I Bind unto Myself Today
St. Patrick's Breastplate

ST. PATRICK (L.M.D.)
From an ancient Irish hymn melody
Charles Villiers Stanford, 1902

Ascribed to St. Patrick, 372-466
tr. Cecil Frances Humphreys Alexander, 1889

1. I bind unto myself today The strong name
   of the Trinity, By invocation
   of the same, The Three in One, and One in Three.
2. I bind this day to me forever, By power of faith, Christ’s Incarnation; His baptism in the love of Cherubim; The sweet “Well done” in God to hold and lead, His eye to watch, His gives temptation force, The natural lusts that words of heresy, Against the knowledge

3. I bind unto myself the power of against the demon snares of sin, The vice that Jordan river; His death on the Cross for my salvation; judgment hour; The service of the Seraphim; giving ray, The whiteness of the moon at even, might to stay, His ear to hearken to my need, war with in, The hostile men that mar my course; that defiles, Against the heart’s idolatry,

4. I bind unto myself today The virtues Against all Satan’s spells and wiles, Against false words of heresy, Against the knowledge

5. I bind unto myself today The power of faith, Christ’s Incarnation; His baptism in the love of Cherubim; The sweet “Well done” in God to hold and lead, His eye to watch, His gives temptation force, The natural lusts that words of heresy, Against the knowledge

6. A against the demon snares of sin, The vice that Jordan river; His death on the Cross for my salvation; judgment hour; The service of the Seraphim; giving ray, The whiteness of the moon at even, might to stay, His ear to hearken to my need, war with in, The hostile men that mar my course; that defiles, Against the heart’s idolatry,

7. A against all Satan’s spells and wiles, Against false words of heresy, Against the knowledge

His bursting from the spiced tomb; His riding Confessors’ faith, Apostles’ word, The Patriarchs’ The flash of the lightning free, The whirling The wisdom of my God to teach, His hand to Or few or many, far or nigh, In every A against the wizard’s evil craft, Against the
up the heav'n-ly way; His com-ing at the day of
prayers, the Proph-ets' scrolls, All good deeds done un-to the
wind's tem-pest-uous shocks, The sta-ble earth, the deep salt
guide, His shield to ward; The word of God to give me
place, and in all hours, A-gainst their fierce hos-ti-li-
dearth-wound and the burn-ing, The chok-ing wave, the pois-soned
doom; I bind un-to my-self to-day.
Lord, And pu-ri-ty of vir-gin souls.
sea, A-round the old e-ter-nal rocks.
speech, His heav'n-ly host to be my guard.
ty, I bind to me these ho-ly pow'rs.
shaft, Pro-ect me, Christ, till Thy re-turn-ing.

DEIRDRE (J.M.)  
Adapted from an ancient Irish melody

8. Christ be with me, Christ with-in me, Christ be-hind me, Christ be-fore me,

Christ be-neath me, Christ a-bove me, Christ in qui-et, Christ in dan-ger,

Christ be-side me, Christ to win me, Christ to com-fort and re-store me,

Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stran-ger.
Doxology to either part

Unison

9. I bind unto myself the name, The strong name of the

Trinity, By invocation of the same, The

Three in One, and One in Three. Of whom all nature

hath creation; Eternal Father, Spirit, Word: Praise to the

Lord of my salvation, Salvation is of Christ the Lord.