



# Proclamation

## Irish-American Heritage Month

March 2026

**Whereas,** From America's earliest days, Irish immigrants and their descendants have contributed leadership, wisdom, and vitality to America, through nine signers of the Declaration of Independence and 22 Presidents with Irish roots as well as the indelible mark Irish Americans have made in the shaping of the United States and the great State of California; and

**Whereas,** Irish immigrants and their descendants have contributed to the building of this great society not only by the laying of railroads and the building of physical bridges, but also by building bridges of the mind amongst all people through the founding of numerous schools, colleges and universities, enhancing the quality of every phase of life for all Californians; and

**Whereas,** about 30 miles outside of the City of Manteca near Woodward Reservoir Park you will find California's first Irish Hunger Memorial located at St. Joseph's Cemetery that was inaugurated in the Fall of 2016, making this the 10-year anniversary. The Irish Hunger Memorial was the product of efforts by the Campaign for a United Ireland, Irish American Unity Conference and the Irish Gathering Society of Modesto; and

**Whereas,** Irish Americans have made an indelible impression upon every human endeavor in art, music, literature, science, film, dance, theatre, sports, education, law, finance, and politics and shall continue to embellish California's shining future; and

**Now, Therefore,** I, Gary Singh, Mayor of the City of Manteca, on behalf of City Council, do hereby proclaim the Month of March 2026, as Irish American Heritage Month. It is fitting and proper to celebrate the rich culture, heritage, and valuable contributions of the Irish people during the month of March, when people of Irish decent celebrate the Patron Saint of Ireland, St. Patrick, on March 17<sup>th</sup>, I encourage citizens to celebrate Irish history, heritage, and culture throughout the month.

**DATE:** March 3, 2026

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Mayor Gary Singh