

**25TH ANNUAL
GREATER MANASSAS
SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**



March 8, 2025

2025 GREATER MANASSAS

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

SATURDAY, MARCH 8 • HISTORIC DOWNTOWN MANASSAS



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Happy Saint Patrick's Day

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25th ANNUAL
GREATER MANASSAS
SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARADE
GRAND MARSHAL

Father Joseph Farrell



Fr. Joseph Farrell is a priest of the Diocese of Arlington. He currently serves as Chaplain at George Mason University and Director of the St. Robert Bellarmine Chapel.

Fr. Farrell attended George Mason University studying English Literature and graduated in 2007. After a few years working in the DC area, he entered the seminary in 2009. He studied two years at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia before being sent to complete his education in Rome at the Pontifical North American College and the Pontifical University of St. Thomas.

Following his ordination in 2015, Fr. Farrell served in two parishes before assuming his current role at George Mason University five years ago. A proud Irishman, Fr. Farrell has also been serving as the State Chaplain of the Ancient Order of Hibernians since 2019.

History of the Grand Marshals of the Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parade

- 2025 ~ Fr. Joseph Farrell, State Chaplin of the Ancient Order of Hibernians
- 2024 ~ Bonnie Baggan; Founder Spotlight Dance
- 2023 ~ Joe Martin, Founding Member; Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee
- 2021 ~ Sheriff Glen Hill, Prince William County Sheriff
- 2019 ~ Mr. Patrick K Hallinan, Former Executive Director, National Military Cemeteries
- 2018 ~ The Honorable Maureen S. Caddigan, Potomac District Supervisor, Prince William County
- 2017 ~ Phillip R. Nannery Jr., President Greater Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parade
- 2016 ~ Rev. Gerard "Gerry" Creedon, Pastor, Holy Family Catholic Church, Dale City, VA
- 2015 ~ Vincent T. Fitzpatrick, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Prince William County Board President
- 2014 ~ James J. Conroy, Jr., Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parade Charter Announcer
- 2013 ~ Chief Charlie Deane (Ret)
- 2012 ~ Harry J. (Hal) Parrish II, Mayor, City of Manassas
- 2011 ~ Richard S. Aleksy, Ancient Order of Hibernians, State Board President
- 2010 ~ Colonel Mike Riley, United States Marine Corps
- 2009 ~ Chief Kevin J. McGee, Prince William County, Department of Fire & Rescue
- 2008 ~ Colonel John J. (J J) Kelly, US Army, Retired
- 2007 ~ The Honorable Mr. Sean T. Connaughton
- 2006 ~ Mr. and Mrs. Hugh J. Brien
- 2005 ~ Mr. Marvin L. Gillum - Former Mayor, City of Manassas
- 2004 ~ Charter Members of the Father Kelley Division
Ancient Order of Hibernians:
Francis X. Riley, Charter President
Hugh J. Brien Robert F. Callahan Senator Charles J. Colgan
Frank E. Grimes William F. O'Brien John E. Oliver
George A. Patrick Paul J. Purtell Michael K. Riley
Patrick D. Riley Timothy F. Riley Terance G. Riley
- 2003 ~ Mrs. Eleonore Grimley, National President, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians
- 2002 ~ COL John (Jack) Rice, U.S. Army (Ret.), Highly Decorated 3-War Veteran
- 2001 ~ Mr. J.P. McCusker, Virginia State Deputy, Knights of Columbus
- 2000 ~ The Honorable Charles J. Colgan, Virginia State Senator



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, generations of Irishmen and women have helped shape the identity of America, overcoming hardship and strife through strength, sacrifice, faith, and family; and

WHEREAS, the Irish are inextricably linked to the growth of the United States in fields ranging from literature, education and science, to politics, law enforcement and military; and

WHEREAS, we owe a debt of gratitude to the Irish American inventors and entrepreneurs who have helped define our country as the land of opportunity; and

