

Original Latin

from St. Patrick's Confession and Epistle

Ego Patricius peccator. (*Conf. 1*)

Qui potens est... in sua misericordia...
adleuauit... me. ...Fortiter debueram
exclamare ad retribuendum quoque aliquid
Domino pro tantis beneficiis eius. (*Conf. 12*)

Liberauit me Dominus. (*Conf. 21*)

Viam meam ad bonum dirigebat. (*Conf. 17*)

Utique qui facit peccatum seruus est. (*Epist.*
4)

Deum uiuum non credebam, neque ex
infantia mea, sed in morte et in incredulitate
mansi. (*Conf. 27*)

Cum tot milia hominum... a Deo
recessimus... et... non oboedientes fuimus
qui <nos> nostram salutem admonebant.
(*Conf. 1*)

Ipse enim dixit per prophetam: "Inuoca me
in die tribulationis tuae et liberabo te." (*Conf.*
5)

Tantam gratiam... mihi Dominus praestare
dignatus est in terra captiuitatis meae. (*Conf.*
3)

Prose Translation

by Adam F McCune

Sinner

I am Patrick, a sinner. (*Conf. 1*)

In his mercy, he who is mighty raised me up.
I had to boldly speak out as some return to
the Lord for his acts of kindness which are
so great. (*Conf. 12*)

The Lord set me free. (*Conf. 21*)

He directed my path to the good. (*Conf. 17*)

Whoever commits sin truly is a slave. (*Epist.*
4)

Even beginning from my childhood, I did
not trust in the living God, but remained in
death and unbelief. (*Conf. 27*)

We pulled away from God—I and thousands
of other people—and we did not listen to
those who advised us about our salvation.
(*Conf. 1*)

Chorus 1

He said through his prophet, "Call on me in
the day of your trouble, and I will set you
free" (Psalm 50:15). (*Conf. 5*)

The Lord thought fit to give me such grace
in the land of my captivity. (*Conf. 3*)

Verse Translation

by Adam F McCune

I am Patrick; I'm a sinner.
Hear what God has done for me!
He turned my path to face the good;
His mercy set me free!

When young, I fled the living God.
Though I was taught how to be saved,
I chose to stay in doubt and death.
My sin had me enslaved.

God said, "I will set you free.
When you're in trouble, call on me."
The land of my captivity
Is where God set me free.

Original Latin*from St. Patrick's Confession and Epistle*

Piissimus Deus de seruitute saepe liberauit.
(*Conf. 35*)

Ingenuus fui secundum carnem. (*Epist. 10*)

Annorum eram tunc fere sedecim ... et
Hiberione in captiuitate adductus sum. (*Conf. 1*)

Nunc paruitas mea esse uidetur inter
alienigenas, et ibi Dominus aperuit sensum
incredulitatis meae, ut ... rememorarem
delicta mea ... et consolatus est me ut pater
filium. (*Conf. 1-2*)

Unde mihi postmodum donum tam magnum
tam salubre Deum agnoscere uel diligere?
(*Conf. 36*)

Dominus aperuit sensum incredulitatis meae,
ut ... conuerterem toto corde ad Dominum
Deum meum. (*Conf. 2*)

Magis ac magis accedebat amor Dei et timor
ipsius. (*Conf. 16*)

Postquam Hiberione deueneram — cotidie
itaque pecora pascebam et frequens in die

Prose Translation*by Adam F McCune*

The most gracious God set me free from
slavery many times. (*Conf. 35*)

Capture

By human reckoning I was born free. (*Epist. 10*)

I was just sixteen then, and I was led to
Ireland in captivity. (*Conf. 1*)

Now there among foreigners my smallness is
clear to be seen, and there the Lord
awakened my perception of my unbelief, so
that I would remember my sins, and the Lord
consoled me as a father consoles his son.
(*Conf. 1-2*)

Prayer

Where did it come to me from so soon, this
gift that is so great, that so fully makes us
whole—the gift of knowing and loving God?
(*Conf. 36*)

The Lord awakened my perception of my
unbelief, so that I would turn to the Lord my
God with my whole heart. (*Conf. 2*)

My love for God and my awe of him
increased more and more. (*Conf. 16*)

After I had reached Ireland, every day I fed
the sheep, and prayed many times in a day—

Verse Translation*by Adam F McCune*

In human law I was born free
But at sixteen they captured me
And led me in captivity
To Ireland by sea.

I saw how small I really was;
I saw the sins that I had done.
And God, just like a father does,
Consoled me like a son.

