On the eighth day of March, it was, some people say, 
That St. Patrick at midnight first saw the day; 
While others declare 'twas the ninth he was born, 
And 'twas all a mistake between midnight and morn; 
For mistakes will occur in a hurry and shock, 
And some blamed the baby--and some blamed the clock-- 
Till with all their cross-questions sure no one could know, 
If the child was too fast or the clock was too slow.

Now the first faction fight in Ireland, they say, 
Was all on account of St. Patrick’s birthday, 
Some fought for the eighth, for the ninth more would die, 
And who wouldn’t see right, sure they’d blacken his eye! 
At last both the factions so positive grew, 
That each kept a birthday, so Pat then had two; 
Till Fr. Mulcahy, who showed them their sins, 
Said, "No one could have two birthdays but a twins."

Says he, "Don’t be fighten’ for eight or for nine, 
Don’t be always dividin’--but sometimes combine; 
Combine eight and nine, and seventeen is the mark, 
So let that be his birthday, "Amen" says the clerk. 
"If he wasn’t a twins, sure our Hist’ry will show,--- 
That, at least, he’s worth any two saints that we know!" 
Then all "celebrated"--which completed their bliss, 
And we keep up the practice from that day to this. (Sam Lover)

Wanted: Your Old Clothes

Hardly a day passes without some student dropping a piece of clothing or two for the poor in the Pamphlet Room in Dillon Hall. If you are about to discard some of your old winter clothing, bring it to Dillon on your way to supper tonight. The Pamphlet Room is just a few steps from the chapel door on the first floor. Your offering can be a prayer, so make an intention when you leave your castaways.

Marriage Symbol.

In the Christian Middle Ages the church had a deeply symbolic ritual. The bride approached the altar, her head covered with a red veil, symbol of natural love. When the priest turned toward the bride and groom, the latter drew the red veil over his head as well, so that both spouses were covered with it. The priest then covered the red veil with a white one, symbolizing that the Sacrament of Matrimony not only sanctions but sanctifies the natural love of husband and wife with supernatural love and grace. (From Marriage in Christ, Michael)

If you did not begin the nine days of prayer for a Happy Marriage, then make a Triduum for that intention, that is, three days of prayer. A prayerful preparation helps the gamble out of marriage. For the Triduum assist at Mass and receive Holy Communion, visit the Grotto and pray privately the Litany of St. Joseph.