

“The point of reading these stories [about the saints] is to understand how grace works in the world. Every day, all day long, God pours out his grace upon us, urging us, coaxing us, to turn away from everything that is base and cheap and unsatisfying, and turn toward the only thing that is eternal, perfect, and true – that is, himself.” *Thomas J. Craughwell*
Information about St. Brigid comes from “Catholic.org”

December Saint-in-the-Spotlight



Virtue of the month: Generosity

St. Brigid grew up in Ireland and was known for her incredible generosity. On many occasions, she was scolded for giving away food and money to the poor of the surrounding area. She even gave away her father’s prized jeweled sword to a visiting beggar so that he could provide food for his family.

As a child, Brigid heard St. Patrick speak and over time they became good friends. In fact, it was said: “Between St. Patrick and St. Brigid, the pillars of the Irish people, there was so great a friendship of charity that they had but one heart and one mind. Through him and through her Christ performed many great works.”

When Brigid grew up, her father arranged for her to be married but she refused. She longed to become a religious sister and promised herself to God. Legend has it that Brigid prayed to be made ugly so that no man would desire to marry her, and her prayer was granted. But her beauty was restored after she professed her final vows as a religious sister.

Brigid founded a monastery in Kildare, Ireland that is known as the Church of the Oak. She also founded an art school and many convents all over Ireland. Throughout her life, her focus was always to help the poor.

St. Brigid is the patroness of Ireland.

St. Brigid, during this Christmas season, help me to be generous to others. Instead of making a long list of gifts I want for myself, help me to observe the needs of others and try my best to provide for them.

discussion question