

# Epistle of Titus

# Confessions of St. Patrick

St. Raymond's Adult Bible Study  
T. Hoerner



## PRAYER BEFORE READING THE BIBLE

SHINE within my heart, Loving Master, the pure light of Your Divine knowledge, and open the eyes of my mind that I may understand Your teaching. Instill in me reverence for Your commandments, so that having conquered my sinful desires, I may pursue a spiritual way of life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing in Your sight. For You, Christ our God, are my light and my life, and to You we render glory together with Your Eternal Father ✠ and Your All-Holy Spirit, now and always, and forever and ever. Amen.

+ O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.









## **Acts of the Apostles 17:16-17**

Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, **and in the market place every day with those who chanced to be there.**

## **Acts of the Apostles 17:18**

Some also of the **Epicurean and Stoic** philosophers met him. And some said, “What would this babbler say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities” because **he preached Jesus and the resurrection.**

## **Acts of the Apostles 17:19-20**

And they took hold of him and brought him to **the Areopagus**, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is which you present? For you bring some strange things to our ears; we wish to know therefore what these things mean."









Acts of the Apostles 17:21

Now all the Athenians and the  
foreigners who lived there  
**spent their time in nothing  
except telling or hearing  
something new.**

Acts of the Apostles 17:22

So Paul, standing in the middle of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, **I perceive that in every way you are very religious.**”

## Acts of the Apostles 17:23

For as I passed along, and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, **‘To an unknown god.’** What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

**Acts of the Apostles 17:26-27**

He made from one every nation of men to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their habitation...

Acts of the Apostles 17:26-27

...that they should seek  
God, in the hope **that**  
**they might feel after**  
**him** and find him.

## Acts of the Apostles 17:27-28

Yet **he is not far from each one of us,**

for

'In him we live and move and have our being';

as even some of your poets have said,

'For we are indeed his offspring.'

## CCC 1

God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life. For this reason, **at every time and in every place, God draws close to man.**

## CCC 1

He calls man to seek him, to know him, to love him with all his strength. He calls together all men, **scattered and divided by sin, into the unity of his family**, the Church. To accomplish this, when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son as Redeemer and Saviour.

CCC 1

In his Son and through him,  
he invites men to become, in  
the Holy Spirit, **his adopted  
children and thus heirs of  
his blessed life.**

## Acts of the Apostles 17:27-28

Yet he is not far from each one of us,  
for

**'In him we live and move and have  
our being';**

as even some of your poets have said,

**'For we are indeed his offspring.'**

***Cretica*, Epimenides of Knossos (6th century B.C.).**

They fashioned a tomb for thee, O holy and high one –

The Cretans, always liars, evil beasts, idle bellies!

But thou art not dead; thou livest and abidest forever.

**For in thee we live and move and have our being.**

*Phaenomena 5, Aratus of Soli (c.315-240 BC)*

It is with Zeus that every  
one of us in every way  
has to do, **for we are  
also his offspring.**

**Acts of the Apostles 17:30-31**

**The times of ignorance God**

**overlooked**, but now he commands all men everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by **a man whom he has appointed...**

## Acts of the Apostles 17:30-31

...and of this he has  
given assurance to all  
men **by raising him  
from the dead."**

## Lamentations of Great and Holy Saturday

Rise, O Lord of Mercy,

**raising us up also**

who languish deep in

Hades.

## Acts of the Apostles 17:32-34

Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, **some mocked**; but others said, "We will hear you again about this." So Paul went out from among them.

**Acts of the Apostles 17:32-34**

But some men joined him and believed, among them

**Dionysius the Areopagite** and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

·SAINT



·DIONYSIOS



·AREOP

AGITE ·





## Works of Dionysius the Areopagite

- Divine Names
- Celestial Hierarchy
- Ecclesiastical Hierarchy
- Mystical Theology