WHEREAS, in October 1990, the 101st United States Congress passed Public Law 101-418, which established March 1991 as Irish American Heritage Month, and the president issues a proclamation commemorating the occasion each year; and

WHEREAS, as we celebrate Irish American Heritage Month, we recognize the sacrifices and contributions of more than 750,000 Virginians of Irish descent that strengthen the Spirit of Virginia;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Glenn Youngkin, do hereby recognize March 2025, as **IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH** in our COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



Glenn Youngkin
Governor

Kenny See
Secretary of the Commonwealth



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, *Irish Heritage Month* is observed in March of each year in the City of Manassas, providing an opportunity for all residents to celebrate and appreciate the significant impact of Irish culture, traditions, and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Americans of Irish heritage have made invaluable contributions to various aspects of society, including but not limited to, arts, sciences, politics, business, and sports, enriching the diverse tapestry of our city; and

WHEREAS, Americans of Irish descent have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of American life; and

WHEREAS, the spirit of the Irish community is marked by resilience, determination, and a commitment to fostering a sense of unity and inclusivity among all citizens; and

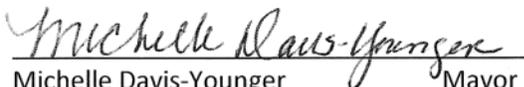
WHEREAS, celebrating *Irish Heritage Month* gives us an opportunity to honor and recognize individuals who have contributed to the history, society and culture of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, today more than 39 million Americans who claim Irish heritage, a number almost seven times greater than the entire population of Ireland today, can look back with pride on the many achievements and contributions of their ancestors.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Davis-Younger, and on behalf of the Manassas City Council, hereby proclaim the month of March 2025 as

Irish Heritage Month

in the City of Manassas and urge all residents of the City of Manassas to celebrate the contributions made by individuals of Irish descent and to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities that honor and celebrate the enduring legacy of the Irish-American community.


Michelle Davis-Younger Mayor
On behalf of the City Council
of Manassas, Virginia

ATTEST:


Eric W. Smith II City Clerk

PROCLAMATION



Irish American Heritage Month

WHEREAS, more than 30 million Americans trace their roots to Ireland's shores; and

WHEREAS, from the 1600s through the early 1900s, Irish immigrants endured several hardships to build new lives, transformed our largest cities into centers of commerce and industry, and made great cultural, spiritual, and economic contributions to the diversity of our Nation; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans have played an important part in creating the fabric of our history through their service in the government and military, and also through their faith and family values, and

WHEREAS, many Americans of Irish descent continue to play a vital role in shaping our history and culture, enriching all aspects of our lives; and

WHEREAS, the men and women of the Ancient Order of Hibernians are pillars in our community as representatives of their fellow Irish Americans;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the office of the Chair At-Large of the Prince William Board of County Supervisors does hereby proclaim March 2025, as Irish American Heritage Month in Prince William County



Deshundra Jefferson, Chair





The Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service in Community Policing recognizes individual state, local, or tribal sworn rank-and-file police officers, deputies and troopers for exceptional efforts in effective policing.

Congratulations to the recipients of the Attorney General's Awards for Distinguished Service in Policing; acknowledging the exceptional work of law enforcements officers, deputies and troopers from jurisdictions across the country. Each of the officers, deputies and troopers honored has demonstrated commitment to exceptional policing in the cities, towns and localities where they serve.



