



# The Masthead

*Equip, Support, Serve, Witness Where God Calls Us!*



Church Office: 248-541-0613 & School Office: 248-546-6555

**DECEMBER 2022**



REV. JAKOB ANDRZEJEWSKI

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## DECEMBER SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Dec 4	Voters Meeting
Dec 7, 14, 21	Mid-Week Advent Worship
Dec 9	School Christmas Shoppe
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Family Worship Candlelight Worship
Dec 25	Christmas Day



## The Perfect Gift



As the Christmas seasons begins to creep its jolly head around the corner, many of us are scrambling to find the perfect gift for our loved ones. Have been for centuries! Do you remember your favorite Christmas gifts? Out of curiosity, I researched the top gifts to buy according to each decade. I wonder if you got any of these. In the 1920's, it was a teddy bear for a whopping 49 cents. In the 40's, it was a slinky toy for 98 cents each. In the 60's, it was an easy-bake oven! In the 80's, it was a Koosh ball. In the early 2000's, it was the Wii. It really is incredible to see what the world wanted the most and more so how fast it came and went. Be honest: would you want a Koosh ball this year? (on second thought, don't answer that).

Christmas is a "unique tension" for Christians. We love giving gifts knowing the gifts won't last forever on one hand. On the other, we celebrate receiving the gift that does last forever because it's not bound by space or time. Polar opposites. And yet, the trend is that we fixate more on the gifts that don't last over the divine gifts that do last. Why is that? Why do we end up finding more joy in the temporary things than in the eternal things? 2 Peter 3 writes that these temporary things will burn and dissolve away as the Day of the Lord approaches. The famous "Wise King" in Ecclesiastes reiterates through 12 chapters that literally everything we own and buy and sell is "vanity of vanities." There is meaning in nothing we have because "dust we are and to dust we shall return." So... what does really matter this Christmas? It's very simple.

"The life to come..." (1 Timothy 4:8). Over and over again, Jesus himself emphasizes throughout many of his own sermons the anticipation of the gift that keeps on giving- heaven! Many of Paul's letters paint these beautiful pictures of the gift that awaits for us in paradise: as if it is wrapped, bow tied, and sitting under the tree of life just waiting to be unwrapped and enjoyed. In fact, we haven't the slightest clue as to what kind of gifts await us in paradise. As Paul writes... "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him," (1 Cor. 2:9). All we do know is this: where Jesus is, we will be. We won't have to imagine his face anymore.

We won't have to rely on painted pictures to see him. We won't have to anticipate his birth all over again during Christmas, his life during Pentecost, or his death during Lent. Maybe the gift that awaits us in heaven is an Easter morning joy that is no longer bound by space or time. It's the perfect gift.

*Raymond Anderson*

# MINISTRY

## COME WORSHIP WITH US-DECEMBER



**December 7**      **Midweek Advent 2 Worship 7:00 p.m.**

**December 14**      **Midweek Advent 3 Worship 7:00 p.m.**

**December 21**      **Midweek Advent 4 Worship 7:00 p.m.**



**December 24**      **Christmas Eve Worship 5:00 p.m. (Family Song Service)**

**Christmas Eve Worship 11:00 p.m. (Candlelight Service)**

**December 25**      **Christmas Day Worship 10:00 a.m.**

*\*The church office holiday hours: Dec 23-Closed at 1:00 p.m.*

**December 22 School Christmas Break begins at Noon & December 23 No School**

*Merry Christmas From the Staff of St. Paul Lutheran*

**GIVING TREE** is planted in the narthex this Christmas season again. Help a child that is less fortunate. All donations welcome!



***Hats, gloves, mittens, and a scarf; help to shape the GIVING TREE bark,  
A tree that may in winter wear; clothing so the skin not bare.  
Donate to WLCFSA, a child you will truly bless!***

**CHRISTMAS CARD TREE** will be located in the lobby outside the office for you to place your Christmas cards on that you would normally send to fellow friends of St. Paul. Why not save a stamp and wish them Merry Christmas by placing your card on the tree.

### **Letter from Gay Eskew- THANK GOD FOR HIS WAYS OF SERVING THROUGH US**

Thank you, St. Paul congregation, for your support, your encouragement, your inspiration! Many of you took time to share the blessings of God in various ways. God-willing, my plan is to visit during 2023, St. Paul's Sesquicentennial (150 years), and beyond.