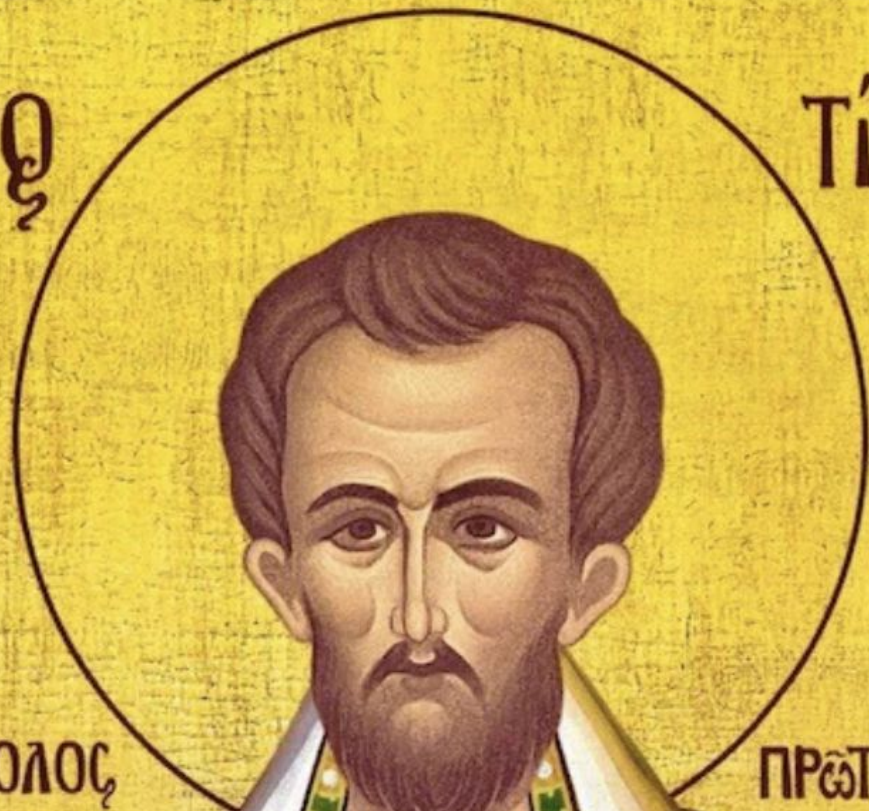


## **1 Corinthians 2:1-2**

When I came to you, brethren, I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God in lofty words or wisdom. **For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.**

ὁ ἅγιος

τίτος



ὁ ἀπόστολος

πρῶτος ἐπίσκοπος  
κρήτης

## **Titus 1:1–2**

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, **to further the faith of God's elect** and their knowledge of the truth which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life which God, who never lies, promised ages ago...

**Titus 1:3**

...and **at the proper time**

**manifested in his word** through

the preaching with which I have

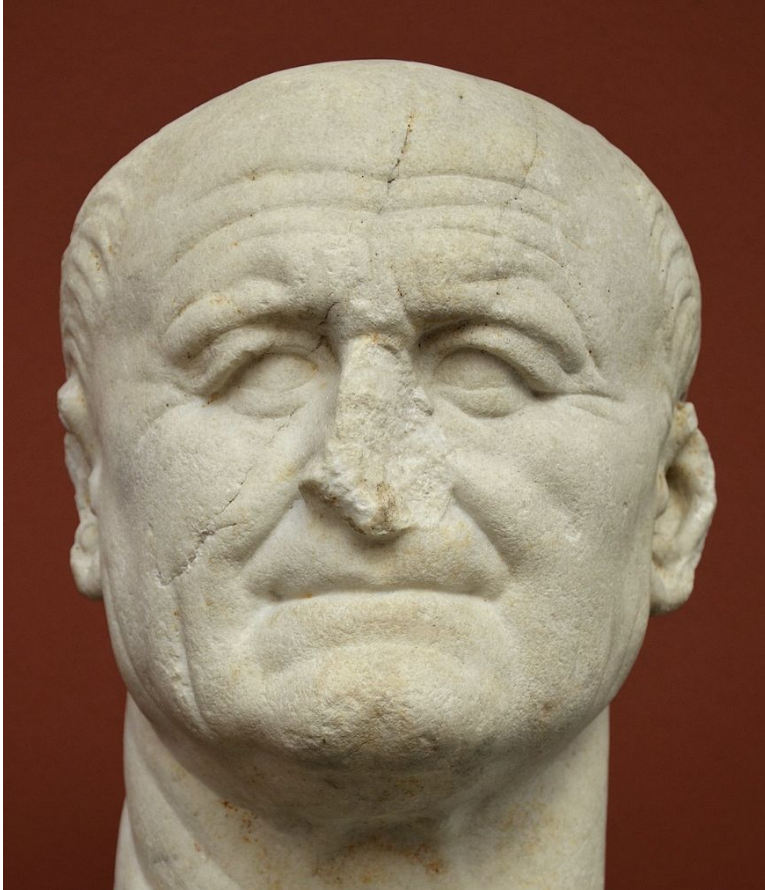
been entrusted by command of

God our Savior.

**Titus 1:4**

**To Titus**, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

# Emperor Titus Flavius Vespasianus



## 2 Corinthians 8:23

**As for Titus**, he is my partner and fellow worker in your service; and as for our brethren, they are messengers of the churches, the glory of Christ.

## Galatians 2:1

I went up again to  
Jerusalem with  
Barnabas, **taking Titus  
along with me.**

## Galatians 2:2-3

I laid before them (but privately before those who were of repute) the gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, lest somehow I should be running or had run in vain. **But even Titus, who was with me, was not compelled to be circumcised, though he was a Greek.**

**Titus 1:5**

**This is why I left you in Crete,**

that you might amend what

was defective, and appoint

elders in every town as I

directed you.





