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Fifth Grade
Age 10
Incarnate Word Academy Elementary Level

Immigration Celebration

From all over the world people came
To America to find their fortune and fame
In hope of finding freedoms they never knew
And also happiness and a better life too

Different religions and traditions they brought to our shores
To escape the homeland and all the wars
Religious celebrations were important and valued
And to America they brought Christian tradition anew

Mardi gras means Fat Tuesday in French
It falls before Ash Wednesday, when we give up things for lent
Eating, costumes, dancing in the street
The French brought this celebration; it's quite a treat.

March 17th is St. Patrick's Day,
We learned how to celebrate the Irish way.
With parades, parties and four leaf clovers
To honor their patron saint, we're glad they came over

Easter eggs are brightly colored
Brought by the polish we discovered
To symbolize Christ's resurrection
The Easter bunny is a different connection

Dia de Los Muertos is a Spanish way
To say Day of the Dead, where you pray
For loved ones who have lived and died
And you wish that they could be by your side

The Greeks brought the Greek Orthodox Church
Kids with name of a saint they would search
The child would have their namesake saint's birth date
So that's when they would celebrate.

In the 1830s Germans put up the first Christmas tree
The children thought, "Which tree would be best for me?"
Well, Germany cheerfully brought this tree to us
They also brought someone special... Saint Nicholas!

The Italian crèche is a scene of the manger
But baby Jesus isn't placed till Christmas Eve, even stranger
Caroling with bagpipes was another tradition
They brought it here with our permission

Answering questions at Ellis Island where they came through
They brought celebrations and traditions to me and you
We'll always be mixture of cultures, we're thankful for immigration
For helping us become a great, grand nation.