
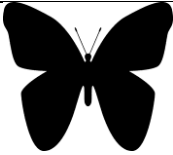







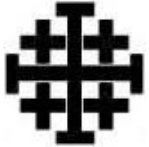













<p><b>ANCHOR CROSS</b> Used by the early Christians in the catacombs. Ancient Egyptian in its origin.</p>	
<p><b>BUTTERFLY</b> Symbol of the resurrection and eternal life. As the butterfly leaves the pupa and soars upward with a new body, so through Jesus Christ are his followers borne to a new life.</p>	
<p><b>CHI RHO</b> A monogram of the first two letters, Chi (X) and Rho (P), of the Greek word for Christ.</p>	
<p><b>CELTIC CROSS</b> Or cross of Iona, dates back to early centuries of the Christian era. It was said to have been taken from what is now Ireland to the island of Iona by Columba in the sixth century.</p>	
<p><b>CROSS AND CROWN</b> These symbolize the reward of the faithful in the life after death to those who believe in the crucified Savior. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Revelation 2:10)</p>	
<p><b>CROSS CROSSLET</b> Four Latin crosses joined at their bases. Represents Christianity spreading in the four directions and is especially appropriate when the missionary idea is expressed.</p>	
<p><b>CROSS TREFFLÉE</b> A beautiful form with ends formed as trefoils. It is widely used wherever a decorative style of cross is needed. Also known as the Cross Botonnée.</p>	

<p><b>GREEK CROSS</b> With all arms of equal length.</p>	
<p><b>THE IHS</b> Are the first three letters (iota, eta, sigma) of the Greek spelling of Jesus. The upper form is the more ancient, though the lower is the more common now.</p>	
<p><b>JERUSALEM CROSS</b> Usually has four small crosses between the arms, the five crosses symbolizing the five wounds of our Lord. Worn by Godfrey de Bouillon, first ruler of Jerusalem after the liberation from the Moslems.</p>	
<p><b>LATIN CROSS</b> The most commonly used form of cross.</p>	
<p><b>ST. ANDREW'S CROSS</b> Tradition said the apostle Andrew died on this form of cross, requesting that he be crucified on a cross unlike that of his Lord.</p>	
<p><b>DOVE WITH OLIVE SPRIG</b> Sometimes used a symbol for the flood. It denotes peace, forgiveness and anticipation of new life.</p>	
<p><b>FISH</b> A secret sign used by the early persecuted Christians to designate themselves as believers in Jesus. The initial letters of the Greek words for "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior," spell the Greek word for fish.</p>	 <p style="text-align: right;">IXOYC</p>

<p><b>FISH THREE IN A CIRCLE</b> The fish is an ancient symbol for our Lord, and three fish in a circle signify that man's salvation comes from the Triune God.</p>	
<p><b>FLEUR DE LIS</b> One of the most popular symbols for Mary. It was selected by the French kings as their symbol and later was used in the banner of Jeanne d'Arc.</p>	
<p><b>I X MONOGRAM</b> This symbol for our Lord consists of the initial letters for the Greek words for Jesus Christ arranged as a monogram.</p>	
<p><b>SHELL</b> A symbol of our Lord's baptism.</p>	
<p><b>STAR, EPIPHANY</b> The star of Jacob (Numbers 24:17) finds its fulfillment in the "manifestation" of Jesus to the Gentiles (Matthew 2:1-2)</p>	
<p><b>TRIANGLE, EQUILATERAL</b> Symbol of the Trinity. The three distinct angles combine to make one complete figure.</p>	
<p><b>THE TRIQUETRA AND CIRCLE</b> The Triquetra, denoting the Blessed Trinity, is combined with the circle of eternity producing a figure recalling several spiritual truths.</p>	

## THE CHRISMON TREE



Chrismons are Christmas decorations made in the shapes of Christian symbols. Hung on a evergreen tree, they make a "Chrismon" Tree. "Chrismon" is a combination of parts of two words – CHRIS and MONogram. Monograms of Christ are symbols that honor the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

White and gold are the colors used in making Chrismons. White is the liturgical color representing the purity and perfection of Christ. Gold is the liturgical color representing His Majesty and Glory. White lights are placed on the Chrismon Tree to represent Christ as the "Light of the World".

Many of these symbols were used by the first Christians to identify themselves to one another and to designate places to meet and worship, often in secret. Even more important was the use of these symbols by the early Christians to share and pass on their faith.

Chrismons were the inspiration of Mrs. Henry W. Spencer of the Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Danville, VA. Her idea of the Chrismon tree has spread throughout all denominations in the United States and throughout the world.