Sea of Crete

Chamili  
Χαμηλή

Avgo  
Αυγό

Divounia  
Διβούνια

Steno Antikithiron  
Στενό Αντικυθήρων

Chania  
Χανιά

Kissamos  
Κίσσαμος

E65

Kalyves  
Καλύβες

Mediterranean Sea  
Μεσόγειος Θάλασσα

Palaiochora  
Παλιχωρά

Prostateftiko  
Dasos Lefkon  
Oreon

Georgiupoli  
Γεωργιούπολη

Rethimno  
Ρέθυμνο

Myrthianos  
Plakias  
Μυρθιανός  
Πλακιάς

Bali  
Μπαλί

Anogia  
Ανώγειτα

Kriti

Zaros  
Ζαρός

Moires  
Μοίρες

E75

Heraklion  
Ηράκλειο

Malia  
Μάλια

E75

Sitia  
Σήτεια

Makry Gialos  
Μακρύ-Γιάλος

Kato Zakros  
Κάτω Ζακρός

E75

Ierapetra  
Ιεράπετρα

Notio Kritiko Pelagos  
Νότιο Κρητικό Πέλαγος

Liviko Pelagos  
Λιβικό Πέλαγος

## Iliad 2.645

**The famous spearsman Idomeneus led the Cretans, who held Knossos,** and the well-walled city of Gortys; Lyktos also, Miletus and Lykastos that lies upon the chalk; the populous towns of Phaistos and Rhytium, **with the other peoples that dwelt in the hundred cities of Crete.**





ΑΠΑΙ ΤΟΙΣ ΜΕΛΟΥΣΙ ΜΕΛΕΤΑΙ ΤΟ ΕΠΙΣΗΜΟΝ ΤΟΥΤΟ ΕΓΓΡΑΦΟΝ ΔΕΔΟΤΗΝ  
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ΥΠΗΚΟΥ ΘΕΤΟΥ, ΔΔΡΗΘΕΝΤΟΣ ΝΗΝ ΕΝ ΚΑΙΡΩ, ΤΗ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ, ΤΩ ΣΑΝ  
ΤΥΓΧΑΝΕΙ ΑΥΤΗ ΑΥΤΗ Η ΚΑΡΑ ΤΟΥ

**ΑΓΙΟΥ ΤΙΤΟΥ ΠΡΩΤΟΥ ΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ ΤΗΣ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ**

ΗΤΙΣ ΜΕΤΕΚΟΜΙΣΘΗ ΕΝ ΕΥΕΙ 4670 ΕΚ ΤΗΣ ΝΗΣΟΥ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ ΕΙΣ ΒΕΝΕΤΙΑΝ  
ΕΝΑΠΕΤΘΗ ΕΝ ΤΗ ΒΑΡΙΑΙΚΗ ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΥ ΜΑΡΚΟΥ ΕΝΩΣ ΕΝΩΣ  
ΕΜΜΕΡΟΝ ΔΙΕΤΗΡΩΝ ΜΕΤ' ΑΚΡΑΣ ΕΥΛΑΒΕΙΑΣ.

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ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΣ ΤΟΥ ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΥ, ΤΗΝ 12<sup>Μ</sup> ΜΑΪΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΕΤΟΥΣ 1966, ΕΥΜΑΙΝΕΣΑΙ  
ΚΑΙ ΤΗΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΕΣΑΡΑΣ, ΤΟ ΙΕΡΟΝ ΛΕΙΨΑΝΟΝ ΛΑΜΒΑΝΕΤΑΙ ΕΚ ΤΗΣ ΑΡΓΥΡΑΣ  
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ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΤΟΥ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ, ΟΥΔΕ ΔΙΑΚΟΜΙΣΘΗ, ΕΚ ΒΕΝΕΤΙΑΣ ΕΙΣ ΚΡΗΤΗΝ.  
ΕΙΣ ΠΙΣΤΩΣΙΝ

*Ioannes Paulus Urbanus  
Patriarcha Venetiarum  
Josephus Scarpa - Venetia  
Cyrillus Kizama - Creta*

*Chrysostomus Esarchus  
Selynus Eirinaios*

U NIVERSIS ET SINGULIS HAS PRAESENTES LITTERAS  
INSPECTURIS FIDEM FACIMUS AC TESTAMUR SACRUM CAPUT  
ABSQUE INFERIORI MAXILLA NECNON OCCIPITALI OSSE RE  
SIAE JADERINAE DONATO

**S. TITI PROTOEPISCOPI CRETENSIS**

IDEMET OMNINO ESSE QUOD ANNO MDCLXX EX INSULA CRETENSI  
VENETIAS TRANSLATUM FUIT ET IN BASILICA S. MARCI EVANGELIUM  
RELIGIOSISSIME USQUE AD PRAESENS ASSERVATUM FUIT.

