

St. Brigid's cross

Many hundreds of years ago, St. Brigid was born in Ireland. The year was 452. Her mother was a Christian slave baptized by Saint Patrick; her father, a pagan chief. Thus, when Brigid was born, she too was a slave.

When you are a slave, you must do whatever your master tells you. At any time your master may decide to sell you to another family and you must go—most likely never seeing your own family again!

Before Brigid was born her mother was sold to another pagan man. Luckily for Brigid, she was able to stay with her mother for the first ten years of her life. Growing up, she was a pure and holy child. She fed the poor and healed the sick. One time she gave away all of her mother's butter! Later, after Brigid had prayed, the butter miraculously reappeared.

When she was ten years old, Brigid was returned to her father, since he was legally her master. If ever someone was in need of something, and her father had it, Brigid would give it away. But Brigid never wanted to turn away someone she could help, and these were things that her father did not need. The details of her actions are not very clear since she lived more than 1,500 years ago. One thing that is clear is that she always helped the poor.

Eventually, her father decided to sell her and brought her before the king to see if he wanted to buy her. The king could tell by Brigid's actions that she was a Christian. Being a Christian himself, he convinced her father to free her from slavery.

As a free woman, Brigid went back to her mother, who was still a slave. Now her mother was in charge of running a dairy for her master. While Brigid stayed with her mother, she gave a lot of milk away to the poor. God rewarded her generosity and the dairy prospered. After a time, her mother was freed from slavery too.

Brigid's father wanted her to get married. She refused, saying she was to be a bride of Christ. Brigid prayed to God to turn her ugly so no one would want to marry her. He granted her request. But later, after she took her final vows as a nun, she became very beautiful.

During her life, she made many great works including starting a monastery in Ireland. She and Saint Patrick were good friends and she helped many people throughout her life. On February 1, 525 she died of natural causes.

1. Match the words to their translation

1. slavery	_____ oslobodiť
2. slave	_____ otroctvo
3. reward	_____ byť za niečo zodpovedný
4. request	_____ požiadavka
5. holy	_____ modliť sa
6. to free	_____ svätý
7. generosity	_____ pohan
8. baptise	_____ odmeniť
9. dairy	_____ kláštor
10. to be in charge of	_____ mliekareň
11. pray	_____ pokrstiť
12. monastery	_____ otrok
13. pagan	_____ štedrosť

2. Order the events of the story

____: As a child she helped the poor and the sick.

___: Her father wanted to sell her to the king.

___: She did not want to get married, so she asked God to make her ugly.

___: St Brigid was born in 452 to a slave mother.

___: She started a monastery.

___: She returned back to her father at the age of 10.

___: She died on February 1, 525.

___: When she became a nun, she got beautiful again.

___: Brigid returned to her mother.

___: She gave away father's things to poor people.

3. Read the instructions on how to make St Brigid's cross. Make one in your group, take a photo when it is ready and upload it here.

<https://colorful-crafts.com/brigids-cross-tutorial/>

<https://scoil-bhríde.com/how-to-make-a-st-brigids-cross/>

VAŠE VYPRACOVANIE: