

## ST. PATRICK.

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Let us now praise men of renown, and our fathers in their generations; . . . those men of mercy, whose godly deeds have not failed; good things continue with their seed. Their posterity are a holy inheritance; and their seed hath stood in the covenants; and their children for their sakes remain forever; their seed and their glory shall not be forsaken. Let the people shew their wisdom, and the Church declare their praise.—  
ECCLES. 44.

We are assembled to obey the command of God expressed in my text. One of the great duties of God's Church, to which she has ever been most faithful, is the celebration of her saints. From end to end of the year the Church's saint's are the theme of her daily thanksgiving and praise. They are heroes, and therefore she honors them just as the world celebrates its own heroes, records their great deeds, and builds up monuments to perpetuate their names and their glory. 'The saints were the living and most faithful representatives of Christ our Lord, of his virtues, his love, his actions, his power, so that he lived in them, and wrought in them, and through them, the redemption of men; therefore the Church honors, not so much the saint, as Christ our Lord, in the saint; for, in truth, the wisdom of saintliness which she celebrates, wherever it is found, is nothing else, as described to us in Scripture, than a "vapor of the power of God, and a certain pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty God; . . . the brightness of eternal light, and the unspotted mirror of God's majesty, and the image of His goodness; . . . and through nations she conveyeth herself into holy souls, she maketh the friends of God and prophets.' Nor does the Church's honor of the saints derogate from that of God, as some say; otherwise the Lord, who is jealous of His