From the more than 18,000 law enforcement agencies throughout the country, twelve Law Enforcement Officers received the Attorney General's Award in 2024. Two were from the Manassas City Police Department. Inisfail and the City of Manassas congratulate:

Master Police Officer Thomas Rodriquez, Manassas City Police Department (Virginia) and Master Police Officer Shauna Moller, Manassas City Police Department (Virginia)

For more information on the Awardees go to <https://www.justice.gov/ag/policing-award>



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The 2025 Greater Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee and Officers

Vince Fitzpatrick
Patrick Sullivan
Greg Gibbons
Jack Southard
LT Amilcar Barahona
Barton Emanuel
Greg Rebbert
Bill Yochem
Mike Riley
Milt Johns
Joe Martin
Peter Hawkins
Kevin Byrne
Frances Sullivan
Todd Wardzinski
Will Austin
Rich Aleksy

Inisfail President/Publicity
Parade Chairman
Treasurer
Operations Chairman
Manassas City Police
Program Ad Sales Chairman
Participants Chairman
Participants
Dignitaries
Announcer
Community Outreach
Parade Program Chairman
Bands
National Anthem
Webmaster
Social Media/Content
Committee Member



Inisfail Inc.



In January 1999, the brothers of the Father Kelley Division, Ancient Order of Hibernians contemplated staging a St. Patrick's Day Parade for the City of Manassas. We were very proud of our Irish heritage and wanted to share it with the community. We worked for the next 15 months to put on our Inaugural Greater Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 18, 2000.

Due to the overwhelming support of the community and the success of the Inaugural Parade, we incorporated as a nonprofit organization for future parades. We have now held a parade for twenty-five years which is a highly anticipated event in our community.

We took the name Inisfail from the ancient pre-Christian for Ireland that signifies Isle of destiny. Today, we celebrate the Gaelic culture that began long ago and has developed over the centuries.

Inisfail thanks you for your support of our parade and hope that you have a great time here in Manassas today.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Inisfail, Inc. wishes to express its gratitude to the City of Manassas for the assistance it has provided in organizing and planning this parade. This is now an annual event that adds to the culture and character of Manassas. Without the support of the City, this would not happen.

Thank You!

Manassas City Representatives

Mayor

Michelle Davis-Younger

Vice Mayor

Mark D. Wolfe

City Council Members

Theresa Coates Ellis

Ashley Hutson

Sonia Vásquez Luna

Tom Osina

Ralph J. Smith

City Manager

Steve Burke

Manassas City Chief of Police

Douglas W. Keen

Fire and Rescue Chief

Edward Mills

Inisfail, Inc., would like to extend a special thank you to the following businesses and organizations that have assisted us in putting on this great event. We could not have done it without them.



Thank you all

very much ...

American Printing
City Of Manassas
Voodoo Cajun Creole (Sponsor - Grand Marshal's Toast)
East to West Embroidery
Families of the Parade Committee
Father Kelley Division – Ancient Order of Hibernians
KO Distilling (Parade Meeting Host)
Manassas City Council
Manassas City Government Offices
Manassas City Police Department
Old Towne Sports Pub (Sponsor - Parade Marshal Breakfast)
Parade Marshals and Drivers
Prince William County Board of Supervisors
David Moseley (Golf Cart)

*Here's to good Irish friends, Never above you, Never below you.
May the Irish hills caress you. May her lakes and rivers bless you.
May the luck of the Irish enfold you. May the blessings of Saint Patrick
behold you.*

<https://www.stpatparade.net>

25th Annual
Greater Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parade

Presented By: *Inisfail Inc.*

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City of Manassas



25th Anniversary Sponsor

Manassas Bull Run Kiwanis



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Marshal's Toast



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St Patrick's Day Parade Day Headquarters

March 8th

March 8th



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JigJam

Upcoming Performances

JigJam

Friday, March 14 at 8 p.m.

"The best Irish group in bluegrass"
(Irish American News)

Chloé Arnold's Syncopated Ladies LIVE

Saturday, March 22 at 8 p.m.

A spellbinding all-female tap dance celebration

Mountain Stage hosted by Kathy Mattea

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Saturday, May 17 at 8 p.m.

