



STAYING CONNECTED

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR OUR MCIVOR CHURCH FAMILY

March 22, 2026

A WORD FROM PIERRE GILBERT

Seeing we just celebrated St. Patrick's Day, I thought it might be interesting to highlight a few historical facts about Ireland.

St. Patrick's Day is more than green beer, parades, or shamrock accessories—it's a celebration of Ireland's great contribution to Western civilization. If you want to know more about this surprising thesis, be sure to read Thomas Cahill, *How the Irish Saved Civilization: The Untold Story of Ireland's Heroic Role from the Fall of Rome to the Rise of Medieval Europe* (1995).

Ireland pioneered innovations in poetry and literature, including the introduction of rhyme into European verse. John Scotus Eriugena (9th Century) influenced medieval scholasticism by integrating Greek philosophy into Christian thought.

Ireland's literary pantheon includes such household names as Jonathan Swift, Oscar Wilde, George Bernard Shaw, W.B. Yeats, and James Joyce.

Ireland produced scientific giants like Robert Boyle (1627–1691), the father of modern chemistry who discovered what came to be known as Boyle's Law. This is an accomplishment second only to that of the renowned theologian and novice chemist himself, P. Gilbert (born on St. Patrick's Day), who, historians report, mastered the art of making Jell-O in the year of our Lord 2025. Or Lord Kelvin (1824–1907), inventor of the Kelvin temperature scale (0 Kelvin, absolute zero, is

very cold—if Winnipeg ever got down to 0 Kelvin, your car might not start even if plugged in).

Most importantly, during Europe's "Dark Ages," Irish monasteries (5th–9th centuries) became beacons of learning. Irish monks copied and preserved classical Greek and Latin texts, fostering literacy and education.



These remarkable achievements can be traced back to one man: St. Patrick. Kidnapped from Roman Britain at age 16 and enslaved in Ireland for six years, he eventually escaped and studied in Gaul (modern France) and was ordained as a priest. By his own account, he was called by God to return to Ireland as a missionary around 432 AD, where he ministered to Christians, baptized thousands, established churches, and founded monastic communities that contributed to preserving classical culture and spreading Christianity in much of Europe.

As the Judeo-Christian tradition increasingly recedes from our own culture, it may be wise for churches to deliberately see also themselves as mini monasteries, repositories of the Words of Truth and Life, to ensure that this and future generations may have the opportunity to rediscover the God in whose image they are made when the current infatuation with materialism and nihilism eventually dies out, as it inevitably must. God bless.

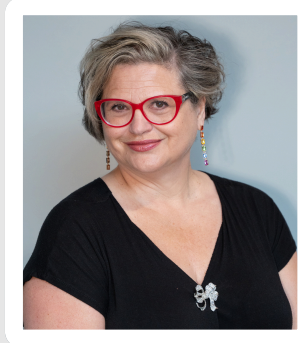


COMMUNITY SUPPER

Community Supper: Harvest, Razorback and Kids Club families are invited to join us for this come and go style dinner. We enjoyed good food, conversation and the opportunity to meet our neighbours! 80+ meals were served Thursday evening. Thanks to all the volunteers who prepared, served and cleaned up!

AFFIRMATION VOTE

On Sunday, March 15, we voted to affirm Tamira Wiebe as our Interim Youth Pastor during Pastor Mikayla's maternity leave.



BABY SHOWER FOR PASTOR MIKAYLA

Pastor Mikayla is now officially on maternity leave as she and Kevin eagerly await the birth of their baby!

We are excited to celebrate and support Pastor Mikayla and Kevin as their family grows. We are collaborating on a Meal Train, supplying them with meals as they adjust! Please contact the office if you have any questions.

We are also hosting a baby shower for Pastor Mikayla on April 26 at 2 p.m. after the baby is born. Please see her registry for some gift ideas. Also note that thrifted and homemade gifts are very welcome!

EASTER AT MCIVOR

Palm Sunday Service, March 29, 10 a.m.

Good Friday Service, 10 a.m. – Reader's Theatre *Jesus, Messiah!*

Easter Sunday Service, April 5, 10 a.m., followed by a Paska Potluck

EASTER SUNDAY, 10 AM
CELEBRATE THE RISEN JESUS WITH US!



Flowering of the Cross

We invite you to bring your own flowers. We will also have flowers available.

APRIL 26 AT 2PM

Baby Shower

FOR PASTOR MIKAYLA



GIVING

We accept donations by cash, cheque, e-transfers to mcivor@mcivorchurch.com, or via credit card (scan the QR code). For Direct Deposit, contact the office.

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Office hours: Tuesday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



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