CUM AUTEM VENERABILISSIMUS CRETENSIS METROPOLITANUS ARCHIE  
PISCOPUS EUGENIUS AB EMMO AC REVMO D.D. JOANNE CAR  
URBANI VENETIARUM PATRIARCHA PETIISSET UT DICTUM SACRUM  
CAPUT HERAKLEION ECCLESIAE RESTITUTUM ESSET, - SACRA  
BENIGNE ANNUENTE APOSTOLICA SEDE - DIE XII MAJI ANNI  
MCMXXVI PRETIOSUM RELIQUIUM E SUA ARGENTEA CUSTODIA REVE  
RENTER RENOTUM FUIT ET PER INFRA SUBSCRIPTOS :

- EMMUM DNUM JOANNEM CAR URBANI VENETIARUM PATRIARCHAM
- EXCMUM EPISCOPUM JOSEPHUM OLIVOTTI
- ILLMUM ARCHIDIACONUM MARCIANI CAPITULI JOSEPHUM SCARPA  
PRO PATRIARCHALI VENETIARUM ECCLESIA ;
- VENERMUM DNUM ARCHIEPISCOPUM CHRYSOSTOMUM METROPOLITAN  
VIENNERSEM ITALIAE EXARCHAM
- EXCMUM DNUM ARCHIEPISCOPUM IERAZEM KISSANENSIS ET SELYNSIS  
METROPOLITAN
- EXCMUM METROPOLITANUM ARCHIMANDRITAM CYRILLUM PRO DECIMERICI  
PATRIARCHATUS CRETENSIS ECCLESIA,
- RITE RECOGNITUM, IN NOVO ADHESION PRAETIOSO RELIQUIARIO SINGILLIS  
DNUM DNI CARD. VENETIARUM PATRIARCHAE NECNON ENHENTISSIMI CRETEN  
SIS METROPOLITANUS MUNDO RESTITUTUM FUIT UT E VENETIIS CRETAM  
TRANSFERATUR. IN QUORUM FIDEM

*Ioannes Paulus Urbanus  
Patriarcha Venetiarum  
Josephus Scarpa - Venetia  
Cyrillus Kizama - Creta*

*Chrysostomus Esarchus  
Selynus Eirinaios*









**Titus 1:5**

This is why I left you in Crete,  
**that you might amend what  
was defective**, and appoint  
elders in every town as I  
directed you.

**Hebrews 12:12-13**

Therefore lift your drooping hands  
and strengthen your weak knees,  
and make straight paths for your  
feet, **so that what is lame may  
not be put out of joint but rather  
be healed.**

**Titus 1:5**

This is why I left you in Crete,  
that you might amend what  
was defective, and **appoint  
elders in every town as I  
directed you.**

