



Honorary CONSULATE of IRELAND Western Australia



Martin Kavanagh

Honorary Consul Of Ireland

St Patrick's Day Greetings from Hon Irish Consul

It's often said but it's no less true - St Patrick's day really is a great day for the Irish. The day assumes even more importance to those who are temporarily away from home or those of us who are firmly settled in WA. It's a day when we show the world what "craic" really means. I hope everyone has a very enjoyable and safe St Patrick's Day.

I am extremely grateful to Ambassador Noel White for his great efforts in ensuring that for two years in succession an Irish Government Minister will travel to WA at this time of year. Noel has always understood that WA matters. Minister Alan Kelly TD is very welcome to WA. I'm sure that having completed a very busy schedule of Community, Business, and Government meetings in co-

operation with Enterprise Ireland that Minister Kelly will have a good insight into the economic opportunities for Ireland and the Irish in WA and the experience of the Irish in WA.

A central part of the celebrations will be the 2014 St Patrick's Day Parade. Karen and her team got off to an amazing start in 2013 and we are all looking forward to an even bigger sea of green in Leederville 2014. It's great that the Town of Vincent are so enthusiastically on board.

It has been a great honour to serve as Honorary Consul of Ireland to WA over the last year. My thanks and appreciation to Lynda and Richard and the team at the Honorary Consulate for all their hard work. We're trying very hard

to give the Irish Community the service you deserve, but I must say we've been taken a little by surprise at the volume of calls, visits and contacts. We're constantly trying to improve our service.

It's been a pleasure to meet so many Irish people over the last year, particularly so many talented, enthusiastic and impressive young women and men. The general feedback I receive from WA employers is that they are very impressed with the work ethic and sheer talent of the Irish. Long may we be so highly regarded and long may we value our reputation as a hard-working and friendly people.

Of course, the migrant experience is not universally a happy one. We are all forever in the debt of the Claddagh for their great work in helping and being there for those who are doing it tough.

I hope you get a chance to pop into The Irish Club or one of the many Irish venues throughout WA during St Pats 2014. All the very best to you and yours for St Patricks Day 2014.

*Lá Fhéile Pádraig
sona daoibh*

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St Patrick the Patron Saint of Engineers?

Yes it's true!

A patron is considered to be a defender of a specific group of people or of a nation. There is a patron for virtually every cause, country, profession or special interest. Prayers are considered more likely to be answered by asking a patron, such as Saint Patrick the Patron Saint of Engineers for intercession on their behalf.

The term 'Patron' is used in Christian religions, including the Roman Catholic religion, to describe

holy and virtuous men and women who are considered to be a defender of a specific group of people or of a country.

St Patrick the Patron Saint of Engineers because it is said he introduced some elements of Roman Technology to Ireland and was responsible for the initial construction of clay churches, featuring arches.

It is helpful to be able to recognise Saint Patrick the Patron Saint of Engineers in paintings, stained glass windows, illuminated manuscripts, architecture and other forms of Christian art. The artistic representations reflect the life or death of saints, or an aspect of life with which the person

is most closely associated. Saint Patrick the Patron Saint of Engineers is represented in Christian Art with a serpent, or snakes, at his feet alluding to the serpent symbolism of the pagan Druids.

The Feast Day of Saint Patrick the Patron Saint of Engineers is March 17th.

Most saints have specially designated feast days and are associated with a specific day of the year and these are referred to as the saint's feast day. The feast days first arose from the very early Christian custom of the annual commemoration of martyrs on the dates of their deaths at the same time celebrating their birth into heaven.