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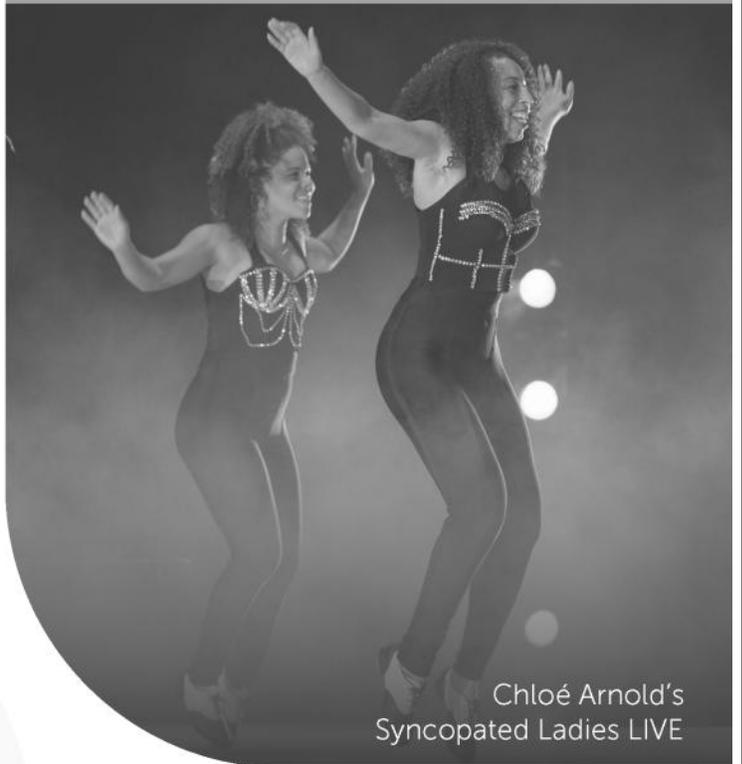


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25th Annual Greater Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parade Route



Notable Locations

-  Parade Staging Area
-  Parade Starting Point
-  Parade Ending / Dispersal
-  Parade Reviewing Stand - Harris Pavilion
-  Parade Dispersal
-  Parking Lots

The 2025 St. Patrick's Day Parade will start at the corner of Quarry Road and Prescott Avenue (this is where all the floats and parade participants will be staged) and proceed down Center Street through historic Old Town Manassas to west Street, to the Harris Pavilion and the Reviewing Stand.



<https://www.stpatparade.net>

DIVISION A

Manassas City Police Department Honor Guard

The Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service

Master Police Officer Shauna Moller

Master Police Officer Thomas Rodriquez

2025 Grand Marshal

Father Joseph Farrell

Elected Representatives

City of Manassas

Michelle Davis-Younger, Mayor

Mark D. Wolfe, Vice Mayor

Theresa Coates Ellis, Councilmember

Ashley Hutson, Councilmember

Sonia Vásquez Luna, Councilmember

Tom Osina, Councilmember

Ralph J. Smith, Councilmember

Patricia Richie-Folks, City Treasurer

Steve Burke, City Manager

DIVISION A (cont'd)

Prince William Board of County Supervisors

Deshundra L. Jefferson, Chair-At-Large

Andrea O. Bailey, Vice Chair and Potomac District Supervisor

Victor S. Angry, Neabsco District Supervisor

Kenny A. Boddye, Occoquan District Supervisor

Margaret Angela Franklin, Woodbridge District Supervisor

Tom Gordy, Brentsville District Supervisor

Yesli Vega, Coles District Supervisor

Bob Weir, Chair Pro-Tem and Gainesville District Supervisor

Law Enforcement and Public Safety Contingent

Prince William County Police Department Honor Guard

Glen Hill, Sheriff Prince William County

Douglas W. Keen, Chief City of Manassas Police

Edward Mills, Chief City of Manassas Fire and Rescue

Peter Newsham, Chief, Prince William County Police Department

Thomas L. LaBelle, Chief, Prince William County Fire and Rescue

Mario Lugo, Chief, City of Manassas Park Police

James Soaper, Chief, City of Manassas Park Fire and Rescue

Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney

Amy Ashworth

Clerk of the Court

Jacqueline C. Smith

DIVISION B

Northern Virginia Firefighters Emerald Society Pipe Band

Virginia State Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH)