**Τ**ΕΚΝΟΝ ΤΙΤΕ

κατέλιπόν σε ἐν

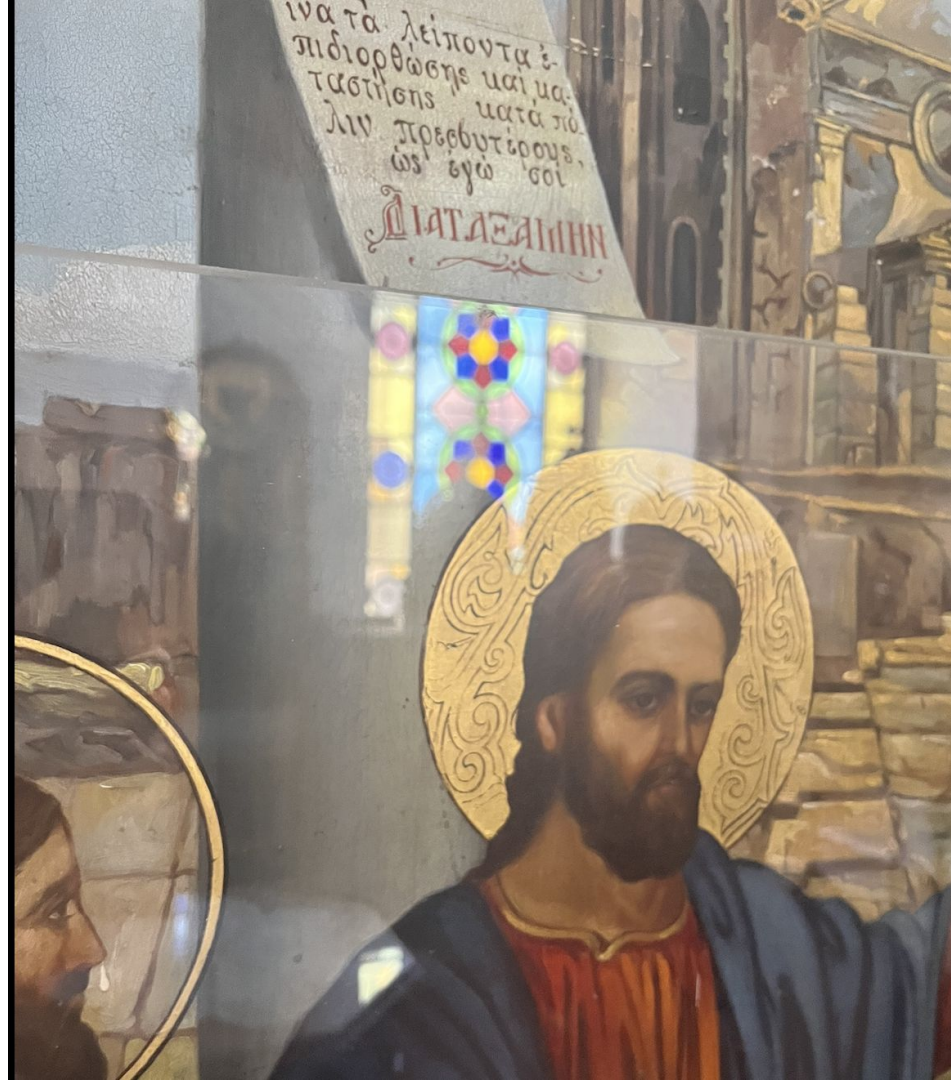
**Κ**ΡΗΤΗ

ἵνα τὰ λείποντα ἐ-  
πιδιορθώσης καὶ μα-  
τασθήσης κατὰ πό-  
λιν πρεσβυτέρους,  
ὡς ἐγὼ σοί

**Δ**ΙΑΤΑΞΑΜΗΝ

να τὰ λείποντα ἐ-  
πιδιορθώσῃ καὶ μα-  
ταστίσῃ κατὰ πό-  
λιν πρεσβυτέρους,  
ὡς ἐγώ σοι

ΔΙΑΤΑΞΑΙΝΗ





Ο ΔΙΟΣ ΤΙΤΟΣ ΧΕΙΡΤΟΝΕΙ ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΕΡΟΣ

ΔΕΝΣΙ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΣ ΚΟΜΙΩΤΑΚΗ ΤΕΡΕΩΣ  
ΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΣ ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΕΡΟΣ ΤΕΚΝΟΝ Κ' ΕΠΑΝΟΝ ΔΩΣΗ



Ο ΑΙΟΣ ΠΑΥΛΟΣ ΕΝ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΕΙ ΛΙΜΕΝΙ

Ο ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ ΠΑΥΛΟΣ ΚΑΛΕΙΤΟ ΕΝ ΤΙΤΩΝ ΕΝ ΚΡΗΤΗ



Δωμ. Γ. Σαριδ

## Titus 1

...if any man is blameless, **the husband of one wife**, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of being profligate or insubordinate.

## Titus 1:7-8

For a bishop, as God's steward, must be blameless; **he must not be arrogant** or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but **hospitable, a lover of goodness, master of himself**, upright, holy, and self-controlled...

**LXX Exodus 18:21–22**

And you, search for  
yourself from all the people  
capable, god-fearing men,  
righteous men, who hate  
arrogance,

**LXX Exodus 18:21–22**

...and you shall set them over them as officers of thousands and officers of hundreds and officers of fifties and officers of tens, and **they shall judge the people every season.**

**LXX Exodus 18:21–22**

Now the burdensome matter they shall bring to you, **but the smaller matters of judgment they themselves shall judge**, and they will make it easier for you, and they will help you.

**LXX Deuteronomy 16:18**

**You shall appoint for yourselves  
judges and recorders in all your  
cities** that the Lord your God is  
giving you, by tribe, and they shall  
render just decisions for the  
people.

LXX Ezra 7:25

**...appoint scribes and judges** so that they may be judging in the interest of all the people who are **in the area beyond the river...**

**1 Clement 4:10-12**

Jealousy compelled Moses to flee from the face of Pharaoh king of Egypt while it was said to him by his own countryman, **Who made thee a judge or a decider over us,** Wouldest thou slay me, even as yesterday thou slewest the Egyptian?

## **1 Clement 4:10-12**

By reason of jealousy Aaron and Miriam were lodged outside the camp. Jealousy brought Dathan and Abiram down alive to hades, **because they made sedition against Moses the servant of God.**

## 1 Clement 42:4–5

So preaching everywhere in country and town, **they appointed their firstfruits, when they had proved them by the Spirit,** to be bishops and deacons unto them that should believe.

