

## **On the mountain: Transfiguration**

**Today St. Patrick and the First Sunday of Lent coincide. In the Gospel, Jesus goes to the mountain top and is transfigured.**

**There is a simliarity between this event and St, Patrck's first expeience in Ireland.**

**He experienced the mountain tops there as a young slave. He was captured and sent to the mountains to herd sheep. Many believe those long solitary hours on the mountains of Erin developed in him a reflective spirit.**

**St. Patrick thus began to receive a transformation/transfiguration on the mountains of Erin.**

**He would later escape and get passage back to his homeland, which may have been Britain or Normandy.**

**It was only after experiencing the comforts of his homeland, that he felt summoned in dreams to return to Erin and convert the pagan Irish.**

**When he returned, he spent 40 days in prayer atop Croagh Patrick**

**Mountain during the 40 days of Lent.**

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Subsequently, he was the first Bishop in history to condemn slavery.

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ÂÂ And so we pray:

I arise today

through a mighty strength,

the invocation of the Trinity,

Through belief in the threeness,

Throug confesion of the oneness

of the crator of creation.

St. Patrick's Breastplate.

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