Our God, the one who makes us whole,
Gave me himself to love and know.
I turned to him with all my soul;
My love began to grow.

Six years in Ireland, each day
I served a man and fed his sheep.

Original Latin

from St. Patrick's Confession and Epistle

orabam — ... in die una usque ad centum orationes et in nocte prope similiter, ... et ante lucem excitabar ad orationem per niuem per gelu per pluuiam. (*Conf. 16*)

Fueram sex annis. (*Conf. 17*)

Et ibi scilicet quadam nocte in somno audiui uocem dicentem mihi: "...cito iturus ad patriam tuam. ... Ecce nauis tua parata est — et non erat prope, sed forte habebat ducenta milia passus. ... Et deinde postmodum conuersus sum in fugam et intermisi hominem cum quo fueram sex annis, et ueni in uirtute Dei. ... Perueni ad nauem illam. (*Conf. 17*)

Et illa die qua perueni profecta est nauis de loco suo, et locutus sum ut haberem unde nauigare cum illis et gubernator displicuit illi et acriter cum indignatione respondit: "Nequaquam tu nobiscum adpetes ire!" Et cum haec audissem separaui me ab illis ut uenirem ... et in itinere coepi orare et antequam orationem consummarem audiui unum ex illis et fortiter exclamabat post me: "Ueni cito!" ... et coeperunt mihi dicere: "Ueni, quia ex fide recipimus te." ... Protinus nauigauimus. (*Conf. 18*)

Prose Translation

by Adam F McCune

in one day up to a hundred prayers and in the night about the same, and before first light I woke for prayer during snow, and ice, and rain. (*Conf. 16*)

I had lived there six years. (*Conf. 17*)

Escape

And then on a certain night in my sleep I heard a voice declaring to me, "Soon you will go to your homeland. Behold, your ship is prepared." And it was not nearby; it was perhaps two hundred thousand steps away. Soon after that I was moved to fleeing, and I left the man with whom I had been for six years, and went in the strength of God. I reached that ship. (*Conf. 17*)

And the day I reached it, the ship was about to set out from the place. And I said that I had what it took to sail with them, but the pilot was displeased and with indignation responded sharply, "In no way are you to try to come with us!" When I had heard that, I separated myself from them to go, and on the way I began to pray. And before my prayer was finished, I heard one of them call out loudly after me, "Come quickly!" and they began to say to me, "Come, we are taking you in good faith." We set sail at once. (*Conf. 18*)

Verse Translation

by Adam F McCune

I prayed all day, at night I'd pray
And when I rose from sleep.

Then in a dream a voice declared,
"You'll go back home across the sea.
Behold, your ship has been prepared."
So I was moved to flee.

I went out in the strength of God
Two hundred thousand steps or more.
I found the ship prepared to leave
The day I reached the shore.

The captain said I could not come;
I left and called out to the Lord.
Before my prayer was even done,
They told me, "Come on board."

Original Latin

from *St. Patrick's Confession and Epistle*

Et iterum ... in Britanniis eram cum parentibus meis, qui me ut filium susceperunt et ex fide rogauerunt me ut uel modo ego post tantas tribulationes quas ego pertuli nusquam ab illis discederem. (*Conf. 23*)

Et ibi scilicet uidi in uisu noctis uirum uenientem quasi de Hiberione... cum epistolis innumerabilibus, et dedit mihi unam ex his et legi principium epistolae continentem "Uox Hiberionacum," et cum recitabam principium epistolae putabam ipso momento audire uocem ipsorum, qui erant iuxta siluam Uocluti quae est prope mare occidentale, et sic exclamauerunt quasi ex uno ore: "Rogamus te, sancte puer, ut uenias et adhuc ambulas inter nos," et ualde compunctus sum corde et amplius non potui legere et sic expertus sum. (*Conf. 23*)

Multi hanc legationem prohibebant, ... et dicebant: "Iste quare se mittit in periculo inter hostes qui Deum non nouerunt?" — non ut causa malitiae, sed non sapiebat illis. (*Conf. 46*)

Qui facit peccatum seruus est. (*Epist. 4*)

Caro inimica semper trahit ad mortem. (*Conf. 44*)

Prose Translation

by *Adam F McCune*

Call

I was in Britain again with my parents, who received me as their son and in good faith begged me that now, after I had endured such great tribulations, I would not leave them to go anywhere. (*Conf. 23*)