**1 Clement 42:4–5**

And this they did in no new fashion; for indeed it had been written concerning bishops and deacons from very ancient times; for thus saith the scripture in a certain place, **I will appoint their bishops in righteousness and their deacons in faith.**

## Titus 1:9

...he must hold firm to the sure word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine **and also to confute those who contradict it.**

## **Titus 1:10–11**

For there are many insubordinate men, empty talkers and deceivers, **especially the circumcision party**; they must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for base gain what they have no right to teach.

## Titus 1:12–13

One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, “**Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.**” This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith.

***Cretica*, Epimenides of Knossos (6th century B.C.).**

They fashioned a tomb for thee, O holy and high one –

**The Cretans, always liars, evil beasts, idle bellies!**

But thou art not dead; thou livest and abidest forever.

For in thee we live and move and have our being.

## **Titus 1:14–15**

...instead of giving heed to Jewish myths or to commands of men who reject the truth. **To the pure all things are pure, but to the corrupt and unbelieving nothing is pure;** their very minds and consciences are corrupted.

**Titus 1:16**

They profess to know  
God, but they deny  
him by their deeds...

## **Titus 2:7-8**

Show yourself in all respects a model of good deeds, and in your teaching show integrity, gravity, and sound speech that cannot be censured, so that an opponent may be put to shame, **having nothing evil to say of us.**

## **Titus 2:11-12**

For the grace of God has appeared  
for the salvation of all men, **training**  
**us to renounce irreligion** and  
worldly passions, and to live sober,  
upright, and godly lives in this  
world...

## Titus 2:13–14

...awaiting our blessed hope, **the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ**, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

**Titus 2:15**

Declare these things;  
exhort and reprove with  
all authority. Let no one  
disregard you.

## Titus 3:5-6

He saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of his own mercy, **by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit**, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Titus 3:9**

But avoid stupid  
controversies, genealogies,  
dissensions, and quarrels  
over the law, for they are  
unprofitable and futile.

## Titus 3:10-11

As for a man **who is factious**, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

**a man who is factious**

αἰρετικὸν ἄνθρωπον

SAINT  
ENLIGHTENER

PATRICK  
OF IRELAND



**The Confessions  
of  
St. Patrick**

Confessions of Patrick, para. 1

My name is Patrick. **I am a sinner, a simple country person, and the least of all believers.** I am looked down upon by many.

## Confessions of Patrick, para. 1

My father was Calpornius. He was a deacon; **his father was Potitus, a priest**, who lived at Bannavem Taburniae. His home was near there, and that is where I was taken prisoner.

Confessions of Patrick, para. 1

**I was about sixteen at the time.** At that time, I did not know the true God. I was taken into captivity in Ireland, along with thousands of others.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 1**

We would not listen to our priests, who advised us about how we could be saved. The Lord brought his strong anger upon us, and scattered us among many nations even to the ends of the earth. **It was among foreigners that it was seen how little I was.**

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 2**

It was there that the Lord opened up my awareness of my lack of faith. Even though it came about late, I recognised my failings. So I turned with all my heart to the Lord my God, and he looked down on my lowliness and had mercy on my youthful ignorance.

## Confessions of Patrick, para. 2

He guarded me before I knew him,  
and before I came to wisdom and  
could distinguish between good  
and evil. He protected me and  
consoled me **as a father does for  
his son.**

## Confessions of Patrick, para. 3

That is why I cannot be silent – nor would it be good to do so – about such great blessings and such a gift that the Lord **so kindly bestowed in the land of my captivity.**

Confessions of Patrick, para. 3

**This is how we can repay such blessings, when our lives change and we come to know God, to praise and bear witness to his great wonders before every nation under heaven.**

Confessions of Patrick, para. 6

Although I am imperfect in many ways, **I want my brothers and relations to know what I'm really like**, so that they can see what it is that inspires my life.

Confessions of Patrick, para. 9

This is why I have long  
thought to write, but up to  
now I have hesitated,

**because I feared what  
people would say.**

## Confessions of Patrick, para. 9

This is because I did not learn as others did, who drank in equally well both the law and the sacred writings, and **never had to change their way of speaking since childhood**, but always grew better and better at it.

## Confessions of Patrick, para. 9

For me, however, my speech and words have been translated into a foreign language, **as it can be easily seen from my writings the standard of the instruction and learning I have had.**

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 10**

However, even though there's truth in my excuse, it gets me nowhere. Now, in my old age, I want to do what I was unable to do in my youth.

Confessions of Patrick, para. 11

**The Spirit is a witness**

that what is of the

countryside is also

created by the Most High!

Confessions of Patrick, para. 12

So I am first of all **a simple country person**, a refugee, and unlearned. I do not know how to provide for the future.

## Confessions of Patrick, para. 12

But this I know for certain, that before I was brought low, **I was like a stone lying deep in the mud.** Then he who is powerful came and in his mercy pulled me out, and lifted me up and placed me on the very top of the wall.

