



## Irish-American Heritage

**Month** is celebrated by proclamation of the President and Congress in the United States to honor the achievements and contributions of Irish immigrants and their descendants living in the United States. It was first celebrated in 1991. The heritage month is in March to coincide with Saint Patrick's Day, the Irish national holiday on March 17.

Saint Patrick's Day is a religious holiday that honors the saint who introduced Christianity to Ireland in the early fifth century, but the holiday has evolved into a celebration of all things Irish. Boston and New York City both claim the world's first Saint Patrick's Day parade.

Each year in March, the Irish Taoiseach [Prime Minister of Ireland] visits the United States for Saint Patrick's Day. A Shamrock Ceremony takes place in the morning at the White House where a crystal bowl containing shamrock, a traditional symbol of Ireland, is presented to the President in the Oval Office. This is followed by a Friends of Ireland luncheon hosted by the House Speaker in the U.S. Capitol or the Rayburn House Office Building. The luncheon is attended by the President, Vice President, the Taoiseach, the Speaker, and other officials. In the evening, a Saint Patrick's

Day Reception takes place at the White House.

### 2020 St. Patrick's Day Events:

AOH St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dogtown, is Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 11:00 a.m. The parade route starts at Tamm Avenue & Oakland and ends at Tamm Avenue & Manchester. The festival outdoor events and sales close at 6:00 p.m. The Downtown parade is on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> (rain or shine) with start time of Noon, beginning at 20<sup>th</sup> and Market Street. For more information on the 2020 St. Patrick's Day Events in Downtown St. Louis, including the Parade, Run or Dinner, please visit <https://irishparade.org/>.

**Note: The AOH St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dogtown is always held on St. Patrick's Day, regardless of the day of the week.**



### Sources:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish-American\\_Heritage\\_Month](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish-American_Heritage_Month). Retrieved February 20, 2018

<https://www.cute-calendar.com/event/irish-american-heritage-month/28661.html>  
[http://stlhibernians.com/events2/2020/stp/st-patricks\\_day\\_parade\\_dogtown\\_2020.html](http://stlhibernians.com/events2/2020/stp/st-patricks_day_parade_dogtown_2020.html)  
[just/article\\_64e80331-77f6-5472-9e5b-f90aee8d5f65.html](http://just/article_64e80331-77f6-5472-9e5b-f90aee8d5f65.html)

<https://irishparade.org/>