

Symbol of the Cross Still Lives

You see it in churches. It adorns monuments, flags, and heroes' medals.

There are many fascinating stories behind the symbol of the cross.

Centuries before Christ died, it was a symbol widely known throughout the ancient world. The Egyptians called it "anob," after a T-shaped instrument used to measure the annual rise of the Nile on whose bounty the life of the nation depended. For other nations of the East it was an "urn," and took the shape of two pieces of wood with handles. By rubbing the two sticks together, the ancients kindled sacred fire.

As early as 1255 B.C., Greek worshippers of Bacchus offered cakes of flour with a figure of the cross imprinted on them. The swastika, or twisted cross, which became a symbol of terror in the 20th Century, appears on the oldest medallions of the Buddhists and was a mystical good omen in many Hindu sects.

The cross was used as an instrument of national punishment in the time of Abraham. As a gallows, it was familiar to the Egyptians, Africans, Macedonians, Greeks and Romans.

To various people it has meant a symbol of eternal life, productive power, or the life-giving qualities of the sun.

For Christians around the world, the cross is a symbol of their faith. It is on a Roman cross at Golgotha where Jesus died, only to rise again three days later, so that, according to the Bible, "whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

The early Christians portrayed Christ as the Good Shepherd, sometimes carrying a cross instead of a crook. From this evolved the custom of representing His people as sheep or lambs. By the end of the 6th Century, the first form of crucifix showed the Lamb represented on the cross itself. Crucifixes came to be widely distributed by the Church as aids to devotion.

In the New World, the Spaniards conquered New Spain in the name of the cross. But they were astonished to find the holy emblem of their faith in the temples of the Aztecs. Colossal stone monuments throughout Mexico attest to an Indian civilization which adored crucifixes.

similar in design to the Greek, Latin, and Maltese forms.

The cross of Lorraine, which Joan of Arc wore into battle became Gen. Charles de Gaulle's symbol in leading the French resistance movement during World War II. A Swiss welfare agency which adopted as its emblem a red cross on a white field—reversing the color scheme of the Swiss flag—in 1864 organized a conference to help the sick and wounded soldiers of the world. Sixteen nations attended and established the International Red Cross.

Legend says that the crucifixion cross was made of four types of wood—to represent the four corners of the earth. The simple Latin cross, with an upright and single shorter transom, is the commonest. With two transoms it is called a patriarchal cross; with three, a papal cross. A cross widely used by Slavs and others of Eastern rites has two transoms and a slanting crosspiece below. The Greek cross has equal arms. St. Andrew's cross is like an X; the Celtic, or Iona, cross bears a circle, the center of which is the crucifixion.

The rich history of the cross is shrouded in legend and superstition. A crucifix was said to have shed blood in 1512, during an Easter Day battle between the French and Spanish. A statue of Christ on the cross reportedly performed healing wonders during the Plague of Malaga in 1649.