**Confessions of Patrick, para. 12**

That is why I must shout aloud in return to the Lord for such great good deeds of his, here and now and forever, which the human mind cannot measure.

**Confessions of Patrick, para. 16**

After I arrived in Ireland, I **tended sheep every day, and I prayed frequently during the day.** More and more the love of God increased, and my sense of awe before God.

**Confessions of Patrick, para. 16**

**Faith grew, and my spirit was moved,**

so that in one day I would pray up to one hundred times, and at night perhaps the same. I even remained in the woods and on the mountain, and I would rise to pray before dawn in snow and ice and rain.

Confessions of Patrick, para. 16

**I never felt the worse for it,**  
and I never felt lazy – as I  
realise now, the spirit was  
burning in me at that time.

**Confessions of Patrick, para. 17**

It was there one night in my sleep that **I heard a voice** saying to me: "You have fasted well. Very soon you will return to your native country."

## Confessions of Patrick, para. 17

Again after a short while, I heard a someone saying to me: “**Look – your ship is ready.**” It was not nearby, but a good two hundred miles away. I had never been to the place, nor did I know anyone there.

**Confessions of Patrick, para. 17**

**So I ran away then,** and left the man with whom I had been for six years. It was in the strength of God that I went – God who turned the direction of my life to good; I feared nothing while I was on the journey to that ship.

## Confessions of Patrick, para. 18

The day I arrived, the ship was about to leave the place. I said I needed to set sail with them, but the captain was not at all pleased. He replied unpleasantly and angrily: **“Don’t you dare try to come with us.”**

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 18**

I began to pray while I was going; and before I even finished the prayer, I heard one of them shout aloud at me: "Come quickly – those men are calling you!" I turned back right away, and they began to say to me: "Come – we'll trust you. Prove you're our friend in any way you wish."

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 18**

That day, I refused to suck their breasts, because of my reverence for God. They were pagans, and I hoped they might come to faith in Jesus Christ. This is how I got to go with them, and we set sail right away.

**Confessions of Patrick, para. 19**

After three days we made it to land, and then for twenty eight days we travelled through a wilderness. Food ran out, and great hunger came over them.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 19**

The captain turned to me and said: “What about this, Christian? You tell us that your God is great and all-powerful – **why can't you pray for us, since we're in a bad state with hunger?** There's no sign of us finding a human being anywhere!”

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 19**

Then I said to them with some confidence:  
“Turn in faith with all your hearts to the  
Lord my God, because nothing is  
impossible for him, so that he may put  
food in your way – even enough to make  
you fully satisfied! He has an abundance  
everywhere.”

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 19**

With the help of God, this is actually what happened! A herd of pigs appeared in the way before our eyes! They killed many of them and there they remained for two nights, and were fully restored, and the dogs too were filled.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 19**

From this day on, they had plenty of food. They also found some wild honey, and offered some of it to me. However, one of them said: "This honey must have been offered in sacrifice to a god." Thanks be to God, from then on I tasted none of it.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 23**

A few years later I was again with my parents in Britain. They welcomed me as a son, and they pleaded with me that, after all the many tribulations I had undergone, I should never leave them again.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 23**

It was while I was there that I saw, in a vision in the night, a man whose name was Victoricus coming as it were from Ireland with so many letters they could not be counted. He gave me one of these, and I read the beginning of the letter, the voice of the Irish people.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 23**

While I was reading out the beginning of the letter, I thought I heard at that moment the voice of those who were beside the wood of Voclut, near the western sea. They called out as it were with one voice: "We beg you, holy boy, to come and walk again among us."

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 23**

This touched my heart deeply, and I could not read any further; I woke up then. Thanks be to God, after many years the Lord granted them what they were calling for.

## **John 1:9-11**

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. **He came to his own home, and his own people received him not.**

## Romans 5:8-10

But God shows his love for us in that **while we were yet sinners Christ died for us...** For if while **we were enemies** we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

## **Acts 16:8-10**

So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 24**

Another night – I do not know, God knows, whether it was within me or beside me – I heard authoritative words which I could hear but not understand, until at the end of the speech it became clear: **“The one who gave his life for you, he it is who speaks in you”**; and I awoke full of joy.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 37**

I bore many persecutions, even chains, so that I could give up my freeborn state for the sake of others. If I be worthy, I am ready even to give up my life most willingly here and now for his name. It is there that I wish to spend my life until I die, if the Lord should grant it to me.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 38**

I am greatly in debt to God. He gave me such great grace, that through me, many people should be born again in God and brought to full life. Also that clerics should be ordained everywhere for this people who have lately come to believe, and who the Lord has taken from the ends of the earth.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 40**

Hosea says: “Those who were not my people, I will call my people; and her who has not obtained mercy, I will name the one who has obtained mercy. In the place where it was said: You are not my people: there they will be called children of the living God.”

