



**MALTESE CROSS**

Order of Hospitallers used it to decorate their shields and caps during the crusades. This cross is made up of four spear-heads pointing to Christ, the center of all things. Some say the eight points on the exterior represent the beatitudes. (Matthew 5:3-10)



**PATRIARCHAL CROSS**

The patriarchs/fathers that formed an ancestral line found its fulfillment in Jesus as the Christ or, as the sign tacked to the top of the cross declared: "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews."



**ST. ANDREW'S CROSS**

National cross of Scotland. Tradition says that when Andrew was to be crucified on a cross he requested it be in this form, unlike that which took the life of Jesus, his master.



**TAU CROSS**

Shaped like Greek letter T and used by the early second and third century Christians to identify each other in a world hostile to them. One Christian draw a straight line in the dirt and the other person would complete the cross.

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Crosses are the most common symbol of the Christian church. Down through the centuries many forms of crosses have developed, generally for a specific reason. It is nearly impossible to know the meaning for each one.

On the walls of Emanuel's new addition are hung various crosses, each with a name plate of identification.

This pamphlet simply expands these identifications to help further ones understanding of each cross. You might try to locate the various crosses to aid in this identification.

Our special thanks to Frank "Pete" Schievelbein for making the crosses.



**CROSSES**



**of THE**

**CHRISTIAN**

**Church**





### ANCHOR CROSS

Symbolized Jesus Christ, the sure anchor of hope. (Hebrew 6:19) Found painted or chiseled on the walls of worship area in the catacombs. Many early Christians lived in seaside villages.



### BUDDING CROSS

Mostly used as a decorative cross, often draped with flowers. The ends of the cross represent a budding flower, thus it often is used to symbolize an immature or budding Christian.



### CELTIC CROSS

Sometimes called the Irish Cross because, it is said, Columbia took it from Ireland to the island of Iona in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century. The circle signifies eternity and the universal nature of the Christian Church.



### CROSS CROSSLET

Four Latin crosses joined in the center suggesting the spread of Christianity to the four corners of the world. Especially appropriate cross to use when the missionary theme is expressed: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel..." Mark 16:15.



### CROSS FITCHEE

This cross usually has a pointed lower arm. Crusaders carried such a cross, driving it into the ground at the time for devotion.



### DEDICATION CROSS

Emanuel's Lutheran Church dedicated the addition to its education unit under the banner "Building on His Love" with this cross as its symbol. Thus, this cross is seen as a sign of God's love for all His children at Emanuel's regardless of age or origin.



### CROSS OF TRIUMPH

Sometimes called the cross of victory or conquest. The Latin cross is projected to the center of the world, representing the Triumph of the Gospel throughout the world.



### EASTERN CROSS

The Eastern Orthodox cross has three bars: Top bar for the sign that read "Jesus of Nazareth King of the Jews"; second bar when Jesus' hands were nailed; the third slanted cross piece where his feet were not nailed by tied.



### LATIN CROSS

The most commonly used cross by Christianity. It is similar to the cross on which it is said, Our Lord was crucified. It is symbolic of finished redemption because the corpus is absent.