These past 10 years spent with my mom, Eyla Russ, were also years of renewal, restoration, and refreshment. When things got rough, God offered me a choice: do I commit to staying with mom in Royal Oak? or do I return to my home in Missouri? After much wrestling with God, several times, He won, and I stayed. Mom was glad in her own quiet, calm way. We learned to know one another much better, and on a different level.

I grew up at St. Paul: from being baptized to graduating as a Lutheran School teacher sent to the St. Louis area. There were occasional visits during my 40 years away. When I returned to take care of mom, after my dad passed away, I took the opportunity to become involved in various church activities. I followed my parents' example of serving

at St. Paul. At first, it was easy to participate. As time went on, Mom's health became a roller coaster. Towards the end, she needed 24-hour care. Her God-given purpose was to pray daily for all 4 of us kids, her 16 grandchildren, and her 30 great-grandkids. Her example of consistent prayer instills hope for the future through generations.

As I am returning to my home in Augusta, Missouri, it's a bittersweet time. After prayerful reflection, God blessed my life in Royal Oak, with the restoration of the lost/damaged "joy of the Lord." I developed new interests and talents along with building on the established ones. One of mom's highlights of our time together was to experience both of us being elected Woman of the Year at St. Paul. She presented me with her LWML engraved pendant from 1989. That is a precious treasure!

One of God's commands is to love and serve one another. As we all continue to act on His Word, may our Lord bless the congregation as God-given opportunities are placed into our life's paths. St. Paul's mission statement is "to equip, support, serve, witness where God calls us." That's exactly what I experienced. Thank you!

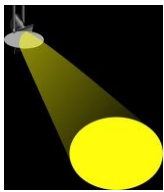
# MINISTRY



## BIBLE VERSE'S OF THE MONTH CHURCH YEAR — SERIES 'A' *BEGINS*



<b>ADVENT</b>	Dec. 4	Second S. in Advent	Isaiah 11:1–10	Psalm 72:1–7	Rom. 15:4–13	Matt. 3:1–12
	Dec. 11	Third S. in Advent	Isaiah 35:1–10	Psalm 146	James 5:7–11	Matt. 11:2–15
	Dec. 18	Fourth S. in Advent	Isaiah 7:10–17	Psalm 24	Rom. 1:1–7	Matt. 1:18–25
<b>CHRISTMAS</b>	Dec. 24 <i>Eve</i>	The Nativity of Our Lord ( <i>Christmas Eve</i> )	Isaiah 7:10–14	Psalm 110:1–4	1 John 4:7–16	Matt. 1:18–25
	Dec. 24 <i>Eve</i>	The Nativity of Our Lord ( <i>Christmas Eve</i> )	Isaiah 9:2–7	Psalm 96	Titus 2:11–14	Luke 2:1–14 (15–20)
	Dec. 25	The Nativity of Our Lord ( <i>Christmas Day</i> )	Isaiah 52:7–10	Psalm 2	Heb. 1:1–6 (7–12)	John 1:1–14 (15–18)
	Dec. 31	Eve of the Circ. and Name of Jesus ( <i>New Year's Eve</i> )	Isaiah 30:(8–14) 15–17	Psalm 90:1–12	Rom. 8:31b–39	Luke 12:35–40



### SERVANT SPOTLIGHT

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them. Romans 12:4-6a

When people hear “stewardship,” their thoughts usually go down the “Here we go again: they’re telling us we’re supposed to give more money” train of thought; but time and talent are also important ways to contribute to the congregation. Each member of the St. Paul church body has his or her own function: some are able to go above-and-beyond financially, some have specific talents that they’re able to share, and others have time to assist with a variety of tasks.

Whether you’re a new member or have been around for years, you may wonder “How can I get involved?” or “How do I let someone know that I’m interested in helping with...?” The Time and Talent Survey is designed to do just that: through the survey, you can indicate what areas you have talents in or which types of activities you’d like to assist with. The people responsible for those events can then reach out to you when opportunities exist. The survey is NOT a commitment, it’s just a way of expressing interest.