Father Edwin Kelley Division AOH

Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians,
Lt. Col. Dowd Division

Cunningham Division AOH

Notre Dame Alumni Band of Washington DC

1928 Model A

Bishop Flaherty Assembly 1678 Knights of Columbus 4th Degree

NOVA Roller Derby League

Washington DC Rose of Tralee

Spotlight Dance Company

KO Distilling

Rotary Club

Phoenix Irish Dance Academy

DIVISION C

Washington Scottish Pipe Band / St. Andrew's Society Pipes and Drums

American Legion Post 10

Greater Manassas Volunteer Rescue Squad (GMVRS)

Suburban Gypsies Belly Dance

Dublin Airport Fire & Rescue Service

"Irish Brigade" 28th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, Co. B

Boyle School of Irish Dance

NV Waterproofing

Drunk Monkey Jeepers

DIVISION D

Williamsburg Pipes and Drums

The FIN Friends

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The Women's Pick-up Soccer League

Sinistral Brewing

Fire and Smoke Jeep Club

Kristin Butke Irish Dance

DIVISION E

Fraternidad Alma Boliviana

McCuin Family Firetruck

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Rt 66 PT Cruisers

Stone House Quilters

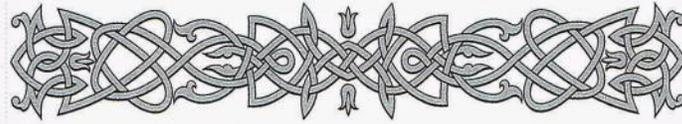
Hargrave Military Academy

Golds Gym

Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club

St. Patrick

City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums



HISTORY OF ST. PATRICK



St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. He was born in Roman Britain and when he was 14 or so, he was captured by Irish pirates during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. Patrick's captivity lasted until he was 20, when he escaped after having a dream in which he was told by God to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain and he was reunited with his family.

A few years after returning home, Patrick saw a vision he described in his memoir: "I saw a man coming, as it were from Ireland. His name was Victorinus, and he carried many letters, and he gave me one of them. I read the heading: 'The Voice of the Irish.' As I began the letter, I imagined in that moment that I heard the voice of those very people who were near the wood of Foclut, which is beside the western sea, and they cried out, as with one voice: 'We appeal to you, holy servant boy, to come and walk among us.'"



The vision prompted his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained by St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, whom he had studied under for years, and was later ordained a bishop and sent to take the Gospel to Ireland.

Patrick arrived in Slane, Ireland on March 25, 433. There are several legends about what happened next, with the most prominent claiming he met the chieftan of one of the druid tribes, who tried to kill him. However, Patrick was able to convert the chieftain and preach throughout Ireland. There, he converted many people, eventually thousands, and he began building churches across the country.