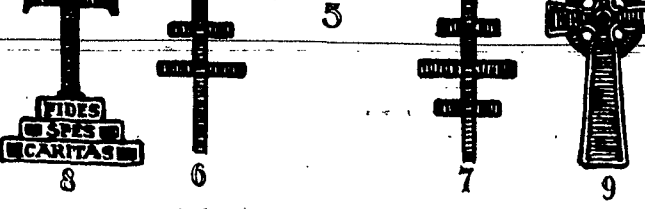
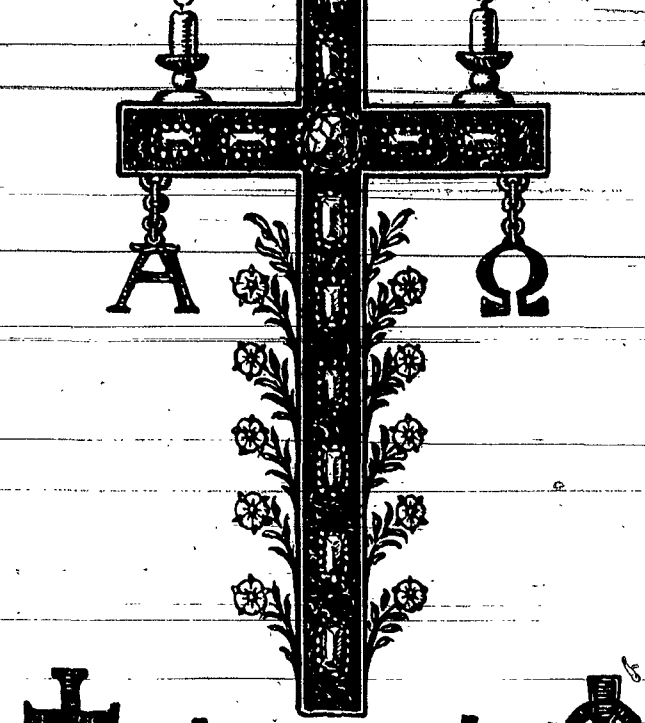
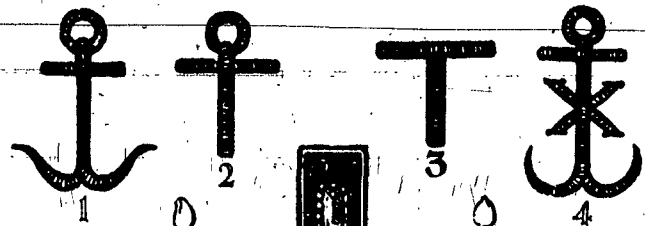
Legend also has it that when St. Francis of Assisi was praying, a voice from the crucifix told him, "Repair my house." At first he took "house" to mean church; when he later learned that it meant his own spiritual life, he renounced his worldly goods and took up orders.

ST. ANTHONY'S WOMEN

PLAN MASS FOR PASTOR

St. Anthony's Altar and Rosary Society will begin Holy Week with a Mass for the health of the pastor, Father Nicholas P. Alletto, who has been under treatment for carbon monoxide poisoning since Jan. 21.

Father James S. Russell, assistant pastor, who also was sickened by fumes from the rectory garage in the accident, will celebrate the Mass at 8 p.m. Monday in the Trinitarian Sisters' Home, 46 Lorimer Street.



The above are early forms of the cross: 1. an anchor cross; 2. the Crux Ansata; 3. a tau cross; 4. an anchor cross formed from the letters I X (Christ's monogram, in Greek); 5. a richly ornamented cross (crux gemmata); 6. the patriarchal or archiepiscopal cross; 7. the papal cross, carried in processions in which the Holy Father takes part; 8. a cross common in oriental Christian decoration; 9. a Celtic cross, sometimes called a wheel cross.

because one of them, a way-faring metalsmith, made the nails that were used at the Crucifixion (Supplied by the Lutheran's Laymen's League).

Faith Is... A Second Chance For Charlie Brown

Catholic Press Features Dayton, Ohio—Faith is the biggest lineman and trusting that he will be blocked out of the way."

That definition, by young John Adam of Chicago, Ill., is just one of a series published in the familiar "Happiness Is..." style by "Witness," a catechetical teaching-aid publication put out for intermediate-school students by Geo. A. Pflaum, Publishers.

- For other students quoted by "Witness," Faith is:
- "Giving a second chance to Charlie Brown when the bases are loaded."—Marie Migneco, St. Louis, Mo.
- "Going from a three-wheeler to a two-wheeler."—Geri Henderson, St. Charles, Mo.
- "Parachuting from a plane."—Floyd Hermes, Andale, Kans.
- "Walking across the busy street during the five o'clock rush."—Carol Donigan, Portland, Ore.
- "A baby bird taking off for the first time."—Valerie Boyle, Wilmington, Del.
- "Going into a dark alley."—Lynne O'Connor, Albany, N.Y.
- "Jumping into a pool and believing there is water."—Mark Mollentine, Olathe, Kans.
- "Walking alone into a haunted house."—Cheryl Stambeck, Andale, Kans.
- "Crossing an ocean in a canoe."—Kathy Rizzo, Chicago, Ill.
- "Being without a net on a tightwire."—Religion Class, Conklin, Mich.
- "Playing in your first band concert."—Diane Diulus, Pittsburgh, Pa.
- "Riding to the moon in a rocket for the first time."—Lynn Butler, Atlanta, Ga.

