

















# Living the Liturgy at Home

## Solemnity of Saint Patrick (Feast in New Zealand)

March 17

### Scripture Readings

Jeremiah 1:4–9

Psalms 116

Acts 13:46–49

Luke 10:1–12, 17–20

### Prayer

O God who calls on us to send forth peace  
not knowing whether it will be  
accepted or rejected,  
give us courage like St Patrick, we  
pray,  
to continue trying to spread peace in  
your name  
so that our world may live in harmony.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus  
Christ your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

### Conversation Questions

- ☉ In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his followers that they will be like lambs among wolves when they are sent out to spread the Good News. Have you ever felt like a lamb among wolves as a Christian in a secular society?
- ☉ What elements of Christian teaching will help to give you strength when you feel like a lamb among wolves in offering peace to someone who may not welcome it?

### Faith in Action

Before we receive Communion at Mass, we are invited to share a Sign of Peace with the people around us. Sometimes this act can become routine, habitual or unthinking, and we can lose focus on its true meaning. Next time you are at Mass and are invited to share a Sign of Peace, make eye contact with the person whose hand you are holding as you say "Peace be with you" and remember Jesus' instruction to send forth peace, as you make your extension of peace to them truly intentional.

### ?? Did You Know??

While little historical detail is available about St Patrick, he is understood to have been a fifth-century missionary of Roman-British descent who was sent as bishop-apostle to Ireland, where he was tasked with converting to Christianity a pagan culture whose belief system was based on a polytheistic Celtic worldview in which multiple local deities were worshiped. His missionary success yielded legends such as his being responsible for Ireland having no snakes because he banished them by driving them into the sea after they attacked him when he was in the midst of a 40-day period of prayer and fasting.