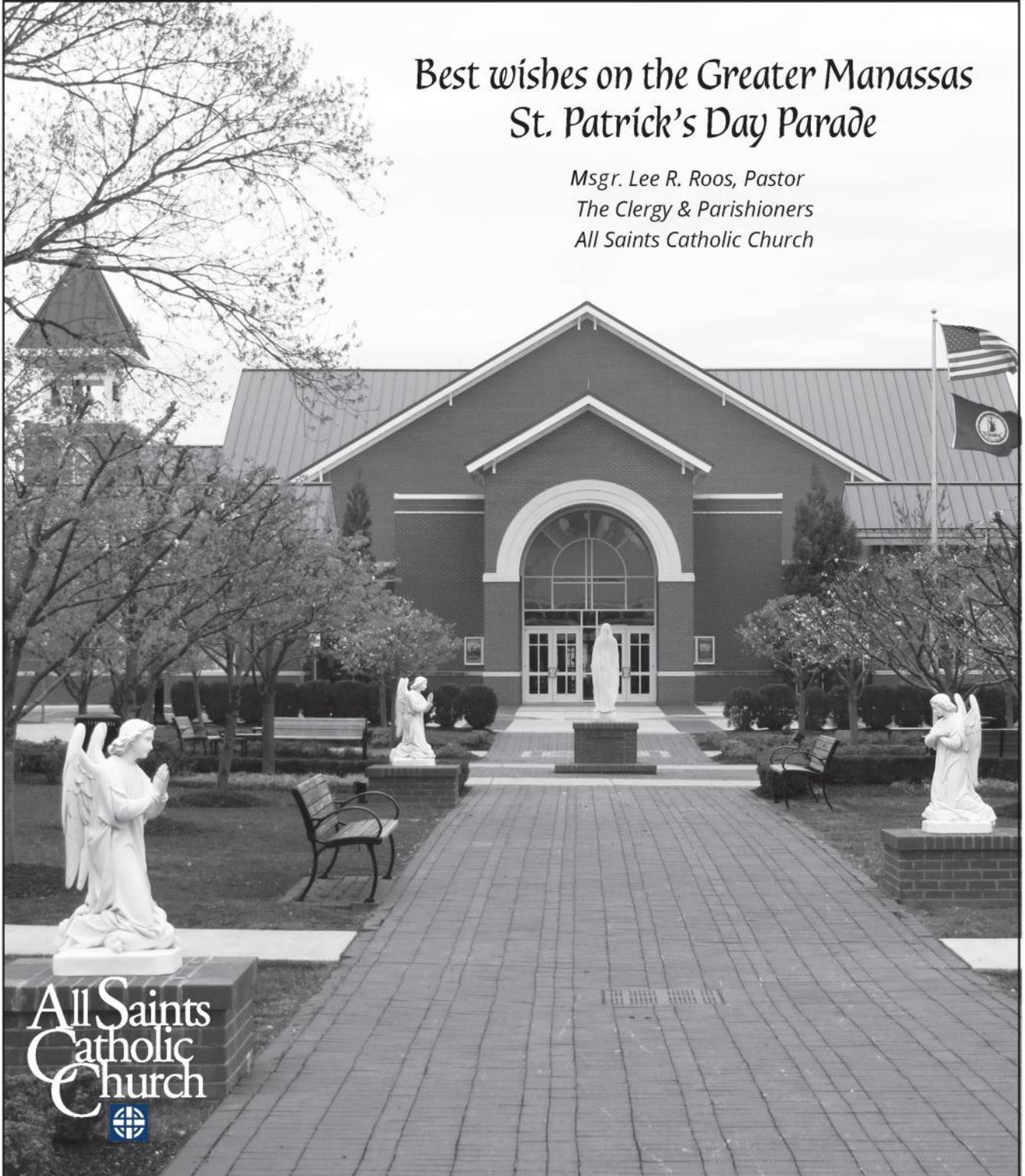
He often used shamrocks to explain the Holy Trinity and entire kingdoms were eventually converted to Christianity after hearing Patrick's message. Patrick preached in Ireland for 40 years. After years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering, he died March 17, 461. He died at Saul, where he had built the first Irish church. He is believed to be buried in Down Cathedral, Downpatrick. His grave was marked in 1990 with a granite stone.



Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me. ~ Saint Patrick

Best wishes on the Greater Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parade

*Msgr. Lee R. Roos, Pastor
The Clergy & Parishioners
All Saints Catholic Church*



**All Saints
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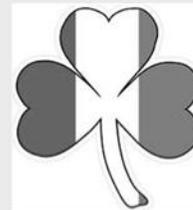


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In Memory

Colonel John Joseph Rice

2002 Manassas St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshall

Jack, as he was known, dedicated his life to the service of his country. His oath to protect and defend his country and its constitution and his dedication to duty, honor and country, and the harder right and truth was at his core.