If you have never filled out a Time and Talent Survey, please do so (again, you’re not committed to anything - at least, not yet)! And, if it’s been a while, consider updating your interests to make sure the information is accurate. <https://stpaulro.breezechms.com/form/b3066e>

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### VOTER'S MEETING

**Sunday, December 4 (follows late service)**

## MINISTRY

**Young Adults** is a group of post-college age to 30 something who gather together to fellowship in Bible study and events. This past season we were meeting with Historic Trinity of Detroit's group of Young Adults at the Atwater Brewery for our study and fellowship. Join us on Tuesday December 13 as we will meet at Atwater Brewery at 7:00PM, after that we will be on hiatus until January. Watch for further info as to start date. For more information about the group or if you are interested in being part of this group, you may get in touch Craig Rinkus at [craigrinkus@gmail.com](mailto:craigrinkus@gmail.com).

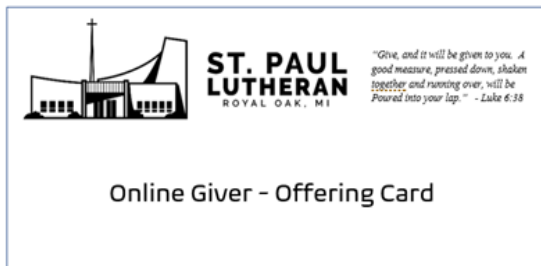
### School's Christmas Shoppe



On December 9, the students of St. Paul School will have an opportunity to do all their Christmas shopping for mom, dad,

sister, brother, grandma and grandpa and friends, to buy handmade gifts for \$1-5. This is an affordable and fun way for the students to get quality gifts for everyone on their list. Please contact Anne Sagan at 248-546-5228 or email her at [annesagan@yahoo.com](mailto:annesagan@yahoo.com) for any questions.

**Online Giver Offering Cards are now available.** For members who give offering electronically, you can pick up an Online Giver Offering Card from the welcome center each week before entering worship. Giving our tithes and offerings reflects a grateful heart that wants to give back to God a portion of what He has given us; in reality, what is already His. This is our opportunity to show God that He is first in our lives. When we join for offering, simply place the card in the offering plate as an intentional act of worship and thankfulness. The cards are reusable and will be available for all services moving forward.



**Royal Oak Jingle Holiday Parade** Dec. 10 from Noon—10pm, on Main St. from Lincoln to 11 Mile Rd. Fun events & carriage rides. Check it out at [www.romi.gov](http://www.romi.gov)

## KIDS KORNER



### CHRISTMAS BLESSING'S

Christmas Angel Maze

Help the Angel find her Angel friend by following through the snowball path.





## Advent Devotion Books



### *A Son Is Given*

Our salvation begins with God promising to send a Redeemer. It comes to fruition in the birth of Jesus, God's Son sent to save the world. In *A Son Is Given*, the wonderful drama of God's love unfolds for us in the detailed narrative of events surrounding the birth of Jesus, who came to be God with us, Immanuel.

Lutheran Hour Ministries seasonal devotions for Advent (began November 27) is available for you and your family to use during the Advent season or give one to a neighbor or friend. Invite them to worship with us this holiday season. Available for pick up in the church lobby today (holiday worship schedule inside cover).

**Advent by Candlelight of December 2 has been CANCELLED this year.**



### **Be a Christmas Card Evangelist.**

Send Christmas cards that proclaim the joy of God's plan of salvation. Most people leave their Christmas cards out for several weeks, so they will have a daily reminder of God's love and the true meaning of Christmas.



**Operation Christmas Child Shoebox**—We've finished collecting and packaging up all the wonderful shoeboxes with gifts to be given to help celebrate Christmas for those in need around the world. Thank you to everyone who donated and wrapped boxes which helped a lot for this project throughout the past year, 2022. This was greatly appreciated. Watch the news & notes beginning in January for our next year's monthly collections. We would like to thank Cheryl Dirkse for handling this program for over 20 years. She will be stepping down. Taking over in the new year, Rachel Andrzejewski

### **LUTHERAN WITNESS**

A Lutheran Christian monthly subscription magazine which runs from March 2023 to February 2024. Each issue will include the *Michigan In Touch* supplement. This magazine provides LCMS lay-peoples stories, info on congregational life, foster personal growth in faith and help interpret the contemporary world from a Christian perspective **Annual cost \$12.00 Deadline** to order, **December 15**, after the 15th you are responsible to order your own at a cost of \$14.00 and you'll have to order online at the CPH. Contact the church office to continue or order a new subscription. Make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church and write in the memo line *Lutheran Witness* or leave in the office. Thank you.

