

# From the Diocese



The story of St. Patrick, whose feast day is March 17th, warms our hearts during our Lenten journey and gives us a glimpse of the redemption Christ brings through the cross. Born in Scotland, Patrick was living in Britain as a 14-year-old when he was captured during a raid and taken to Ireland.

At this time, Ireland was a land of Druids and Pagans. Patrick became a shepherd, and learned the language and practices of the people who held him. During his captivity and lowliness, he drew near to God in prayer.

Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There, he found some sailors who took him back to Britain, where he rejoiced in being reunited with his family. Later, he had another dream in which the people of Ireland were calling out to him, "We beg you, holy youth, to come and walk among us once more."

Eventually, he returned to Ireland as a bishop and converted the people to Christianity. He is best known for using the shamrock to explain the Trinity.

From being captured as a young man, to eventually converting the people in Ireland, St. Patrick's story shows how God mysteriously and wonderfully brings good out of events in our life that seem terrible at the time—just as the cross leads to the resurrection.

## Interested in the Diaconate?



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## —Upcoming-Events—

**3/1**  
**Rite of Election**  
St. Nicholas of Myra, Hays, 3p.m.

**3/17**  
**St. Patrick's Day**

**3/21**  
**Youth Minister Retreat**  
Salina

**St. John's, Beloit, School Auction**  
4:30p.m. Mass

**St. John's, Hanover, School Auction**  
(3/21), 5p.m.

**3/26**  
**Chrism Mass**  
Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina, 11:30a.m.

**3/28**  
**St. Mary's Auction**  
Ellis, 4p.m. Mass

**3/29**  
**Palm Sunday**

Have you ever been to a Chrism Mass? The Chrism Mass is one of the most significant liturgies for a diocese as it symbolizes the unity between the bishop, clergy, and the faithful. During the Mass, the bishop blesses the holy oils used for the sacraments throughout the year. Additionally, the priests renew their vows. Our Chrism Mass is scheduled for Thursday, March 26th, at 11:30a.m. at the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina. Anyone can attend. I especially want to encourage our catechumens and candidates in the OCIA class to attend. Hope to see you there,

*+ Gerald J. Veneke*

## Preserving Human Faces & Voices



**Pope Leo's Letter**  
**60th World Day of Social Communications**

*Together, let us be disciples of Jesus on mission!*

# CHRISM MASS

On March 26<sup>th</sup>, people from across the Salina Diocese will be celebrating a special Mass called the Chrism Mass - and you're invited too! At this Mass, Bishop Vincke will bless three types of oil that we will use all year long.

Throughout the Bible, you will read about people using oil for many different things. It was used to make food, as an ingredient in medicine, as fuel for lamps, and so much more. The early church (those that lived during and right after Jesus' resurrection) continued to use oil in different sacramental ways. We still use oil for special things in the church today!

## OIL OF THE SICK

"OLEUM INFIRMORUM"

This oil will be used in the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

O.I.



## OIL OF THE CATECHUMANS

"OLEUM CATECHUMENORUM"

This oil will be used to anoint people who join the Catholic Church

O.C.



S.C.



## SACRED CHRISM

"SACRUM CHRISMA"

The blessing of this oil, Sacred Chrism, is the high point of all three oils. Chrism is oil mixed with a fragrance (like balsam), making it smell sweet! Chrism will be used in Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders!