Liturgy for the Feast of St Patrick Liturgy: 17 March

Opening hymn: Christ be beside me https://youtu.be/7CJv4p5CuKc

Introduction:
Today we remember Saint Patrick who came to Ireland a long time ago to bring people to God.
Saint Patrick taught us that there are three persons in One God: God the Father, God the Son
and God the Holy Spirit. He taught us this using the symbol of a shamrock. As we light a candle we pray,

Opening Prayer:
Saint Patrick of Ireland,
we thank you for bringing the
Gospel to the people of Ireland.
We thank you for your witness.
May we never cease,
to proclaim Jesus by
our way of living.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord. **Amen**

Psalm: https://youtu.be/GGHWiAGpIP0 The Deer's Cry

Scripture: A Reading from the Gospel of Luke (Lk 5:1-5)

Jesus was standing one day by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him, listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.

Jesus got into one of the boats – it was Simon's- and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crows from the boat.

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied, 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.'

And when they had done this, they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also, were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners.

But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him. ©Universalis home page

The Gospel of the Lord

Intercessions

Leader
Though the intercession of Saint Patrick, we bring our prayers and petitions to God our Father.
The response is **Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for the faith of Saint Patrick. . .
that church leaders may have the courage and wisdom needed to bear witness to Jesus and to shepherd their flock. *(pause for silent prayer)* **Lord hear us…. Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for the courage of Saint Patrick. . .
that Civic leaders will bear witness to Christian values: honesty, generosity, and compassion.
(pause for silent prayer) **Lord hear us… Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for the willingness of Saint Patrick. . .
to answer even our most difficult callings. Please speak to us today as you spoke to Saint Patrick when he received your call to return to Ireland to preach the gospel.
(pause for silent prayer) **Lord hear us… Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for the voice of Saint Patrick. . .
as he preached throughout Ireland. Help us never to stop telling others the Good News of your love for people of all faiths, for refugees and for the emigrants, May they through us feel welcome in your kingdom. *(pause for silent prayer* **Lord hear us… Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for the hope of Saint Patrick. . .
that our loved ones, who have gone before us, may find rest in the loving arms of Jesus. . .
(pause for silent prayer **Lord hear us… Lord graciously hear us.**

We take a moment now, to pray for our own special intentions (*Pause for silent prayer)*
Lord hear us… Lord graciously hear us.

Our Father:

United as a family, we bring all of your prayers together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.....
Our Father…

Closing Prayer
O God, you gave Saint Patrick,
to the people of Ireland,
so that we might come to know you.
Grant, we pray, that we will continue
to proclaim your deeds to all.
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.

Final Hymn: Hail Glorious St Patrick https://youtu.be/2BG4V93NnOg