trail, San Antonio, TX 78255 (210) 698-0175 • CasadePadres@gmail.com Tara Castro, Director



**TUE MAR 17 NOON AT THE ALAMO** Wreath Laying Ceremony by Harp & Shamrock Society inside The Cavalry Courtyard

"Keeping Irish history & culture alive in South Texas"

www.harpandshamrock.org (A 501.c.3. organization)

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## **ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

# St. Patrick of Ireland

(CNA) • On March 17 Catholics will celebrate St. Patrick, the fifth century bishop and patron of Ireland, whose life of holiness set the example for many of the Church's future saints.

St. Patrick is said to have been born around 389 AD in Britain. Captured by Irish raiders when he was about 16, St. Patrick was taken as a slave to Ireland where he lived for six years as a shepherd before escaping and returning to his home.

At home, he studied the Christian faith at monastic settlements in Italy and and what is now modern-day France. He was ordained a deacon by the Bishop of Auxerre, France around the year 418 AD and ordained a bishop in 432 AD.

It was around this time when that he was assigned to minister to the small, Christian communities in Ireland who lacked a central authority and were isolated from one another.

When St. Patrick returned to Ireland, he was able to use his knowledge of Irish culture that he gained during his years of captivity. Using the traditions and symbols of the Celtic people, he explained Christianity in a way that made sense to the Irish and was thus very successful in converting the natives.

The shamrock, which St. Patrick used to explain the Holy Trinity, is a symbol that has become synonymous with Irish Catholic culture.

Although St. Patrick's Day is widely known and celebrated every March the world over, various folklore and legend that surround the saint can make it difficult to determine fact from fiction.

Legends falsely site him as the man who drove away snakes during his ministry despite the climate and location of Ireland, which have never allowed snakes to inhabit the area.

St. Patrick is most revered not for what he drove away from Ireland, but what brought and the foundation he



built for the generations of Christians who followed him.

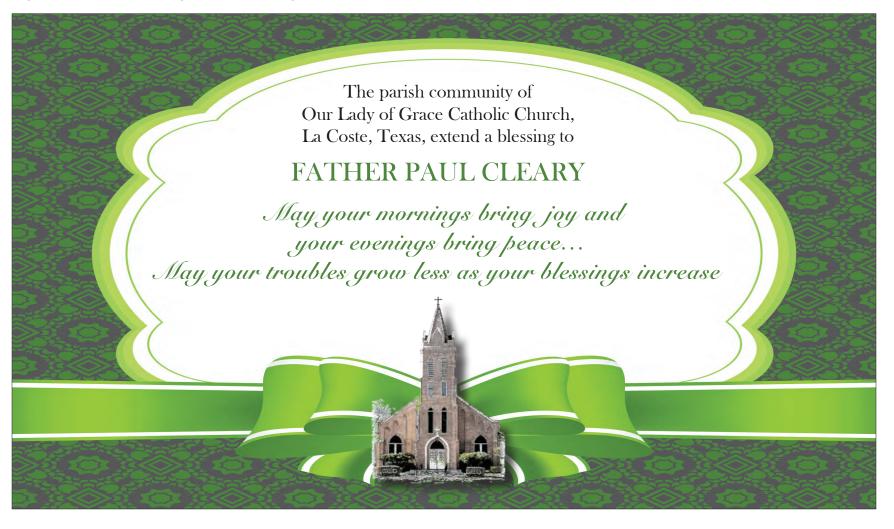
Although not the first missionary to the country, he is widely regarded as the most successful. The life of sacrifice, prayer and fasting has laid the foundation for the many saints that the small island was home to following his missionary work.

To this day, he continues to be revered as one of the most beloved Saints of Ireland.

In March of 2011, the Irish bishops' conference marked their patron's feast by remembering him as "pioneer in an inhospitable climate."

As the Church in Ireland faces her own recent difficulties following clerical sex abuse scandals, comfort can be found in the plight of St. Patrick, the bishops said.

They quoted The Confession of St. Patrick, which reads: "May it never befall me to be separated by my God from his people whom he has won in this most remote land. I pray God that he gives me perseverance, and that he will deign that I should be a faithful witness for his sake right up to the time of my passing."



## **ST. PATRICK'S DAY**



It is said Saint Patrick used a three-leaf shamrock to teach the Holy Trinity as he traversed Ireland for 20 years, converting Gaelic Irish to Christianity.

As we commemorate the date of his death, March 17, we would also like to recognize and celebrate the work of our own Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word for their legacy — bravely answering the call to establish what is now CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health System 150 years ago and forever changing the lives of countless South Texans.

May your faith, hope and love continue to inspire us.

May the strength of God pilot us, May the wisdom of God instruct us, May the hand of God protect us, May the word of God direct us. Be always ours for this day and forevermore.

-Saint Patrick



Our Mission: To extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ | christussantarosa.org



EINCARNATE WORD SAN ANTONIO

SISTERS OF CHARITY OF HERMANAS DE LA CARIDAD





# March 10 @ 7:00 pm Concert Hall

The University of the Incarnate Word 4301 Broadway

> Tickets: www.ccvichapel.org General Admission Seating \$50, \$35 and \$25, \$10 (students)

The Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word are pleased to have **Cherish the Ladies** with us in San Antonio to help us "close out" our year-long celebration of the 150 years since the founding of our Congregation. Since 1869, almost 1,000 women left Ireland to join the mission in Texas. This concert pays homage to these brave young pioneers who helped grow our Congregation and have served in our ministries of health-care, education, and pastoral services.



**Cherish the Ladies,** an all women's performing group, was formed in 1985, and this year celebrates 35 years of their extraordinary contribution to Celtic music, a genre once dominated by men. They bring to audiences all over the world, a combination of virtuosic instrumental and vocal talents. As the Boston Globe commented, "it is simply impossible to imagine an audience that wouldn't enjoy what they do."