What's Happening In the Diocese

The Rochester Catholic Adult Club will meet for an afternoon of recollection from 3 to 5 Sunday at Our Mother of Sorrows.

Bishop James E. Kearney will celebrate Mass Monday night for the Mercy Guild of the Little Flower, at the end of the organization's membership campaign. The Mass, at 7:45 in the Mercy Motherhouse Chapel, will be followed by refreshments.

The 13th Seton Branch will meet at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday at St. Mary's Hospital nurses' home, with Miss Marie Langan, Mrs. Leon Fischer and Mrs. John Burns serving as hostesses. Mrs. Clement Hanss and Mrs. Edward Burley will outline plans for the annual spring card party May 6.

A slide lecture on the reported apparitions of Our Lady and St. Michael at Garabandal, Spain, will be presented by the St. Michael's Garabandal Center of Rochester at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 10, in Our Mother of Sorrows hall, 5000 Mt. Read Blvd. There is no admission charge for the public lecture.

A eucharist tournament is planned for April 18 in Our Lady of Good Counsel School hall. Reservations should be made with Bob Sayre, 436-5109.

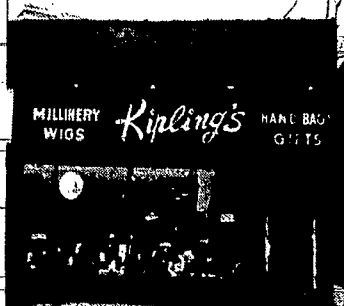
At St. Pius X, Gates, the Holy Name Society will have a communion breakfast Sunday after the 8:30 Mass. The Rosary Guild will meet in the church at 7:30 Tuesday night for a Holy Hour. After a business meeting in the parish center, Dr. Thomas Gallagher will speak on "The Shroud of Christ."

Ithaca Knights of Columbus will have their annual Communion breakfast Sunday at the Moose Lodge, following the 8:15 a.m. Mass in Immaculate Conception Church.

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By Ruth DeMalle



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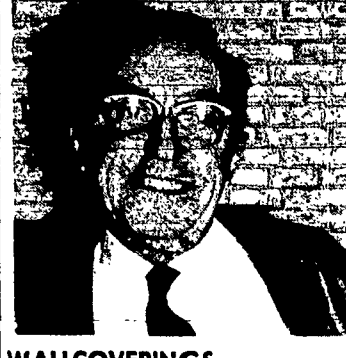


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"YOU ARE" ALWAYS welcome to stop in at DEONE'S for friendly advice and ideas about beauty and grooming, cosmetics and wigs. So don't hesitate to come in, if just to browse. Open evenings, 227-1360, Marine Midland Charge. Can't find DEONE'S? Why not ask those charming ladies at TERUS FASHIONS? — AGAIN to Mrs. Lee Bock, the shops in the Greece Towne Mall congratulate you on a job well done! And to all you girls who so graciously modeled the clothes, wigs and cosmetics, you were great! Thank you and best wishes!

MAKE-UP AND CASCADES OF CURLS

We would like to proudly announce were by Mary Johnston of DEONE'S and her staff... So many have been calling in to ask what cosmetics were used for the girls... The beautiful smooth-complexions, sparkling eyes, dewy mouth, the marvelous colors were JACQUELINE COCHRAN products. The Opaline Creme Foundation, the fabulous "Urbane Eyes" are but a suggestion of what Jacqueline Cochran has created for you in her exclusive line of cosmetics dedicated to making you look outrageously beautiful! An exaggeration? Come in to DEONE'S and see for yourself the Jacqueline Cochran products specially designed for you! Ask about having your face powder specially blended for you... even translucent.

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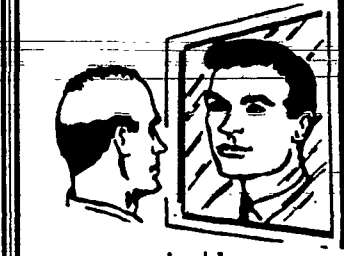
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