And there I saw, in a vision in the night, a man coming as if from Ireland with countless letters, and he gave me one of them. I read the opening of the letter, which was "The voice of the Irish," and when I read it out loud, I thought in that moment I heard the voice of the people who lived near the woods of Voclut, which is by the western sea. And they cried out as if with one voice, "We beg you, holy boy, to come and even walk among us." I was powerfully cut to the heart, and I could not read any more, and that is how I woke. (*Conf. 23*)

Many forbid my work as God's ambassador, and they were saying, "Why is he throwing himself into danger among enemies who do not know God?" It was not for a malicious reason, but they did not understand. (*Conf. 46*)

Whoever commits sin is a slave. (*Epist. 4*)

The way of self is an enemy; it always drags us toward death. (*Conf. 44*)

Verse Translation

by *Adam F McCune*

My parents, back on Britain's shore,
Received me as their son anew
And begged that I would leave no more,
After what I went through.

I dreamed I read and the Irish spoke
From a letter an Irish man brought me.
I heard the voice of the Irish folk
From the woods on the western sea.

"Come walk among us, holy boy!
We plead with you," the voices spoke.
It touched my heart; I read no more,
And that is how I woke.

Many told me not to go.
"Why go to danger in the land
Of enemies who don't know God?"
They did not understand.

Our sinful selves drag us toward death,
The sins we do keep us enslaved;
In God we'll be reborn and free—
Those who believe are saved!

Original Latin*from St. Patrick's Confession and Epistle*

Populi multi per me in Deum renascerentur.
(*Conf. 38*)

Deo gratias, creduli baptizati... exultabitis ...
ex uinculis resoluti. (*Epist. 17*)

Hiberione... numquam notitiam Dei
habuerunt. (*Conf. 41*)

Essent clerici qui baptizarent et exhortarent
populum indigentem. (*Conf. 40*)

Et me ... inspirauit ... ut ... fideliter
prodessem genti ad quam caritas Christi
transtulit. (*Conf. 13*)

Dominus... dicit: "Euntes ergo in mundum
uniuersum praedicate euangelium omni
creaturae; qui crediderit et baptizatus fuerit
saluus erit; qui uero non crediderit
condempnabitur." (*Conf. 40*)

Ipse enim dixit per prophetam: "Inuoca me
in die tribulationis tuae et liberabo te." (*Conf. 5*)

Deo gratias, creduli baptizati... exultabitis ...
ex uinculis resoluti. (*Epist. 17*)

Prose Translation*by Adam F McCune*

Through me, many people would be reborn
in God. (*Conf. 38*)

Thanks be to God, you baptized believers
will rejoice, set free from chains. (*Epist. 17*)

In Ireland they never had any knowledge of
God. (*Conf. 41*)

There should be ministers who baptize and
encourage a people in need. (*Conf. 40*)

God inspired me to faithfully serve the
people to whom the love of Christ directed
me. (*Conf. 13*)

The Lord says: "Therefore proclaim the good
news to every creature, going out into the
whole world. Whoever believes and is
baptized will be saved; but whoever does not
believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:15-16).
(*Conf. 40*)

Chorus 2

He said through his prophet, "Call on me in
the day of your trouble, and I will set you
free" (Psalm 50:15). (*Conf. 5*)

Thanks be to God, you baptized believers
will rejoice, set free from chains. (*Epist. 17*)

Verse Translation*by Adam F McCune*

They don't know God; they are in need!
The love of Christ directed me
To tell the good news he decreed
In lands across the sea!

God said, "I will set you free.
When you're in trouble, call on me."
We all are in captivity
Until God sets us free.

Original Latin*from St. Patrick's Confession and Epistle***Prose Translation***by Adam F McCune***Verse Translation***by Adam F McCune****Mission***

Ego ueneram ad Hibernas gentes euangelium
praedicare. (*Conf. 37*)

I came to the peoples of Ireland to proclaim
the gospel. (*Conf. 37*)

And so to Ireland I came,
Where no one was baptized before,
His saving gospel to proclaim
Unto the farthest shore.

Ubique pergebam ... etiam usque ad exteras
partes, ubi nemo ultra erat et ubi numquam
aliquis peruenerat qui baptizaret. (*Conf. 51*)

I was pressing on everywhere, even to the
outer regions where no one lived any further
on, and where no one who would baptize
people had reached. (*Conf. 51*)

Dominus ... promiserat per prophetas
suos... "Posui te lumen in gentibus ut sis in
salutem usque ad extremum terrae." (*Conf. 38*)

The Lord foretold it through his prophet: "I
placed you in the nations as a light, so that
you would be for salvation to the very
outermost regions of the earth" (Isaiah 49:6).
(*Conf. 38*)

Ego ueneram... perferre... persecutiones
multas usque ad uincula. (*Conf. 37*)

I came to endure many persecutions, even
chains. (*Conf. 37*)

I know that God in heaven reigns
Though I risk death and slavery.
The Irish kings bound me in chains
But then God set me free.