**Thank you** to everyone who donated food stuff from the ingathering on Thanksgiving eve for the food pantry and to those who came and helped put food items away on Friday. Blessings, Emma Eising

## CHRISMONS EXPLAINED

During Advent, our sanctuary is adorned in anticipation of Christ's birthday celebration during the season of Advent - that is, the four Sundays preceding Christmas and three Wednesday midweek Advents. Did you know the white & gold ornaments on our Christmas tree in the sanctuary have a special meaning?

These ornaments, called Chrismons point to our LORD and SAVIOR by their colors, by their shapes & most importantly, by their Scripture references. Many St. Paul members have participated in the making of these Chrismons. Gerry Breyfogle originally brought this ministry of hand-crafted sacred designs to St. Paul in the 1970s, when St. Paul began having a *Chrismon* tree.

Please take time to stop by the tree this Christmas season and check out the beautifully hand-made designs of these ornaments. If you are ever interested in learning to make a Chrismon for our tree, feel free to contact Martha Smyth, at smythfam4@aol.com. See back of calendar insert for list of some of the symbols used and their meaning.

# SCHOOL MINISTRY



Chris Francik -Principal

## St. Paul Lutheran School

100+ Years of God's Grace

### Our Mission

"Equip, Support, Serve, Witness Where God Calls Us!"

### Our Statement of Purpose

St. Paul Lutheran School equips children for a life of service with a foundation of academic, physical, spiritual, and social maturity centered around Christ Jesus.



## Christmas Blessings!

If you ever want to see the excitement and joy of Christmas on frequent display, please come by and visit our school in December. From the pageantry of the Christmas program to the fun of buying presents for their family members at the annual Christmas Shop, the students are filled with the energy and verve of the Christmas season. All the while, the staff of our school guides and models the joy of Jesus' birth as a human baby. I invite you to worship our newborn King, Jesus the Messiah, with our students on Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m. I look forward to seeing you there!



**High School Students**—the group will be meeting up for breakfast and a time of fellowship Sunday, December 4, at 9:30am at Leo's Coney Island at 110 S. Main Street in Royal Oak.

**Viking News** Every Friday, we send home our school newspaper – *The Viking*. We send it home with the children and also by email. If you would like to receive the Viking by email, please make sure the school office has your email address. You may send it to [strepn@stpaulroyaloak.org](mailto:strepn@stpaulroyaloak.org)

**Little Caesars Pizza Bar Codes** We continue to collect these bar codes found on the pizza boxes. Please bring these into the church or school. If the school collects enough, they can have a pizza party on special days.

**Box Tops** Find and clip **Box Tops** from various food packages for St. Paul School! They are each worth 10¢! Our assigned coordinator, will send them in and our school gets a check! Leave them at the school in the box near the office or in the coatroom box marked box tops at the church. Thank you.

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

Dec 9	School Christmas Shoppe
Dec 7, 14, 21	Midweek Advent Worship
Dec 22	Half Day of School
(Christmas break begins through to Dec 31)	
Jan 4, 2023	School Resumes

Faculty and Staff Wish You  
a very Merry Christmas!



## DIRECTORY & NOTES

### Directory

**Pastor Jakob Andrzejewski**  
(cell) 734-644-0059  
revjski@stpaulroyaloak.org

**Church Office**  
248-541-0613

**School Office**  
248-546-6555

**Church Fax**  
248-541-6965

**School Fax**  
248-546-8096

**Church E-Mail:**  
prodway@stpaulroyaloak.org

**School E-Mail:**  
slutheranscho113880@comcast.net

**Facebook:**  
www.facebook.com/stpaulroyaloak

**Website:**  
www.stpaulroyaloak.org

(Please contact Steven Carpenter at [scarpenter@stpaulroyaloak.org](mailto:scarpenter@stpaulroyaloak.org) to request a communication, print publication or new web project for the website. Submit your news, story, recap, event, or photo and it'll be considered for publication.)