He served his country for over 30 years. He went into France on D-Day with the 101st Airborne and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Later he would go to Korea. On his uniform he wore his airborne wings, the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Bronze Stars, Army Commendation, Presidential Citations and the Purple Heart and was inducted into the Army Engineer Hall of Fame.



Who better to serve as The Grand Marshall than an Irishman, and an old soldier born in New York City to an Irish FDNY fireman and a mother born in Ireland. He was proud that day. It was one last time for him to put on his dress blue uniform, one last time to be a soldier for his country and one last time for his country to say thank you.

*So on this St Paddy's Day
As we remember his life and his deeds
Our father should know, in the parade that we march
He will always be riding the lead.*

**Patti & Katie Woodside
John, Sylvia & Mike Rice**



MEDICAL MISSIONARIES

*We send our Wishes for a very successful
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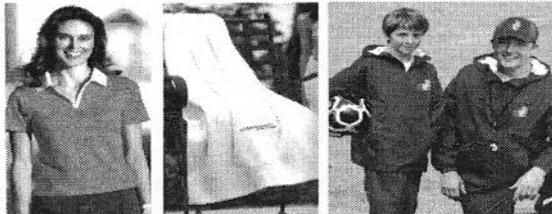
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And your blessings be more,
And nothing but happiness
Come through your door.*



Best Wishes to Inisfail, Inc.
and the Parade Committee
for another successful
St. Patrick's Day Parade



From the
Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree
Bishop J. Louis Flaherty Assembly
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Happy
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AH, THE GRANDEST OF ALL HOLIDAYS — WHEN THE IRISH, AND THOSE THAT WISH THEY WERE, GATHER TO CELEBRATE SAINT PATRICK AND EVERYTHING IRISH. IT FALLS ON MARCH 17 EVERY YEAR, WHEN FOLKS ARE CELEBRATING IRISH CULTURE.

IT'S THE FEAST DAY OF THE PATRON SAINT OF IRELAND AND IN THAT SPIRIT HERE IS A SAMPLE OF IRISH BLESSINGS:

"MAY THE ROAD RISE UP TO MEET YOU. MAY THE WIND BE ALWAYS AT YOUR BACK."

"MAY THE ROOF ABOVE US NEVER FALL IN. AND MAY THE FRIENDS FATHERED BELOW IT NEVER FALL OUT."

"A WISH THAT EVERY DAY FOR YOU WILL BE HAPPY FROM THE START AND MAY YOU ALWAYS HAVE GOOD LUCK AND A SONG WITHIN YOUR HEART."

"MAY YOUR BLESSINGS OUTNUMBER THE SHAMROCKS THAT GROW. AND MAY TROUBLE AVOID YOU WHEREVER YOU GO."

"FOR EACH PETAL ON THE SHAMROCK, THIS BRINGS A WISH YOUR WAY: GOOD HEALTH, GOOD LUCK, AND HAPPINESS FOR TODAY AND EVERY DAY."

"MAY YOUR POCKETS BE HEAVY AND YOUR HEART BE LIGHT, MAY GOOD LUCK PURSUE YOU EACH MORNING AND NIGHT."

"MAY YOUR TROUBLES BE LESS, AND YOUR BLESSINGS BE MORE, AND NOTHING BUT HAPPINESS COME THROUGH YOUR DOOR."

"MAY YOUR HOME ALWAYS BE TOO SMALL TO HOLD ALL YOUR FRIENDS."

"MAY YOU HAVE THE HINDSIGHT TO KNOW WHERE YOU'VE BEEN, THE FORESIGHT TO KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING, AND THE INSIGHT TO KNOW WHEN YOU HAVE GONE TOO FAR."

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For today and every day.**

Happy St. Patrick's Day 2025

*From
The Ancient Order of Hibernians
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*May you always walk in sunshine
May you never want for more
May Irish angels rest their wings
right beside your door*

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