Interim praemia dabam regibus... et
nihilominus comprehenderunt me... et illa
die auidissime cupiebant interficere me, sed
tempus nondum uenerat... et me ipsum
ferro uinxerunt, et quartodecimo die absoluit
me Dominus de potestate eorum. (*Conf. 52*)

Sometimes I gave gifts to kings, but still they
laid hold of me, and most eagerly desired to
kill me that day, but my time had not yet
come. And they bound me with iron, but on
the fourteenth day the Lord set me free from
their power. (*Conf. 52*)

Piissimus Deus de seruitute saepe liberauit et
de periculis duodecim qua periclitata est
anima mea. (*Conf. 35*)

Many times the most gracious God set me
free from slavery and from a dozen perils
that put my life in danger. (*Conf. 35*)

Cotidie spero aut internicionem aut
circumueniri aut redigi in seruitutem ... sed
nihil horum uereor propter promissa
caelorum, quia iactaui meipsum in manus Dei

Every day I expect slaughter or to be
surrounded or to be brought back into
slavery, but I am not afraid of any of these
things because of the promises of heaven,

Original Latin

from St. Patrick's Confession and Epistle

omnipotentis, qui ubique dominator. (*Conf. 55*)

Populi multi... in Deum renascerentur.
(*Conf. 38*)

Baptizau i tot milia hominum. (*Conf. 50*)

Nuper facta est plebs Domini et filii Dei nuncupantur; filii Scottorum et filiae regulum monachi et uirgines Christi esse uidentur.

Et etiam una benedicta Scotta genetiua nobilis ... erat, quam ego baptizau i. ... Non sponte patrum earum, sed et persecutiones patiuntur ... a parentibus suis et nihilominus plus augetur numerus. ... Sed ... maxime laborant quae seruitio detinentur: usque ad terrores et minas assidue perferunt. (*Conf. 41-42*)

Ipse enim dixit per prophetam: "Inuoca me in die tribulationis tuae et liberabo te." (*Conf. 5*)

Donum Dei... largitus est nobis in terra captiuitatis meae. (*Conf. 33*)

Deo gratias, creduli baptizati... exultabitis ... ex uinculis resoluti. (*Epist. 17*)

Prose Translation

by Adam F McCune

because I have cast myself into the hands of God Almighty, who is ruler everywhere.
(*Conf. 55*)

Many people would be born again in God.
(*Conf. 38*)

I baptized so many thousands of people.
(*Conf. 50*)

Now they have become the people of the Lord, and are called children of God. The sons of the Irish and the daughters of their rulers are observed to be monks and virgins of Christ.

There was even one blessed Irish woman of noble birth whom I baptized. It is not by their fathers' will, and they endure persecutions from their parents. But still their number grows even more. Those held in slavery suffer most; they constantly endure even terrors and threats. (*Conf. 41-42*)

Chorus 3

He said through his prophet, "Call on me in the day of your trouble, and I will set you free" (Psalm 50:15). (*Conf. 5*)

The gift of God has been lavished on us in the land of my captivity. (*Conf. 33*)

Thanks be to God, you baptized believers will rejoice, set free from chains. (*Epist. 17*)

Verse Translation

by Adam F McCune

And thousands here were born again,
Both nobles and those held enslaved.
Parents and masters threaten them,
But more and more are saved.

God said, "I will set you free!
When you're in trouble, call on me."
Though you are in captivity
The Lord can set you free.

Original Latin

from St. Patrick's Confession and Epistle

Scripsi... militibus... Corotici. ... Postera die qua... neophyti in ueste candida... crudeliter trucidati atque mactati gladio supradictis, misi epistolam... cum clericis, ut nobis aliquid indulgerent... de captiuis baptizatis quos ceperunt: cachinnos fecerunt de illis. (*Epist. 2-3*)

Ecclesia plorat et plangit filios et filias suas quas adhuc gladius nondum interfecit, ... Christiani in seruitute redacti sunt. (*Epist. 15*)

O ... filii quos in Christo genui... quid faciam uobis? (*Epist. 16*)

Resciat omnis homo timens Deum quod a me alieni sunt et a Christo Deo meo. (*Epist. 5*)