### Prayers

**Homebound**  
Bill Fortner  
Margaret Kuhlmann  
Donna McMinn  
Irma Pope  
Charlette/Ralph  
Schroeder  
Jeanette Till  
Kathleen Ulrich

**Prayer for our  
Missionaries**  
Rev. Gary & Stephanie Schulte (Africa)

**Boards/Committees**  
Board of Education  
Board of Elders  
Board of Evangelism  
Board of Finance  
Communications &  
Technology  
Fund Operating  
Music Ministry

Board of Stewardship  
Board of Trustees  
Women's Guild  
Board of Youth

**Military**  
Eric Banker  
Mark Bowdich  
Paul Bowdich  
Sam Eskew  
Ryan & Samantha  
Espinoza  
Trevor Guilmette  
Brandon Newton  
Brendan Sharp  
Hayden Sharp  
Joe VanDamme  
Tirzah VanDamme  
Jason Zuniga  
Gabrielle Zuniga



### Gifts Given

#### **St. Paul Choir**

In memory of *Art & Verda Mae Steiber* by Bob & Patti Adams

In memory of *Art Peludat* by Ernie & Lori Bradbury-Schwarz

#### **St. Paul School**

In memory of *Eyla Russ* by Gay Eskew

GIFTS—Donate to the church by giving a memorial or honorarium by using the card located in the lobby. This is a two part card, one to go with the gift to the church and the other to be mailed to the family. Contact the church office, 248-541-0613 for any questions.

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**

### Member Changes

Mail returned: Kerry Cahill

**PRAYER CARE** – If you are in need of a prayer spoken or meditated on by St. Paul's prayer warriors, there is a group of individuals who are ready to pray for you. At any time, please feel welcomed to submit your prayer request to Chris Steiber via text/call 248-515-1983 or email [christinemsteiber@gmail.com](mailto:christinemsteiber@gmail.com). All prayer requests will be kept confidential. Please note: for public prayer in worship services led by Pastor Andrzejewski on behalf of the church, you must contact the church office. Additionally, if you would like to serve as a prayer warrior who will pray for these specific prayer requests, contact Chris Steiber. Prayer requests will be sent to prayer warriors via email.



# DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

If we've missed listing your birthday, please contact the church office 248-541-0613



**01 Steven Snell**

**02 Lyra Bowdich**

**04 Elli Harris  
Tiffany Jackson  
Sally Wright**

**06 Samuel Francik  
Bryan Harris  
Stanley Harris, III  
Pamela Rodway  
Megan Schultz  
Nigel Smith**

**07 Mariah Olsen  
Belle Sawyers**

**10 Eli Mitchell**

**13 Tony Valdes**

**15 Jessica Ebmeyer  
Andrew Mackenzie  
Scott Manteuffel  
Brittany Patterson**

**17 Brynn Cunningham  
Lacey Lefere**

**20 Kurt Ulrich**

**21 Patrick Petersen**

**22 Daniel Pyykkonen**

**23 Ross Pierce  
Jack Wendland**

**24 Taylor Fixler**

**25 Suzanne Francik**

**28 Kyle Lefere  
Maureen Walsh**

**30 Ella Guilmette**

**31 Rose Pomroy**



# December 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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25 10:00 AM Christmas Day Worship com	26	27	28	29 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast-The Avenue	30	31  <div>Christmas Break School &amp; Church Closed</div> <div>New Year's Eve</div>																																																																																				



# CHRISMONS

*A Christogram; Latin: Christ Monogram  
(Handmade Christian symbols of the Church used as ornaments  
to decorate our Christmas tree.)*

Symbols have played a very important part in the proclamation of the Christian faith. Christian art through the centuries has created hundreds of distinctive symbols to represent in visible form men's conception of the Christian religion. The Christmas trees used to decorate the Church at St. Paul in Royal Oak, Michigan are decorated with "Chrismons"—symbols from Christian history. To help you in the interpretation of some of the symbols on our tree, a brief description follows.

Nearly all Chrismons have been made in white and gold: White represents light, peace, joy, purity and Heaven. Gold symbolizes the majesty and glory of the Son of God.

