

CrossTalk

March CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter 2004

WHO WAS St. PATRICK?

Are you one of the millions of people that celebrate Saint Patrick's Day every year? If so, have you ever **wondered** about the story behind this holiday?

Saint Patrick, is the **patron saint** of Ireland, although he was not originally from there. He was actually born in Britain of a Roman-British army officer in about AD 385. When he was sixteen years old, he was captured alongside others by a band of pirates who had landed in Britain. He was later sold into slavery in Ireland, and worked **laboriously** as a slave for six years. He was able to learn the Irish language becoming fluent in it.

When he was in his twenties, he succeeded in escaping and returned to his homeland - Britain. There, he studied at a monastery for several years, and later journeyed to France to continue his studies. He spent about twelve years in training.

At this time, he had a vision that the people of Ireland were calling him to share his knowledge of Christianity with them.



Hence, he **retreated** to Ireland where he preached the word of the Gospel, constructed schools and churches, and converted the pagans of Ireland to Christianity. He used the Shamrock to explain the **ideology** behind the **trinity**. He told the townspeople that the stem of the Shamrock represented the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, therefore three parts uniting one God. As a result, the Shamrock became to **depict** the national symbol of Ireland, as well as the symbol of The Trinity of the Christian church.

With time, Saint Patrick went on to become a church deacon, a priest, and finally, he was **ordained** as a Bishop. He died in Ireland on 17 March AD 461.

On this day, many people worldwide wear the Shamrock, clothe themselves in green, throw parties, and have parades to **commemorate** Saint Patrick.

Happy Saint Paddy's Day everyone, and don't forget to wear something green on this day!



Story by Grace

Glossary

(These words are in **color** in the story on page 1)

wondered 知りたいと思った	patron saint 守護聖人	laboriously 苦勞して
retreated 帰還した	ideology 観念論(イデオロギー)	trinity 三位一体説
depict 表す	ordained 聖職を授けられた	commemorate 祝う

A Word From Us



Joshua Says: This is the time of year when, in Japan at least, there is a lot of moving about. People seem to save this time for changing residence, starting a new job, putting into practice some of their New Year's resolutions (after a couple of months thinking about it...), etc. We also find that we welcome many new students to Crossroads at this time of year. I look forward to the new energy of Spring at this time every year.

Junko Says: I have just discovered some great new English "Audio Books"! These are excellent study aids for advanced students. The stories, usually classics, or at least famous novels, are always very absorbing and, great for helping with comprehension. You can either listen to the tapes before reading the books to get the idea of the story first, or you can listen after you have read to check your overall comprehension. Either way, the tapes are a great help!



Grace Says: Being the organized person that I am, I've already planned my trip during Golden Week. I haven't traveled anywhere in Japan since last October, when I went to Kyoto to admire temples and shrines. I'll be visiting Kobe, since I love eating, and I've heard that it's a gourmet's paradise, as well as to enjoy the city in general!! I can't wait!!!!

Saara Says: I've been in Matsuyama for a month now. I'm sad to say that I haven't seen Matsuyama castle yet, nor the Dogo area. I'm hoping that I'll be able to see them this month. I'm also impatiently waiting to see the famous cherry blossoms.



Greg Says: I've been looking forward to the end of the cold season for quite a while. It seems to be getting colder and colder every winter! But, sure enough, as soon as winter has walked away, the hot, sizzling summer comes knocking on the door, and we all begin to look forward to the cold once again....

Yuka Says: Now that the cold season has gone we can enjoy the warm and comfortable weather. But not for me! Although I've heard that this year's pollen count is expected to be low, I already have allergy trouble. And what's worse, hay fever medicine makes me so sleepy. I really wish the cold weather would come back!



A Word From You

Mika says: I had a great experience in Vancouver, Canada, because I made many friends from Mexico, Korea and France at EF English school where I studied English. We talked together about our families, culture and our aims for studying English. Because we made deep impressions on each other, we will keep in touch for as long as we can.



Notice Board

Congratulations to Daisaburo for winning first prize in his cooking class. His dish, "Early Spring in Shimanami" gained him his gold plaque in the category of Japanese cuisine.



Net News

NET LESSONS:

Are you too busy to come to CROSSROADS to study? Try our *lessons on the internet!*

It's CROSSROADS in your home or office! You get CROSSROADS' great teachers, teaching programs, even classmates, *on-line!* Call for details.

NET SITE OF THE MONTH:

Check out this web site to read about some famous and influential Irish. www.irishclans.com/articles/famirish

Don't forget to take a look at the NET NOTEBOOK in our Open-house lounge. You'll find games, news and English

Easy English Lesson

The verbs **"tell"** and **"say"** can at times be tricky.

"Tell" is used when it's followed by a pronoun or noun object:

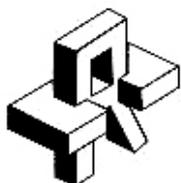
James is telling his sister about his trip to Barbados.

Kathleen told the children to play with the ball outdoors.

"Say" is used after a noun clause:

Shelley says she would like to rest for awhile.

Oliver is saying the ABC's in English class.



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