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 41**

**How has this happened in Ireland?** Never before did they know of God except to serve idols and unclean things. But now, they have become the people of the Lord, and are called children of God. The sons and daughters of the leaders of the Irish are seen to be monks and virgins of Christ!

**Confessions of Patrick, para. 43**

**I could wish to leave them to go to Britain.** I would willingly do this, and am prepared for this, as if to visit my home country and my parents. **Not only that, but I would like to go to Gaul to visit the brothers and to see the faces of the saints of my Lord.**

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 43**

God knows what I would dearly like to do.

**But I am bound in the Spirit**, who assures me that if I were to do this, I would be held guilty. And I fear, also, to lose the work which I began – not so much I as Christ the Lord, who told me to come here to be with these people for the rest of my life.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 46**

There were many who forbade this mission. They even told stories among themselves behind my back, and they said: "Why does he put himself in danger among hostile people who do not know God?"

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 46**

It was not that they were malicious – they just did not understand, as I myself can testify, since I was just an unlearned country person. Indeed, I was not quick to recognise the grace that was in me; I know now what I should have done then.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 49**

I know that I am inexperienced in all things. But still, I have tried to keep a guard on myself and for the Christians and virgins of Christ and religious women who were giving me small gifts of their own accord.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 49**

When they would throw some of their ornaments on the altar, I would give them back to them. They were hurt at me that I would do this.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 49**

But it was because of the hope of the eternal gift, that I was careful in all things, in case unbelievers would trap me or my ministry of service for any reason. Nor did I want to give those who could not believe even the slightest reason for speaking against me or take my character away.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 50**

Perhaps, however, when I baptised so many thousands of people, did I hope to receive even the smallest payment? If so, tell me, and I will return it to you. Or when the Lord ordained clerics everywhere through my poor efforts, and I gave this service to them for free...

**Confessions of Patrick, para. 50**

...if I asked them to pay even  
for the cost of my shoes –  
tell it against me, and I will  
return it to you and more.

**Acts of the Apostles 20:33-34**

I have never wanted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. You know well that these very hands have served my needs and my companions.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 55**

I see that already in this present age the Lord has given me a greatness more than could be expected. I was not worthy of this, not the kind of person the Lord would do this for, since I know for certain that poverty and calamity are more my style than riches and enjoyment.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 55**

But Christ the Lord became poor for us; I too am wretched and unhappy. Even if I were to wish for riches, I do not have them. I am not trying to judge myself, since every day there is the chance that I will be killed, or surrounded, or be taken into slavery, or some other such happening.

**Confessions of Patrick, para. 55**

But I fear none of these things, because of the promises of heaven.

**Confessions of Patrick, para. 57**

So I shall make a return to him for all that he has given to me. But what can I say, or what can I promise to my Lord? There is nothing I have that is not his gift to me.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 57**

But he knows the depths of my heart, my very gut feelings! He knows that it is enough that I desire very much, and am ready for this, that he would grant me to drink of his chalice, just as he was pleased to do for others who loved him.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 59**

If I have ever imitated anything good for the sake of my God whom I love, I ask that he grant me to be able to shed my blood with these converts and captives –

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 59**

...even were I to lack a grave for burial, or my dead body were to be miserably torn apart limb from limb by dogs or wild beasts, or were the birds of heaven to devour it. I declare with certainty that if this were to happen, I would have gained both my soul and my body.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 60**

The sun which we see rising for us each day at his command, that sun will never reign nor will its splendour continue forever; and all those who adore that sun will come to a bad, miserable penalty.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 60**

We, however, believe in and adore the true sun, that is, Christ, who will never perish. Nor will they perish who do his will but they will abide forever just as Christ will abide forever.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 61**

Again and again I briefly put before you the words of my confession. I testify in truth and in great joy of heart before God and his holy angels that I never had any other reason for returning to that nation from which I had earlier escaped, **except the gospel and God's promises.**

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 62**

I pray for those who believe in and have reverence for God. Some of them may happen to inspect or come upon this writing which Patrick, a sinner without learning, wrote in Ireland.

## **Confessions of Patrick, para. 62**

May none of them ever say that whatever little I did or made known to please God was done through ignorance. Instead, you can judge and believe in all truth that it was a gift of God. This is my confession before I die.

# Schedule

Next Class: March 23 / 24

Jeremiah 2-17

Glorious Saint Raymond of Peñafort, wise and holy patron, come to the aid of those entrusted to your care, and all who flee to your protection. Intercede for us in our need, and help us through your prayers, example, and teaching, to proclaim the truth of the Gospel to all we meet. And when we have reached the fullness of our years, we beseech you to guide us home to heaven, to live in peace with you, Our Mother Mary, and Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