*If you are interested in making or repairing the "Chrismons" throughout the year, you can contact the Church Office for further information.*

## THE CROSS



The Latin Cross, with the upper arm and two sides of equal length and the lower are twice as long, is form most commonly used.



The Greek Cross has all four arms of equal length.



The Celtic Cross is a Latin cross with a circle representing eternity placed at the junction of the arms.



The Crosslet is formed with 4 Latin crosses meeting in center and signifies the spread of Christianity to the 4 corners of the world.



The Jerusalem Cross is formed with four Tau crosses meeting in the center.



St. Andrew's Cross—St. Andrew was reputed to have died on a cross of this shape.



The Cross of Constantine is the Chi Ro (XP) with the Chi (X) turned to form a cross. It signifies Christ, the conquering King.



The Tau Cross is "T" shaped.



The Passion Cross has pointed ends to remind us of points of nails, thorns and spear.



The Anchor Cross—the cross rises out of an anchor. An anchor symbolizes Christian hope.



The Cross Treflee—Three circles on the

end of the arms symbolize the Trinity.

## MONOGRAMS OF OUR LORD

### X

Chi, or as we would write it X, is the 1st letter of the word of Christ in Greek.

### XP

Chi Rho, the 1st two letters for Christ in the Greek alphabet. Sometimes the X is turned to form a cross. A 2nd interpretation is the Latin Christus Rex, Christ the King.

### XC

XC are the 1st and last letter of Christ in Greek.

### IHS

The 1st three letters of JESus in Greek.

Star enumerates the sevenfold gifts of the Spirit. Eight-pointed Star—symbol of men's regeneration.



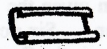
Serpent—"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up" (John 3:14).



Butterfly—symbol of resurrection of Christ and man's hope of eternal life through grace and faith.



The Tongues of Flame, usually seven in number, symbolize the advent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. The number seven represents the sevenfold gifts of the Spirit.



Scroll signifies written word of

prophesy; often used as a symbol of Advent.



An Open Bible, often shown with a lamp, is the symbol for the Word of God. "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet" (Psalm 119:105).



A Shell depicts the sacrament of Holy Baptism.



The Lamb of God, Agnus Dei, shown sometimes with a banner and other times reclining, is a symbol inspired by passages of Scripture such as... "The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world'" (John 1:29).



The Dove is the

symbol of the Holy Spirit. The dove in a descending position recalls the Day of Pentecost.



The Hand of God suggests the word of the psalmist; "His right hand and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory" (Psalm 98:1).



The Fish is a symbol of Christ.



The Rose is a symbol of the nativity of Christ. Other flowers also symbolize other truths—the lily of the valley symbolizes the humility of Jesus, and the daisy the innocence of Christ-Child. The lily usually is shown in pictures of the mother of our Lord; a symbol of the virgin birth.



The Crown signifies the Kingship of our Lord through His victory over sin and death.



Jesus Christ, the chief Cornerstone. "Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief cornerstone" (Eph. 2:20).



The Chalice symbolizes Sacrament of the Altar. Wheat and Grapes symbolize the same truth and often are shown surrounding the chalice and host.



Five-Pointed Star—symbol of Epiphany of our Lord, recalls sign given the Wise Men. Six-pointed Star, is the Creator's Star. Seven-pointed

## IX

Monogram of 1st letters of Jesus and Christ.

## M

The 1st letter of the name Mary, our Lord's Mother.

## NIKA

The Greek word for conquer.

## INRI

1st letter of words in Latin inscription, "Jesus of Nazareth, King of Jews." Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews" (John 19:19).

## ΑΩ ΑΩ

Alpha and Omega, 1st and last letters of Greek alphabet. "I am the Alpha and Omega, the 1st and last. The beginning and end" (Rev.

22:13). Omega can be written in more than one way.

## ΑΜΩ

M, or in Greek MU, is middle letter of the Greek alphabet. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (Heb. 13:8)

## SYMBOLS OF OUR LORD AND GOD



The Circle, being a figure without beginning and ending, represents God who is both eternal and one. It symbolizes eternity.



The Triangle, all sides and angles equal, carries the idea of God's unity in showing that God is three person, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, all of whom are equal.