Unde ergo quaeso plurimum, sancti et humiles corde, ... non licet nec cibum nec potum sumere cum ipsis ... donec ... <per> paenitentiam ... satis Deo faciant et liberent seruos Dei et ancillas Christi baptizatas. (*Epist. 7*)

In morte uiuunt. (*Epist. 2*)

Qui facit peccatum seruus est. (*Epist. 4*)

Peccatores... a facie Domini peribunt. (*Epist. 19*)

Prose Translation

by Adam F McCune

Attack

I have written to the soldiers of Coroticus. The new believers, in robes of shining white, were cruelly slaughtered and slain with the sword by these men. The next day I sent a letter with some ministers asking that they give us some of the baptized captives they had seized. They made a mockery of them. (*Epist. 2-3*)

The church laments and mourns its sons and daughters whom the sword has not yet slain, Christians reduced to slavery. (*Epist. 15*)

Oh, my children whom I brought forth in Christ, what will I do for you? (*Epist. 16*)

Let every God-fearing person know that these men are estranged from me and from Christ my God. (*Epist. 5*)

So above all I entreat you who are holy and humble in heart: it is not lawful to even eat or drink with them until they make amends to God through repentance and set free the baptized women and men who serve God and Christ. (*Epist. 7*)

They live in death. (*Epist. 2*)

Whoever commits sin is a slave. (*Epist. 4*)

Sinners will perish away from the face of the Lord. (*Epist. 19*)

Verse Translation

by Adam F McCune

The new baptized believers dressed
In robes of shining white the day
When soldiers of Coroticus
Attacked to seize and slay.

They would not give my people back—
Some they enslaved, and some they slew.
Oh, my children, born in Christ,
What can I do for you?

Let no one eat with those who kill
Our fellow Christians with the sword.
Let all men know they are estranged
From me and Christ the Lord.

Till they repent, and free God's folk,
They live in death, enslaved to sin.
Sinners perish far from God;
Believers enter in.

Original Latin*from St. Patrick's Confession and Epistle***Prose Translation***by Adam F McCune***Verse Translation***by Adam F McCune*

Verba ... Dei ... sunt: "Qui crediderit saluus erit." (*Epist. 20*)

These are the words of God: "Whoever believes will be saved" (Mark 16:16). (*Epist. 20*)

Consolation

Deo gratias, creduli baptizati... ubi non erit... mors amplius... exultabitis ... ex uinculis resoluti. (*Epist. 17*)

Thanks be to God, you baptized believers will rejoice, set free from chains, where death will be no more. (*Epist. 17*)

My children, God will loose your chain,
And though you die, still you will rise.
Where death will be no more you'll reign
With Christ in paradise.

Resurgemus ... in gloria Christi Iesu redemptoris nostri. (*Conf. 59*)

We will rise from death in the glory of Christ Jesus our redeemer. (*Conf. 59*)

Regnabitis ... in regno caelorum. ... Foris ... homicidae. (*Epist. 18*)

You will reign in the kingdom of heaven.
The murderers are outside. (*Epist. 18*)

Iusti ... epulentur in magna constantia cum Christo, iudicabunt nationes et regibus iniquis dominabuntur in saecula saeculorum. (*Epist. 19*)

The righteous will feast in great harmony with Christ. They will judge the nations and rule over wicked kings into endless ages. (*Epist. 19*)

Haec est confessio mea. (*Conf. 62*)

This is my declaration. (*Conf. 62*)

This is my declaration!
God is our consolation!
He calls from every nation
His people to be free!

Oportet ... notum facere donum Dei et consolationem aeternam. (*Conf. 14*)

We must make known the gift of God and his eternal consolation. (*Conf. 14*)

Dominus inquit in euangelio...: "Euntes ergo nunc docete omnes gentes baptizantes eas in nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti." ... Et in Osee dicit: "Uocabo non plebem meam plebem meam." (*Conf. 40*)

The Lord says in the gospel: "Now, therefore, teach all nations, going and baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). And through Hosea he says: "Those who were not my people, I will call my people" (Hosea 2:24). (*Conf. 40*)

Original Latin

from St. Patrick's Confession and Epistle

Ipsē enim dixit per prophetam: “Inuoca me in die tribulationis tuae et liberabo te et magnificabis me.” (*Conf. 5*)

Prose Translation

by Adam F McCune

He said through his prophet, “Call on me in the day of your trouble, and I will set you free” (Psalm 50:15). (*Conf. 5*)

Verse Translation

by Adam F McCune